

**Loubert, Leslie M PREM:EX**

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**From:** Machell, Aileen TRAN:EX  
**Sent:** August 29, 2019 5:39 PM  
**To:** Meggs, Geoff PREM:EX  
**Subject:** Draft briefing note for tomorrow  
**Attachments:** Meeting with Taxi - August 30.docx

Hi Geoff,  
I've written a note for you to prepare for the meeting tomorrow.

If you need anything else, let me know. I can make additions and revisions from VCO tomorrow.

Thanks,

**Aileen Machell**

**Senior Ministerial Assistant**  
**Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure**  
**250.818.7581**

## Taxi Modernization and Ride Hailing – Meeting with Taxi Associations

### Meeting attendees:

Geoff Meggs (Chief of Staff)

Don Bain (Special Advisor to Premier)

Aileen Machell (Senior MA, Ministry of Transportation)

Carolyn Bauer (Vancouver Taxi Association)

Mohan Kang (BC Taxi Association)

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**Background:** On July 8, government announced its regulations and insurance product for ride hailing services. This announcement included vehicle inspection regulations, criminal record checks, driver record checks, the per-trip fee of 30 cents for ride hail to support accessibility, maximum vehicle age of TNS vehicles, applications of the National Safety Code (NSC) to ride hail and a blanket insurance policy for ride hail companies based on kilometres driven.

Government also re-affirmed the requirement for Class 4 licences for ride hailing drivers.

On Monday, August 19 the Passenger Transportation Board made public its decisions on three major issues regarding the introduction of ride hailing, or transportation network services (TNS) to B.C.: Taxi and TNS operating areas, TNS fleet sizes, and TNS rates.

Starting September 3, ride hailing companies can submit applications.

On September 16, all regulations will be in effect for Transportation Network Services. We anticipate services will be offered by TNS companies by late fall.

## **Taxi Modernization and Ride Hailing – Meeting with Taxi Associations**

### **PTB Decisions**

#### **TNS Operating Areas:**

The ride hailing boundaries are divided into five regions.

- Region 1: Lower mainland and Whistler, which includes Metro Vancouver, Fraser Valley, Squamish-Lilloet
- Region 2: Capital Regional District
- Region 3: Vancouver Island excluding CRD
- Region 4: Okanagan-Kootenay-Boundary-Cariboo
- Region 5: BC North Central and other regions of BC

Transportation Network Services will have larger operating areas than taxis (which will remain unchanged for the time being).

According to the Board Chair, this is because taxi operating areas have been in place for many years, and PTB needs data in order to modify taxi operating areas.

It now has authority to collect the required data and will be undertaking analysis as data is supplied.

TNS companies operating in Vancouver will be prohibited from picking up passengers in the immediate vicinity around Canada Place on cruise ship days.

This is a safety measure to ensure that traffic can flow, and pedestrians can move safely. Coal Harbour will not be affected by this geo-fencing.

#### **TNS Supply/Fleet Size:**

No limit on fleet size, but the PTB will monitor performance and as data becomes available, this may be reassessed.

#### **TNS Fares/Rates:**

The PTB will set the minimum rate that a Transportation Network Service may charge based on taxi flag rates in the operating area.

Ride hailing companies may not use coupons or discounts to charge below this minimum rate.

## **Taxi Modernization and Ride Hailing – Meeting with Taxi Associations**

### **Key Messages:**

- British Columbians have been asking for new app-based ride hailing services to enter the market since 2012.
- Our government made a public commitment to see ride hailing services enter the market later this year, and we're doing it in a responsible way.

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### **If asked about PTB decision not to have a supply cap:**

- The province has maintained a provincially regulated market, with the independent Passenger Transportation Board making that decision.

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### **If asked about PTB decision on fares:**

- We understand the concerns you have raised.
- The PTB is independent but is always willing to take a look at submissions.

## Taxi Modernization and Ride Hailing – Meeting with Taxi Associations

### If asked about PTB decision on boundaries:

- We have ensured there is a regulated market, that means the PTB maintains their decision-making ability. **The PTB is independent.**
- The opposition's approach would be to completely deregulate the market, removing the ability of the PTB to make evidence-based decisions on boundaries.
- The Passenger Transportation Board has indicated it needs data in order to modify the taxi operating areas and will be looking at taxi boundaries as data is supplied.
- We want to make sure this is done right – not everyone in the industry agrees with removing boundaries.
- We will encourage the PTB to continue to work with the taxi industry on this issue.

### Didn't you appoint the PTB?

- We appointed some members, but they are independent and we do not control their decisions.

