

WEBINAR:

Distracted Driving - More Than Just Phones

**February 24
10–11 a.m.**

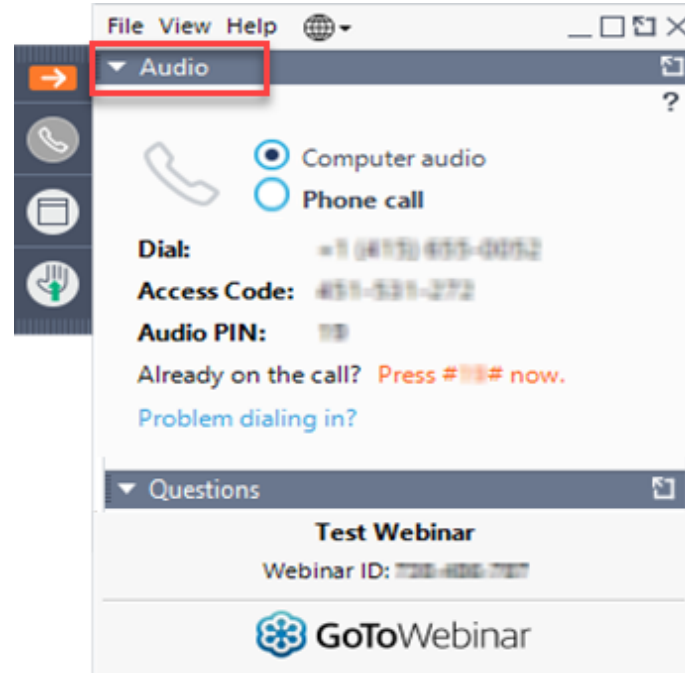


Audio instructions

- Select “Computer audio” to use your computer’s sound

OR

- Select “Phone call” to dial in and enter audio pin

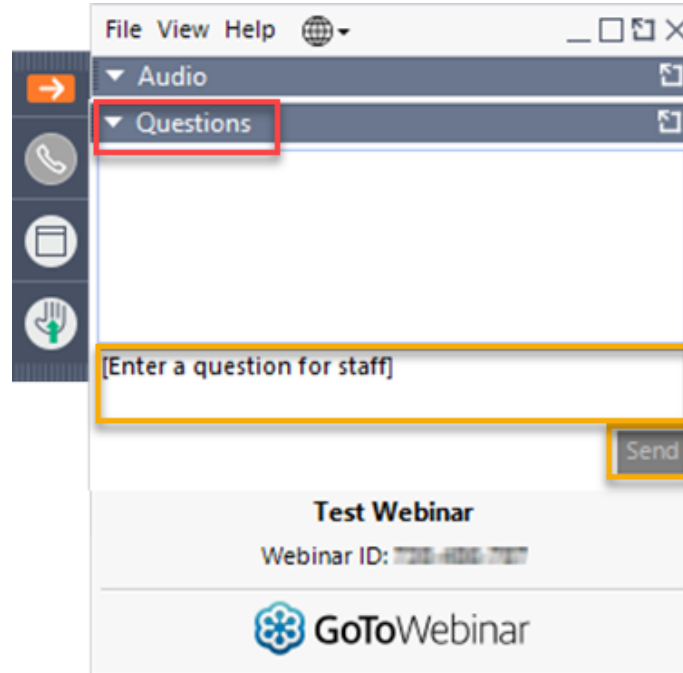


Asking questions

- Click on “Questions” to expand the Questions pane

then.....

- Type and send your question to the moderator



After the webinar

We will be sending you:

- Presentation slides
- Recording
- Links to all resources mentioned today

Please complete the short survey



Webinar recording:

[View webinar recording](#) (approx 1 hour)

Webinar slides:



[Download the slides](#) from our Webinar (PDF 3 MB)

Webinar resources:

Here are links to various resources which were mentioned in the webinar session:

- [Link to the Road Safety at Work website](#)
- [Link to the Road Safety at Work website](#)
- [Link to the Road Safety at Work website](#)
- [Link to the Road Safety at Work website](#)
- [Link to the Road Safety at Work website](#)
- [Link to the Road Safety at Work website](#)

