



# IMPAIRED DRIVING IN ONTARIO

Prepared by the Ministry of Transportation

# **IMPAIRED DRIVING IS A SHARED RESPONSIBILITY**

## **Provincial Administrative Sanctions**

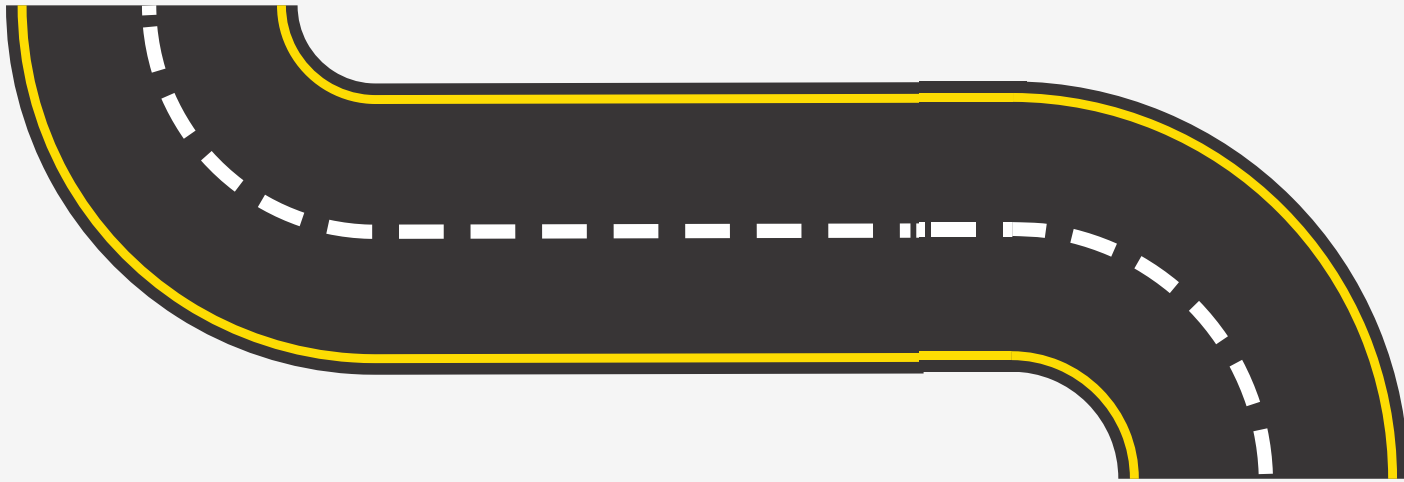
- **Immediate & Post-Conviction license suspensions**
- **Administrative Monetary Penalties**
- **Remedial Programs (Courses, Ignition Interlock)**

## **Federal Criminal Code Penalties**

- **Post-Conviction license suspensions**
- **Fines**
- **Jail time**

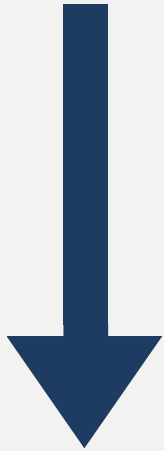
# HOW ARE WE DOING?

