

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

APR 08 2013

COMMITTEES BRANCH

To,

D. Hickie and members of the Highway Safety Committee,

The attached letter was sent to previous Ministers and received with comments that the proposed would be given consideration. I believe that improving safety on our roads and highways start with enforcement of our laws. Our police forces do not have the staff and neither is it economical to have a policeman enforcing as an example; speed, stop sign and traffic light

January 16, 2012

The Honorable Don Morgan
Minister of Justice
Government of Saskatchewan

Re: Modernizing Traffic Laws Enforcement

For some time now I have thought that it is time that the enforcement of traffic laws should be brought into the 21st century. It is also ridiculous to have police officers as the main enforcement of these laws. The cost of putting a policeman in the field is prohibitive to proper enforcement. Therefore we have placed enforcement on the backburner. SGI will tell us that non adherence to speed limits is a major factor in accidents causing our insurance rates to increase and if that is not enough there is a major increase in loss of life and quality of life for those directly involved.

Why do we have speed, stop signs and traffic lights when few drivers adhere to these signs and controls, it is due to little or no enforcement.

Therefore my proposal is as follows;

1. Change provincial law to allow for others in addition to police to process enforcement of traffic laws such as speeding, failing to stop for stop signs, disobeying traffic lights etc. These offences and others that may be proven by radar and photography.
2. Contract enforcement to private contractors which meet established standards as established by the justice department.
3. Contract terms could be a base and percentage of the issued tickets.

I see a typical contractor having a qualified operator in a van complete with radar, photographic equipment and printer to complete the whole process of enforcement.

This would take a great load of municipal police and RCMP forces and allow them to concentrate on areas where they are trained in. It would also allow for communities who depend on the RCMP for enforcement of traffic laws to get better response to their concerns. In fact I am presently on the Village of Buena Vista council and we have had discussions with the RCMP with no response. The majority drivers will speed and roll through the stop signs.

I realize that this may be a radical idea in many minds. However, I think that our society needs to adhere to the law of the land and this starts with many of the simpler and basic ones. I also don't have a problem with increasing the speed on some of the major (divided) highways as the majority drive at 120 KM (70miles) per hour and much faster anyway. Then if that is the limit punish the offenders. I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours truly,

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