Introducing today's presenters



**Sgt. P.S. (Patrick)
Davies** A/NCO IC



**Fraser Coast Integrated
Road Safety Unit**



Leanne Cassap



**Road Safety & Community
Coordinator**

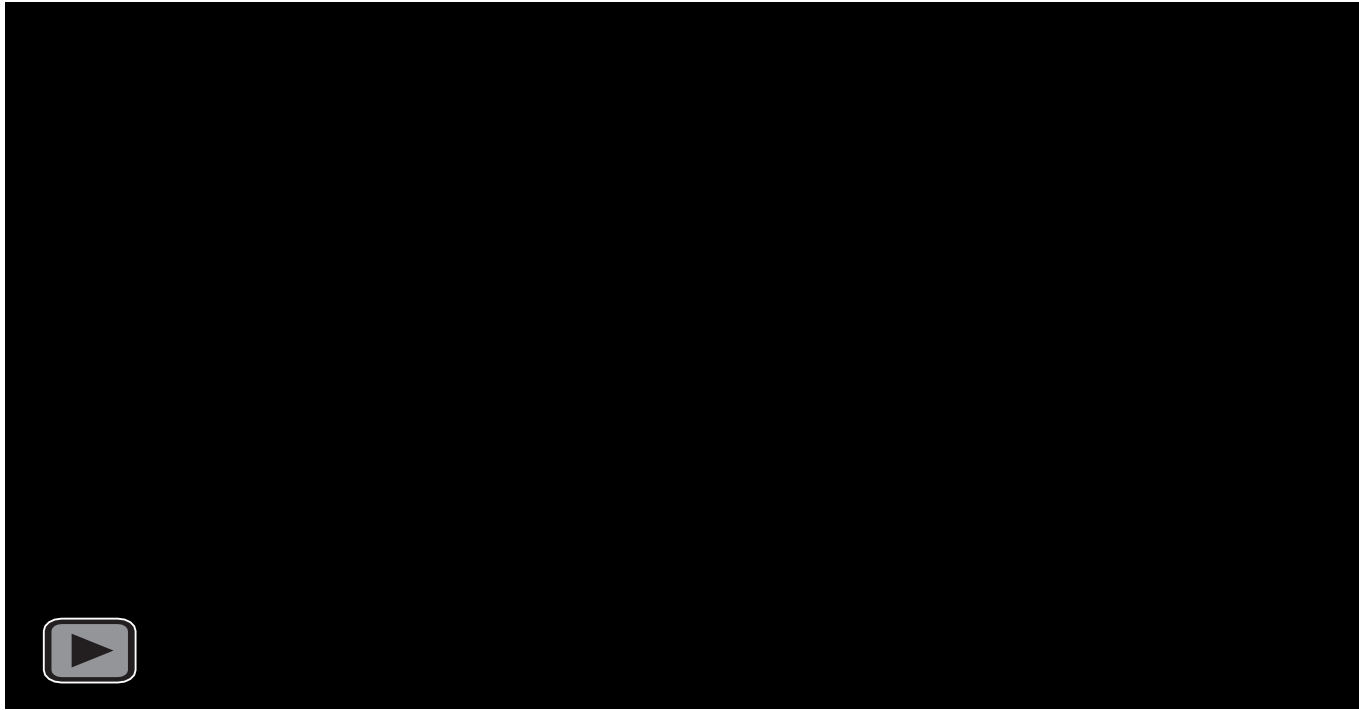
Customer Experience &
Public Affairs

The Langleys

Distracted Driving - The Law in British Columbia



How distracted are you?



Definition

Distracted driving is any activity that reduces your ability to **focus** on the road.



Cell phones - not just a phone anymore

- In the past there wasn't nearly as much that you could do with a cell phone
 - Really just talking and texting
- Smartphone manufacturers have added:
 - Social media apps, mapping tools, games, email and more!