**Ontario's roads are among the safest in North America.**

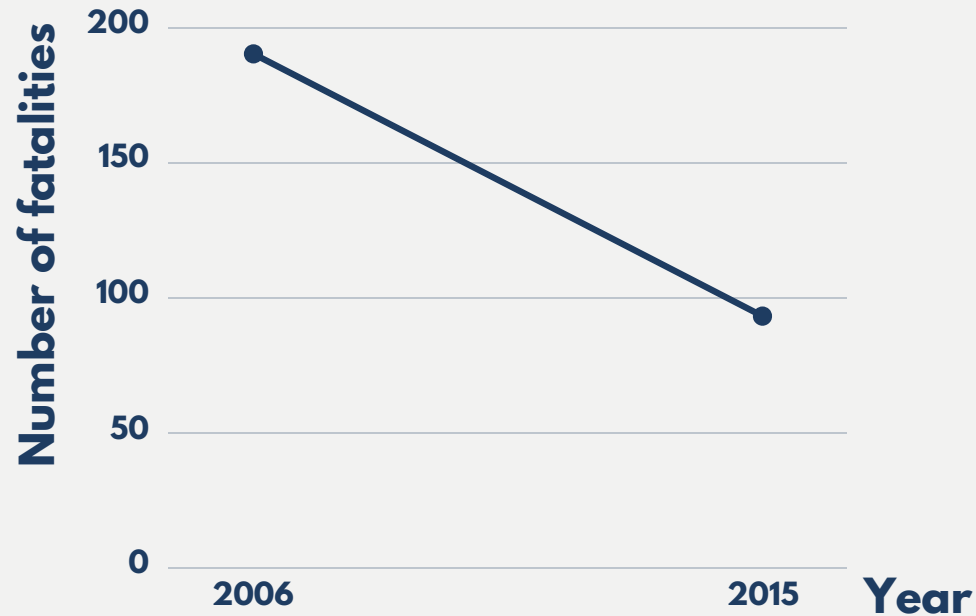


**For 17 years in a row, Ontario has ranked first or second in North America as the jurisdiction with one of the lowest fatality rates per 10,000 licensed drivers.**

# IMPAIRED DRIVING TRENDS



**51% decrease  
in drinking  
and driving  
fatalities.**



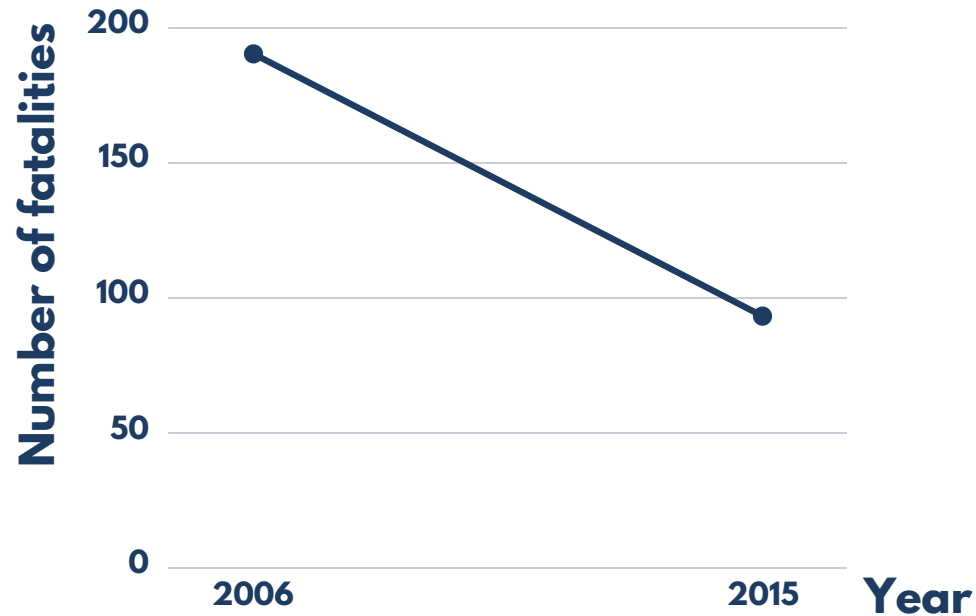
## On The Horizon..

**Legalization of recreational cannabis use in Colorado and Washington in 2012 was associated with substantial increases in the number of cannabis related traffic deaths.**

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## On The Horizon..

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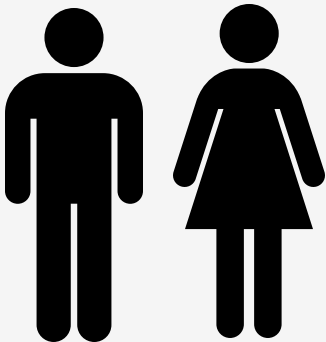
# WHAT NEEDS TO BE ADDRESSED?



