



November 15, 2021

Via Email: PSSG.Minister@gov.bc.ca

Hon. Mike Farnworth
Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General
Room 128 Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

Dear Minister Farnworth,

I am writing to seek your assistance.

However firstly, I would like to thank you for sending a letter to our MoveUP members at ICBC. We will be publishing your letter in the Winter edition of our Local Voice member's magazine. Our members are always grateful to hear from the Minister responsible for ICBC and will be happy to know that this government recognizes the value of ICBC and of all the workers behind-the-scenes who make public auto insurance work for people every day.

I am writing today on behalf of our over 5,000 members who you highlighted in your letter as being instrumental to the success of ICBC. More specifically, I am writing to address concerns brought forward by the driver examiners who, unlike others, must be in close proximity to the public because of the nature of their job.

Every day, a driver examiner sits side-by-side with up to nine different strangers. That is 45 potential exposures and opportunities for risk to their health and safety each week. Over a month, that is 180 potential exposures. It is not only our examiners who face this risk, but their families and children who they return home to each day as well.

While we commend the work this government and the work of the provincial health officer has done to get people vaccinated, we know that there is still a significant portion of the population that has chosen not to get vaccinated. We also know that unvaccinated people have a much higher risk of spreading COVID-19, and that even fully vaccinated people can contract COVID-19 especially, if they are in a setting with unvaccinated individuals.

Our members are largely in support of the vaccination requirement for staff at ICBC because they recognize that vaccines are safe and effective, keeps those around them safe, and will help us get out of this pandemic. However, particularly for driver examiners, they are being put at undue risk because there is no vaccination requirement for a road test examinee to be fully vaccinated before taking a road test.

For the health and safety of our driver examiners, we urge this government to direct ICBC to require that road test examinees be fully vaccinated to take a road test. This type of policy is not unique. Saskatchewan Government Insurance, for example, has already implemented a similar policy with great success. At MoveUP, we believe that this is the logical next step, to be sure both examinees and examiners are safe.

The ability to drive, much like dining out, attending a sporting event, or participating in any other non-essential activity, is a privilege. Our driver examiners are committed to ensuring that only those who can demonstrate an ability to keep other road users safe can be licensed to drive. **We hope that this government and ICBC will implement a vaccination policy that demonstrates that only those who are willing to keep others safe from COVID-19 should have the privilege of taking a road test.**

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Annette Toth', with a long horizontal line extending to the left.

Annette Toth
Vice-President
MoveUP

cc: Nicolas Jimenez
ICBC OHS&E Committee:
Nicole Williams
Brian Martens
Corey Funk
Tara Balla
Ken Eng
Angela Spence