The types of devices we choose will continue to evolve, as will the types of distraction they afford us

- The trend toward wearable devices – like smart watches – has grown significantly in recent years



Definition of an electronic device

As per the Motor Vehicle Act:

Part 3.1 – Use of Electronic Devices while Driving Definitions

214.1 In this Part:

“**electronic device**” means

- (a) A hand-held cellular telephone or another hand-held electronic device that includes a telephone function,
- (b) A hand-held electronic device that is capable of transmitting or receiving electronic mail or other text-based messages, or
- (c) A prescribed class or type of electronic device;



Careless driving

Careless driving

- Eating or drinking while driving is not illegal, but the activity could be distracting enough to contribute to a collision, or could cause you to violate a specific section of the MVA by being inattentive to roadway signage, roadway markings, the sudden, unexpected actions of fellow motorist(s).



Dangerous driving

Dangerous operation (Criminal code)

- 320.13 (1) Everyone commits an offence who operates a conveyance [a definition which includes motor vehicle] in a manner that, having regard to all the circumstances, is dangerous to the public.
- 320.13 (2) ...and, as a result, causes bodily harm to another person.
- 320.13 (3) ...and, as a result, causes the death of another person.



Why is it a problem?

- Smartphones are convenient, but there's one place they seem to do more harm than good - and that's behind the wheel.
- Research shows that when drivers use cell phones, their attention to the road drops. Psychologists call this 'cognitive distraction'.



Mobile data terminals

- Mobile data terminals are non-hand-held computerized devices without a telephone function that are licensed under the [Radiocommunication Act](#).
- These devices are used only to communicate with a dispatcher or control centre and where pre-packaged data are transmitted, point in time, over a set radio frequency.



More sources of distractions

And 'connected' or 'smart' in-vehicle systems are also on the rise, turning cars into **'smartphones on wheels'**



Distracted driving in BC

Police reported 5 year average (2016-2020)



Distracted and inattentive driving is responsible for more than one quarter (27 per cent) of all car **crash fatalities** in B.C.



Distracted and inattentive driving is one of **the leading causes of crashes** with pedestrians, cyclists and motorcyclists



Driver distraction is a factor in more than 40 per cent of police-reported **injury crashes**.



B.C.'s mobile device law

Section 214.2 of the Motor Vehicle Act



Since June 1, 2016:

\$368 fine and four penalty points

Considered a 'high risk driving' behaviour, and part of Driver Improvement Program.



Since March 1, 2018:

Drivers using an electronic device while driving face added and higher penalties under the Driver Risk Premium.

the rules



The use of hand-held personal electronic devices while driving has been banned in B.C. since 2010.

The law also applies while you're stopped at a red light or slowed in traffic.



\$368



The penalty for one distracted driving ticket is a **\$368 fine and four penalty points**.

If you have your L or N, you're not allowed to use any personal electronic devices, even with a hands-free system.



#EyesFwdBC and #LeaveYourPhoneAlone

Using electronic devices while driving

Section 214.1 of the Motor Vehicle Act

“use”, in relation to an electronic device, means or more of the following actions:

- **Holding** the device in a position in which it may be used;
- **Operating** one or more of the device’s functions;
- **Communicating** orally by means of the device with another person or another device;
- **Taking another action** that is set out in the regulations by means of, with or in relation to an electronic device.



Permitted uses – Except L & N drivers

Hands free communication:

- Electronic Device **may not be held or operated by the hand**
- Device must be **voice-activated** or require only one touch to initiate, accept or end a call
- Earpiece can only be worn **in one ear only**
- Electronic device must be **securely fixed** to the vehicle or worn securely on the body
- Electronic device must be installed in a manner that **does not obstruct the driver's view** or interfere with the safety or operating equipment of the vehicle.





BC Highway
Patrol



Questions

Other sources of distraction...



Drive Without Due Care
and Attention Section
144 (1)(a) \$368 / 6 pts.



Attempting to multitask
while driving (e.g.,
eating, reading)



Cellphones being used for
recording (pictures or
video)



Having your cell phone in your lap is distracted driving, rules B.C. judge - R v. Rajani



Driver was ticketed on March 15, 2019, after a police officer saw driver looking down while driving. Driver's phone on his "right" lap, connected to a charging cord.



Driver fought the ticket in provincial court, admitting looking down, but said the phone had been wedged between his right thigh and the seat, and he wasn't using it.