**DRINKING AND DRIVING STILL ACCOUNTS FOR 1/5 OF ALL TRAFFIC FATALITIES.**



**1 IN 3 FATALITIES ON OUR ROADS INVOLVE DRUGS OR ALCOHOL.**



**ONE PERSON IS KILLED ON ONTARIO'S ROADS EVERY 16 HOURS.**

# HOW DO WE ADDRESS IMPAIRED DRIVING?



**HOW DOES OUR RECENT  
WORK AHEAD OF CANNABIS  
LEGALIZATION IMPACT YOU?**



# NEW ZERO TOLERANCE LAWS AS OF JULY 1, 2018

**Ontario implemented zero tolerance laws prohibiting drivers of commercial motor vehicles (CMVs) from having the presence of alcohol or a drug in their system (the latter detected by a federally approved screening device).**



**Sanctions include licence suspensions and monetary penalties. Mandatory remedial measures such as education, treatment, and an ignition interlock licence condition may also apply.**



# RATIONALE FOR COMMERCIAL VEHICLE ZERO TOLERANCE

**Injuries sustained in collisions that involve large commercial vehicles are more likely to be severe in nature.**

**Ex: injuries sustained in collisions that involve vehicles requiring licence classes A-F are 70% more likely to be fatal or major than collisions involving only vehicles that require Class G or M licences.**



**Collisions involving large commercial vehicles account for approximately 1 in 5 fatalities on Ontario roads.**

**This approach will help address the road safety risk.**

**The definition of a Commercial Motor Vehicle captures a broad range of commercial vehicles while at the same time allowing police officers and drivers to quickly and clearly identify whether the vehicle falls under the new regime.**

**ADMINISTRATIVE  
SANCTIONS UNDER THE  
HTA FOR ALCOHOL &  
DRUGS**

# ZERO TOLERANCE

(Registers any presence of alcohol or drug)



21 and  
under



## COMMERCIAL

- 3-day license suspension
- \$198 license reinstatement fee

## YOUNG

- 3/7/30 day license suspension
- \$198 license reinstatement fee

## NOVICE

- 3/7/30 day license suspension
- \$198 license reinstatement fee

# ALL DRIVERS

Perform poorly on  
a Standard Field Sobriety  
Test (SFST)



Blow above  
0.05



## 1st occurrence

3-day licence suspension + \$198 licence reinstatement fee

## 2nd occurrence

7-day licence suspension + \$198 licence reinstatement fee + remedial education program

## 3rd and subsequent occurrence

30-day licence suspension + \$198 licence reinstatement fee + remedial treatment program

# ALL DRIVERS-IMPAIRED



(Blood Alcohol level above 0.08, Fail/refuse to comply with a demand for alcohol/drug testing, or, Drug impaired as determined by a Drug Recognition Expert)



**90** day licence suspension

**\$198** licence reinstatement fee

**7** day vehicle impoundment

\*Remedial measures such as education, treatment, and an ignition interlock licence condition may also apply.



# **MEDICAL USERS**



**The ministry created an exemption for zero tolerance sanctions for medical cannabis users in the Highway Traffic Act. However, medical cannabis users will not be exempt from drug-impaired driving sanctions if they are deemed impaired.**

**Impaired is impaired whether you are using the substance recreationally or for a prescribed medical purpose.**

**If the officer is satisfied that the driver is legally authorized to use cannabis then the exemption for presence may apply.**

**WHAT'S NEW AS OF  
JANUARY 1, 2019?**



# ADMINISTRATIVE MONETARY PENALTIES

Any provincial penalty in relation to drugs or alcohol will now have escalating monetary penalties:

## Warn range, Poor SFST Result, Zero Tolerance

**\$250** For a first occurrence

**\$350** For a second occurrence

**\$450** For a third and subsequent occurrence

## Alcohol/Drug Impaired or Refuse Testing

**\$550** For any occurrence