

2013-05-23

Kathy Burianyk
Senior Committee Clerk
Room 7 - 2405 Legislative Drive
Legislative Building
Regina, SK S4S 0B3

To Whom It May Concern:

Re: Special Committee on Traffic Safety

I will not have a chance to make the following points in person to the Committee as they will not have hearings in our community. Having travelled highways and roads quite extensively in Saskatchewan, most other Provinces and the United States, from my experience, I would like to bring the Committee's attention to the following:

Speed and attitude kills: One just has to travel Number One Highway between the Alberta boarder and Regina to realize the traffic signs may as well be taken down as many do not seem to follow the speed limit and drive with impunity, many with licences from out of Province mostly a mixture of cars and light trucks, some with commercial signage indicating service companies destined for Weyburn/Estevan, Kindersley, Swift Current areas. Vehicles from our neighbors on the West and East seem to view Saskatchewan with an attitude of the flat boring drive between boarders and put the pedal to the metal as if it were zoned for unlimited speed.

Increased enforcement including Highway Patrol: Saskatchewan should consider a dedicated Provincial highway patrol initially targeting the TransCanada, Yellowhead, Saskatoon to Alsask, Regina to North Portal and Saskatoon to Prince Albert highways. The RCMP provide contract services, however their resources and time is split between crime investigation and some highway patrol of the major traffic routes. A traffic enforcement presence on the above mentioned highways and a few tickets may well change the attitude and the heavy foot, unsafe passing and the thoughts of the wide open speed limit mentioned in the previous paragraph. Post a large sign at each boarder that speed limits are enforced!

Passing lanes: Wherever possible and affordable on two lane highways, provide passing lanes at least every ten to fifteen kilometers, and enforce unsafe passing and speeding.

Commercial traffic: Many times I have noticed commercial traffic, light trucks up to the three ton capacity, speed and pass like there is a fire somewhere, with an attitude (the service must be done yesterday, and get out of my way I'm on a job). Many jurisdictions in which I have travelled have a reduced speed for such commercial traffic. When a driver is issued a ticket (by our highway patrol) SGI should contact the employer and owner of the vehicle with an insurance review and hike if warranted.

Yours truly,

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