The judge upheld the ticket, finding that having the phone "perched, if not on his lap, rather precariously beside his lap" amounted to breaking B.C.'s distracted driving laws.



Driver appealed B.C. Supreme Court judge upheld that ruling, finding that **having the phone anywhere in a driver's lap amounts to "holding" it.**



Holding or moving a cellphone while driving is against the law, B.C. judge rules - R v Bakhsheshi



Driver was convicted in May 2021 for distracted driving. Driver alleged his phone fell on the floor and he reached down to pick it up, transferred it to his right hand and then placed it on the dash.



The incident was seen by a police officer, who had to swerve out of the vehicle's way. Driver was fined and ICBC suspended his driver's licence for about four months.

Driver appealed court decision in B.C. Supreme Court arguing he was not talking on the cellphone or texting with it. He argued that his action of picking up the phone, transferring it between hands and placing it on the dash didn't constitute use.



The judge upheld the court decision finding that "He not only held it in his left hand. He transferred it into his right hand in the process, demonstrating the telltale signs of a duly distracted driver by swerving.



Judge said in a Jan. 28 decision released on Feb. 7 that **the law prohibiting the "use" of a cellphone is far more than just using it for talking or texting. "It is a provision aimed at ensuring safety."**



ICBC road safety education

Cell Watch
Volunteers

Partner
with Police

High crash
corridors

Distracted
walking course

Distracted
driving simulator




Campaign outreach



Media



Social media

 **ICBC** @icbc · Mar 2
Starting Mar. 1, drivers with two convictions for using an electronic device while driving within 3 years will pay as much as \$2,000 in penalties on top of their insurance premium. #EyesFwdBC [ow.ly/unS930iH117](https://www.icbc.com/road-safety/cr...)



 **Surrey RCMP**
March 15 · 🌐
Think we can't see you checking that text message? We're scoping for distracted drivers. Police, ICBC and Cell Watch volunteers with Surrey RCMP and Surrey Crime Prevention Society will be out this week reminding drivers to #leavethephonealone



 **Richmond RCMP** 
@RichmondRCMP
Don't drive distracted - Leave the phone alone #RichmondRCMP & volunteers cracking down today

#EyesFwdBC #leaveyourphonealone
[icbc.com/road-safety/cr...](https://www.icbc.com/road-safety/cr...)



Leave your phone alone

Don't use your cellphone at a red light

The law applies whenever you're in control of the vehicle, whether stopped at a red light or in bumper-to-bumper traffic.

Keep your hands off

The law applies whenever you're in control of the vehicle, whether stopped at a red light or in bumper-to-bumper traffic.

Keep your eyes on the road

Don't glance at your phone while driving, even if you're using it hands-free.

If you have a Learner's (L) or Novice (N)

