

2021 MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Bus Operators

SAFETY & REGULATORY CONSULTATION AND ADVICE

Members continue to save time, effort and money from one-on-one access to expert safety and regulatory assistance direct from our Safety and Legislative Team on a wide variety of issues ranging from driver medicals, licencing, criminal background checks, CVOR issues....to child seats, occupant restraints, school bus mechanical standards and inspection requirements, railway crossing laws, hours of service rules, school bus stopping laws, securement of cargo in buses and much, much more. This exceptional service is available to each and every member – individually or via SBO webinars!

ISSUE MANAGEMENT

Members' interests are represented and government advised regarding many issues affecting the school bus industry including the following (working list contains many more active issues):

- Driver Background Checks
- Driver Certification Program (DCP)
- MTO Inspections and Enforcement
- Red/Amber (8 Lamp) Warning Light System
- School Bus Occupant Restraints
- Hand-held Two-way Radio Exemption
- Exhaust Emission Standards and Drive Clean
- Alcohol and Drug Legislation
- CSA D250, D270 and D407 Standards
- Driver Hours of Service and Daily Vehicle Inspections
- Driver and Vehicle Licensing
- Highway Traffic Act Updates
- Transport Canada Task Force on School Bus Safety
- Stop Arm Cameras
- Driver Retention Program (DRP)

GOVERNMENT ADVOCACY AND PARTNERSHIPS

Ongoing advocacy on behalf of all members with one strong, collective, professional voice. Highly respected and called upon by government for industry advice, the Association supports all members in a proficient manner with the Ministries of Education, Transportation, Government Services, and with numerous other provincial and federal bodies. Advocacy efforts focus on accomplishing student transportation funding sustainability; proficient and transparent competitive procurement practices; overall changes to student transportation governance and administration; industry cost saving opportunities and standardized requirements for service levels; and long term, sustainable solutions that will address school bus driver wages, recruitment and retention. SBO continues to build relationships with all student transportation organizations across the province and Canada through a variety of ongoing efforts and initiatives.

ON-LINE CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK SERVICE FOR CLASS B AND E LICENCES

An on-line service that allows individual applicants to complete a criminal background check from any internet location via the link provided through www.schoolbusontario.ca. Fast, convenient and economical – turnaround in 1 business day, all applications are done on-line including electronic transfer to the Ministry of Transportation at an SBO discounted rate of \$29 + HST. Corporate accounts available for monthly tracking and payment.

NOTE: This is NOT a Vulnerable Sector Verification (VSV); VSV's are only available in-person from a local police service.

DRIVER LICENCE STATUS CHECK (DLSC)

This is a timely, reliable, affordable service for bus operators to confirm at regular intervals, that their drivers have a valid licence. Subscribers to DLSC have the added benefit of electronic access to MTO 3-year detailed driver abstracts for less than it costs to get abstracts through ServiceOntario.

EDUCATION

- ✓ **Webinars** – Conducted several times per year to assist in educating and informing members on timely and pertinent safety, regulatory and industry issues and initiatives. These webinars offer learning opportunities to owners and staff from the comfort and convenience of any location - workplaces, boardrooms, training rooms, home offices. These educational opportunities will continue on a complimentary basis in 2021.
- ✓ **Professional Instructor in Driver Education (P.R.I.D.E.) Program** - A one-of-a-kind training program that teaches driver instructors how to properly train new and seasoned fleet drivers. The unique combination of the in-class and on-road learning environments provide pre-requisite certification for "Signing Authority" with the Ministry of Transportation (Ontario).
- ✓ **P.R.I.D.E. Recertification Program** – Mandatory training to maintain MTO Signing Authority designation, this course is approved by the MTO to reinforce Signing Authority instructor qualities and to ensure continued high-quality delivery of driver training in the Province of Ontario.

PUBLICATIONS

- ✓ **Daily Inspection Log Books, Record of Duty Status (HOS) Forms and PMVI Guidebook and Inspection Report Forms** are essential tools for all operators at discounted member prices.
- ✓ **Newsletter and Important Bulletins** electronically provide the latest issues and trends that impact daily business and the school bus industry. Newsletter distributed to members on a regular basis.
- ✓ **Membership Directory** - A detailed listing of all members and their contact information for enhanced business connections and opportunities.