**Taxi Modernization and Ride Hailing – Meeting with Taxi Associations**

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## Loubert, Leslie M PREM:EX

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**From:** Geary, Vanessa PREM:EX  
**Sent:** August 29, 2019 7:20 AM  
**To:** Bain, Don PREM:EX  
**Cc:** Meggs, Geoff PREM:EX; Machell, Aileen TRAN:EX  
**Subject:** Re: Hold Taxi discussion

Thx

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 29, 2019, at 6:26 AM, Bain, Don PREM:EX <[Don.Bain@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Don.Bain@gov.bc.ca)> wrote:

Yes, I am available tomorrow afternoon from 2pm to 3pm.

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**From:** Meggs, Geoff PREM:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 29, 2019 5:56 AM  
**To:** Geary, Vanessa PREM:EX  
**Cc:** Machell, Aileen TRAN:EX; Bain, Don PREM:EX  
**Subject:** Re: Hold Taxi discussion

Don Bain, are you available? I need another person in the room. Aileen may fly over, (she'll staff on the phone if not) but another senior person would be great.

Geoff

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**From:** Geary, Vanessa PREM:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 28, 2019 9:28 PM  
**To:** Meggs, Geoff PREM:EX  
**Cc:** Machell, Aileen TRAN:EX  
**Subject:** Re: Hold Taxi discussion  
I may need to join by phone if this goes ahead...

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 28, 2019, at 6:03 PM, Meggs, Geoff PREM:EX <[Geoff.Meggs@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Geoff.Meggs@gov.bc.ca)> wrote:

## Loubert, Leslie M PREM:EX

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**From:** Carolyn Bauer <carolyn@yellow-cab.ca>  
**Sent:** August 29, 2019 10:37 AM  
**To:** Meggs, Geoff PREM:EX; Mohan Kang  
**Cc:** Bain, Don PREM:EX; Machell, Aileen TRAN:EX; Trevena, Claire TRAN:EX; Wade, Debbie PREM:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Meeting cancellation

This is fully understood. Thank you

Carolyn

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Meggs, Geoff PREM:EX <Geoff.Meggs@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** August 29, 2019 10:36 AM  
**To:** Carolyn Bauer <carolyn@yellow-cab.ca>; Mohan Kang <mohankang@shaw.ca>  
**Cc:** Bain, Don PREM:EX <Don.Bain@gov.bc.ca>; Machell, Aileen TRAN:EX <Aileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca>; Trevena, Claire TRAN:EX <Claire.Trevena@gov.bc.ca>; Wade, Debbie PREM:EX <Debbie.Wade@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** Meeting cancellation

Mohan, Carolyn, I am receiving media inquiries about our proposed meeting, asking for confirmation we are meeting on supply caps. As a result, I am cancelling the meeting tomorrow. I would be happy to reschedule when we can agree on how to manage any discussions.

Geoff

Sent from my iPhone



## Loubert, Leslie M PREM:EX

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**From:** Mohan Kang <mohankang@shaw.ca>  
**Sent:** August 29, 2019 7:41 AM  
**To:** Carolyn Bauer  
**Cc:** Meggs, Geoff PREM:EX  
**Subject:** Re: Meeting

Thanks. Mohan Kang

Sent from my iPhone

> On Aug 29, 2019, at 7:04 AM, Carolyn Bauer <carolyn@yellow-cab.ca> wrote:

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> Thank you, we will see you at 2:00pm.

>

> Carolyn

>

> Sent from my iPhone

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>> On Aug 28, 2019, at 9:27 PM, Meggs, Geoff PREM:EX <Geoff.Meggs@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

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>> ?Thanks Mohan, I am coming to Vancouver Friday and can tentatively confirm 2 p.m. at the Vancouver Cabinet Office.

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>> Geoff

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>> From: Mohan Kang <mohankang@shaw.ca>

>> Sent: Wednesday, August 28, 2019 8:02 PM

>> To: Meggs, Geoff PREM:EX

>> Cc: 'Carolyn Bauer'

>> Subject: Meeting

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>> Dear Mr. Meggs:

>> I am confirming what Carolyn has stated to you about the BCTA & VTA meeting today to work in co-operation for some urgent taxi industry issues. It is a urgent request for a meeting with yourself or the Hon. Premier by Friday, August 30-2019. We fully understand that it is a too short notice but so are the issues which need yours or the Hon. Premier attention and even a 30 minutes meeting would be fine.

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>> With Regards,

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>> [Mohan Kang2]