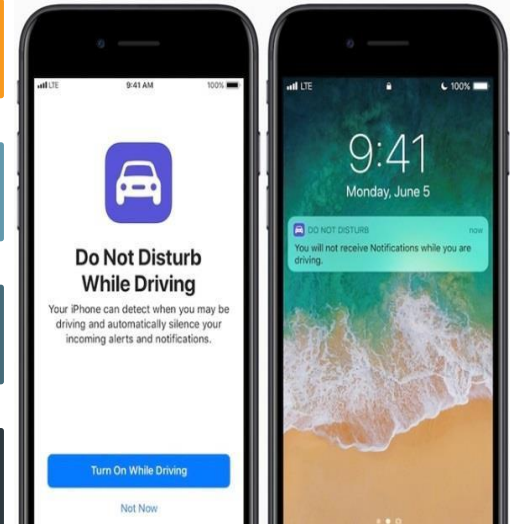
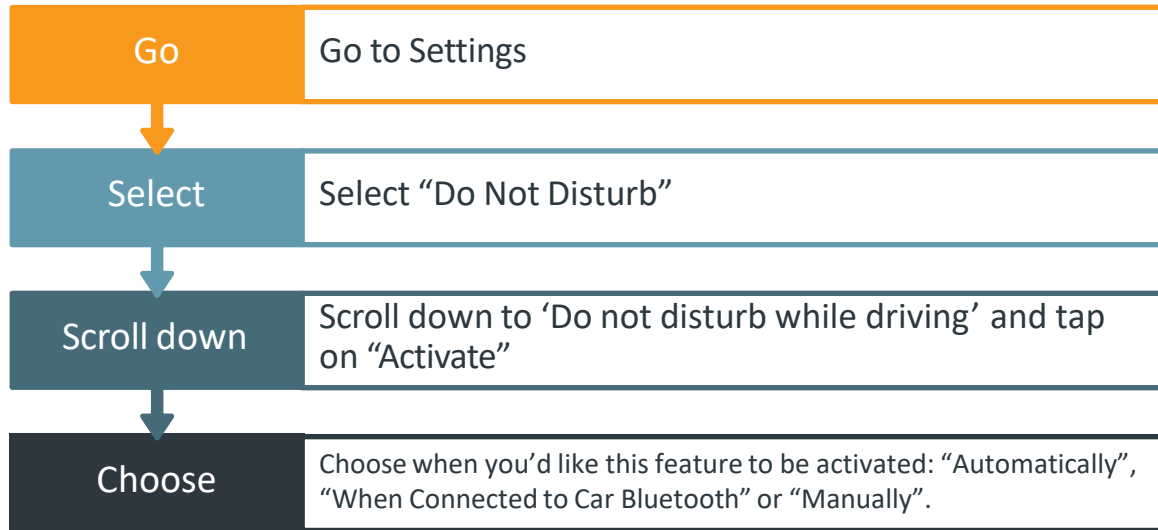
The law applies whenever you're in control of the vehicle, whether stopped at a red light or in bumper-to-bumper traffic.

Make sure you understand the law

Link to how to [use electronic devices while driving](#) (RoadSafetyBC)

Tips for safe cellphone use

Activate 'Do Not Disturb While Driving' feature in iPhone



Tips for safe cellphone use

- Pair your device to Bluetooth in your vehicle, if available.
- Check your vehicle owner's manual for instructions.



What can employers do



Tools and resources for reducing your risk

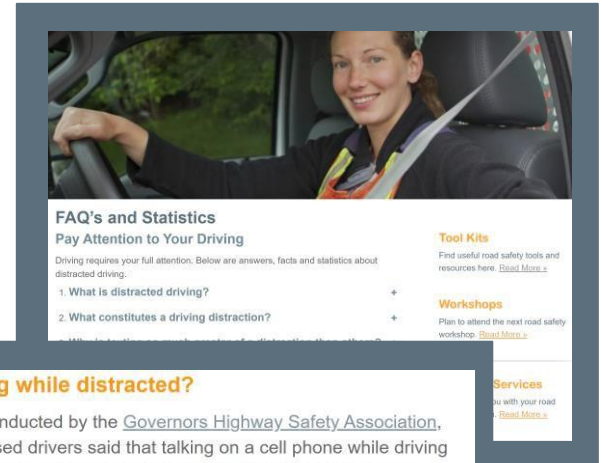


2022 ICBC Road Safety Campaign Calendar

	MARCH		APRIL	MAY		JULY	SEPTEMBER			OCTOBER		DECEMBER
Enhanced Enforcement Period BCACP	Distracted Drivers Campaign	Occupant Restraint Campaign		High Risk Driving Campaign		Summer Impaired Driving Campaign (Alcohol/Drug)	Distracted Driving Campaign		Occupant Restraint Campaign	Drive Relative to Conditions Campaign (Speed/Pedestrian)		Winter Impaired Driving Campaign (Alcohol/Drug)
Road Safety Issue ICBC	Distractions	Occupant Restraint	Auto Crime	High Risk Driving	Motorcycles	Summer Impaired (alcohol/drug)	Distractions	Back to School*		Drive Relative to Conditions (Speed/Peds)	Shift into Winter (Pedestrian Safety)	Winter Impaired (alcohol/drug)

- Connect with your local Road Safety & Community Coordinator
 - presentation(s)
 - distracted driving simulator
 - walking course
 - campaign stakeholder emailer
- Contact your local community police office to request Cell Watch
- ICBC and RCMP BC Highway Patrol websites

Online resources



We're here to help you!

How risky is driving while distracted?

- In a 2013 survey conducted by the [Governors Highway Safety Association](#), nearly 90% of licensed drivers said that talking on a cell phone while driving is a "somewhat serious" or "very serious" threat to their personal safety; about 95% of respondents said that texting, e-mailing or checking social media on a device while driving was a **more serious** threat to their safety.
- Drivers engaged in text messaging are 23 times more likely to be involved in a crash or near crash event compared with non-distracted drivers. ([Virginia Tech Transportation Institute](#)).
- As passengers, active children are four times more distracting than adults; infants are eight times more distracting than adults ([CAA](#)).
- Talking on a cell phone while driving impairs your driving ability about the same as a blood alcohol content of 0.08. ([University of Utah](#), 2006).

Distracted driving policy components



Purpose



Roles and responsibilities



Risk-reducing steps

Instructions: This template does not cover all driving distractions. Edit it to include the situations and distractions your employees face while driving for work. Be sure to explain in this policy what you expect employees to do to reduce distracted driving risks. Plug your organization's name in where you see "Company Name." Delete these instructions when done.

[Company Name] Distracted Driving Policy

Why we have this policy

[Company Name] is committed to ensuring the health and safety of our employees when they are driving or riding in a vehicle used for work. Applying this policy will help our management team, supervisors, and employees work together to avoid distracted driving. Our goal is to reduce the likelihood that any of us is involved in a distracted driving crash.

Who needs to follow this policy

This policy applies to all our employees when they are driving company-owned or leased vehicles used for work/personal purposes, as well as employee-owned vehicles and rental vehicles used for work.

Employee responsibilities

Our employees will:

- Comply with requirements in the *Motor Vehicle Act* rules for use of electronic devices while driving
- Not operate a phone (hand-held or hands-free), laptop, navigation device, infotainment system or other electronic device (e.g., smart watch, dashcam, on-board recorder, vehicle monitoring system, etc.) while driving
- Record a voicemail greeting before driving that invites callers to leave a message
- Turn their phone off or activate its "Do not disturb" feature and stow it in a secure location (e.g., glovebox, trunk) before getting underway
- Program any navigation / infotainment / music system or other electronic device before getting underway
- Find a safe place to pull over and park before making any calls or texts, or adjusting the navigation / infotainment / music system
- Avoid reading and personal grooming activities (e.g., shaving, applying make-up) while driving
- Refrain from eating or drinking and any other activities that reduce their ability to keep their eyes —and their attention —on the road

Your signature below certifies your agreement to comply with this policy. Non-compliance is a serious matter and may subject you to disciplinary action.

Employee Signature

Date

Employee Name



Test your knowledge

Take the quiz



Test your distraction knowledge

- Do you understand your responsibilities as an employee driving for work, or your obligations as an employer?
- Are you familiar with the best practices to avoid distracted driving?
- Take a few minutes to complete our 15-question quiz



BC Highway
Patrol



Questions

Contact us with your questions



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Visit our websites for more resources



Royal Canadian Mounted Police

Services Locations A-Z site index Careers Help us

Home > B.C. > Police Services

BC Highway Patrol

"Making Our Highways Safer Together"

Follow: [Twitter icon]

Search B.C. RCMP

The RCMP in British Columbia has approximately 455 dedicated BC Highway Patrol employees who provide traffic law enforcement, public education and work closely with partners to make our roads safe.

Our Strategic Objective is to make the roads of British Columbia the safest in the world. Our primary enforcement targets are those driving behaviours that cause roadway fatalities and serious injuries:

- Aggressive Drivers
- Distacted Drivers
- Impaired drivers by alcohol, drugs or medication
- Intersection Infractions
- Unhelmet Occupants

Programs and Services

- Alerts & Bug
- Automatic License Plate Recognition Technology
- Commercial Vehicle Safety Program
- Integrated Road Safety Unit
- Intersection Safety Cameras

Road Safety Tips

We invite you to check out our [Road Safety Tips](#)

Auto Insurance Claims Driver Licensing & ID Vehicles & Registration Road Safety

Road Safety

Distacted driving

Even if you're not using your phone, you may still be distracted. Anything that takes your attention away from driving, like chatting with passengers, eating or drinking, or adjusting radio or vehicle settings, can contribute to distracted and inattentive driving. We all play a part in making our roads safe – when you're behind the wheel, focus on the road.

if you're looking at your phone, you can't see the road

Checking your phone at a red light may seem harmless, but the truth is using an electronic device behind the wheel is a dangerous distraction. Even when stopped, it affects your focus. You're five times more likely to crash if you're using your handheld phone.

Leave your phone alone #MySafeWayBC

Resisting the temptation of e-mails, texts, calls, posts and cat videos can be hard but it can be done similar to being at the movies, at customs, during takeoff or landing. Think of all the times that you don't feel like taking a break from your phone but do!

The cost of distracted driving

If you receive distracted driving, you'll be fined and receive a fine of \$366. Every ticket for distracted driving also adds four driver penalty points to your driving record. If you have four or more points at the end of a 12-month period, you pay a driver penalty cost (DPC) premium. These premiums start at \$225 and increase for every point you accumulate. You may also have to pay a court-cost premium if you get more than one distracted driving ticket in a three-year period. With increased enforcement throughout B.C., multiple infractions can now add a serious dent to your wallet.

Tips for safe cellphone use

- No call, text or email** is so important it's worth making your life or the lives of others. Let calls go to voicemail and ignore your text messages while driving.
- Turn it to silent and keep it out of reach and out of sight**, or turn on "Do Not Disturb While Driving" feature that will send automatic replies to incoming texts and mode receiving calls to voicemail.
- Assign a designated texter.** Ask your passengers to make or receive calls and text for you and make sure you have everything you need before getting into the car. The program of your teenager and information systems in advance so you're not trying to do it while driving.
- Roll over to make or receive a call** when it's safe and legal to do so. For single-lane roads, look for signs on highway and street signs that will provide the best.
- Avoid looking at screens while driving**, even if you're using your phone hands-free.

Get distracted driving stickers

Road Safety at Work

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Search eg safe work provisions?

Why Road Safety Matters Build Your Road Safety Program Tool Online Courses Workshops and Webinars News & Events About Us

Distacted Driving: A Call to Action

Driver distraction is even a small distraction can have a dramatic impact on your ability to focus on the road. Distacted driving is a leading cause of road traffic fatalities and serious injuries. The [2015 BC Highway Patrol Annual Report](#) shows that 10% of all crashes in BC were caused by driver distraction. The use of cell phones and handheld devices is the most common distraction, but there are many other things you need to consider. These include eating or drinking, grooming, talking, listening to passengers, calls, texting or e-mail, adjusting radio, and using any electronic device such as a GPS, computer or tablet, MP3, CD or DVD player.

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Road Safety at Work has developed three "undistracted driving" resources to help employers and drivers take action:

- Tool Kits** - The undistracted driving tool kits are available for download.
- Workshops** - This is about the road safety workshop.
- Auditory Materials** - You can get your road safety materials.
- Trending Now** - Find out what's trending now.
- Resources** - Find out what's trending now.
- Events Calendar** - Find out what's trending now.
- Website Tutorial** - Find out what's trending now.

<https://bc-cb.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/>

<https://www.icbc.com/>

<https://roadsafetyatwork.ca/>

Thank you



See next slide for a list of links to resources
mentioned in this webinar



Links to various resources mentioned in this webinar

Road Safety at Work

[Webinar: Manage distracted driving in your workplace](#)

[Distracted driving tool kit](#)

[Distracted driving policy template](#)

[Distracted driving quiz](#)

WorkSafeBC

[Distracted driving on the job](#) (video)

RCMP

[Self-assessment: Distracted driving quiz](#)

[Leave the phone alone](#) (video)

[RCMP website](#)

ICBC

[The ICBC regional coordinators](#) (PDF)

[Upcoming ICBC / RCMP distracted driving campaign](#) (PDF)

[ICBC Distracted driving sticker request](#)

[ICBC Distracted driving in B.C. infographic](#)

RoadSafetyBC

[Use of electronic devices while driving](#)

