

From: [Pickering, Douglas J](#) TRAN:EX
To: [Vanderkuip, Kristin](#) TRAN:EX
Cc: [Rotgans, Naomi](#) TRAN:EX
Subject: FW: Media--interview request
Date: Monday, April 24, 2017 2:37:42 PM

Hello,

Regarding the below inquiry, kuaiche is the company behind Udrop Express. Udrop Express is the subject of PDV complaint 2017-00031; complainant had received an ad for the company and was asking if it was a legal service. This app functions similar to Gokabu; Chinese language based, ride sharing service, connect thru WeChat, routinely has several cars available to do pick ups. We have not sent this company any communication. Have been waiting on feedback on the Gokabu C&D before going forward. Note kuaiche.com is a malware site. Kuaiche.ca is their company site. RaccoonGo is new to us. Checked it out today and it seems the same kind of setup as Gokabu and UDrop. Shows several cars available.

Doug

From: Passenger Transportation Br, TRAN:EX
Sent: Monday, April 24, 2017 1:16 PM
To: Pickering, Douglas J TRAN:EX
Subject: FW: Media--interview request

From: Xu, Xiao [<mailto:XXu@globeandmail.com>]
Sent: Monday, April 24, 2017 12:17 PM
To: Passenger Transportation Br, TRAN:EX
Subject: Media--interview request

Hi Sir/Madam,

I am Xiao Xu, reporter with the Globe and Mail. I am currently working on an article about a few Apps that function almost the same as Uber, and wondering if they violate the regulations. Thanks. I have been talking to a few companies in Vancouver such as RaccoonGo and kuaiche. They offer the same service as Uber and besides, they offer other services as taxi.

1. I wonder if these kind of service violate the regulations or not? (Since Uber is still forbidden in Vancouver)
2. How will the government deal with these companies/apps if they are not allowed yet.

Thank you very much!

Sincerely,

Xiao Xu

From: [Rorison, Trish GCPE:EX](#)
To: [Passenger Transportation Br, TRAN:EX](#)
Cc: [Vanderkuip, Kristin TRAN:EX](#)
Subject: RE: Media--interview request
Date: Monday, April 24, 2017 2:58:24 PM

Hi Naomi – we'll respond.

Trish

From: Passenger Transportation Br, TRAN:EX
Sent: Monday, April 24, 2017 2:19 PM
To: Rorison, Trish GCPE:EX
Cc: Vanderkuip, Kristin TRAN:EX
Subject: FW: Media--interview request

Hi Trish,

Are you able to respond and take care of this media request please?

Thank you,

Naomi Rotgans

Passenger Transportation Enforcement Officer

Passenger Transportation Branch | Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure

Office 604-527-2202

From: Xu, Xiao [<mailto:XXu@globeandmail.com>]
Sent: Monday, April 24, 2017 12:17 PM
To: Passenger Transportation Br, TRAN:EX
Subject: Media--interview request

Hi Sir/Madam,

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2. How will the government deal with these companies/apps if they are not allowed yet.

Thank you very much!

Sincerely,

Xiao Xu

From: [Vanderkuip, Kristin](#) [TRAN:EX](#)
To: [Rorison, Trish](#) [GCPE:EX](#)
Cc: [Rotgans, Naomi](#) [TRAN:EX](#); [Pickering, Douglas J](#) [TRAN:EX](#)
Subject: RE: Media--interview request
Date: Tuesday, April 25, 2017 2:41:21 PM

Thank you Trish

We should connect after interregnum to discuss a possible outreach to the communities served by these unlicensed rideshare operators.

Kristin Vanderkuip
Mobile: 604 992-9140

From: Rorison, Trish [GCPE:EX](#)
Sent: Tuesday, April 25, 2017 1:17 PM
To: Vanderkuip, Kristin [TRAN:EX](#)
Cc: Rotgans, Naomi [TRAN:EX](#); Pickering, Douglas J [TRAN:EX](#)
Subject: RE: Media--interview request

Hi Kristin – sorry for the delay in responding. I talked to the reporter and sent her to the PT Branch site for info. She was fine with that and understands we are limited in what we can respond with at this time.

During writ, we can't respond with any info that isn't already available online or via news release. The idea is that we remain impartial in both actions and perception so no info including additional, clarifying, etc.

Many media know this but some don't so I'm happy to clarify for them. Any other media requests can be sent to me.

Trish

From: Vanderkuip, Kristin [TRAN:EX](#)
Sent: Monday, April 24, 2017 5:30 PM
To: Rorison, Trish [GCPE:EX](#)
Cc: Rotgans, Naomi [TRAN:EX](#); Pickering, Douglas J [TRAN:EX](#)
Subject: RE: Media--interview request

Hi Trish

If we want to use this as an opportunity to inform the drivers and passengers signed up or considering signing up with these services, we could use these bullets:

- Drivers found operating without a Passenger Transportation licence may receive a ticket and fine of \$1150
- Passengers are advised to avoid any commercial passenger transportation service that is not listed on the [Passenger Transportation Registry](#)
- Drivers may not have appropriate drivers licences and background checks, putting passengers at risk
- Vehicle operated through an unlicensed for-hire service may not have commercial passenger vehicle insurance. Claims costs may not be covered if a vehicle owner is in breach of the terms of their insurance.

We should not say that the app company must have a licence. It is the vehicle itself that must have a PT licence. The app company could choose to get a licence themselves and then authorize vehicles to operate under that licence or the individual vehicle owners could apply for their own licences and then choose to use the app as their dispatch provider.

Kristin Vanderkuip, Registrar and Executive Director
Passenger Transportation Branch | Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure
Mobile 604-992-9140

From: Passenger Transportation Br, TRAN:EX
Sent: Monday, April 24, 2017 2:19 PM
To: Rorison, Trish GCPE:EX
Cc: Vanderkuip, Kristin TRAN:EX
Subject: FW: Media--interview request

Hi Trish,

Are you able to respond and take care of this media request please?

Thank you,

Naomi Rotgans

Passenger Transportation Enforcement Officer

Passenger Transportation Branch | Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure

Office 604-527-2202

From: Xu, Xiao [<mailto:XXu@globeandmail.com>]

Sent: Monday, April 24, 2017 12:17 PM

To: Passenger Transportation Br, TRAN:EX

Subject: Media--interview request

Hi Sir/Madam,

I am Xiao Xu, reporter with the Globe and Mail. I am currently working on an article about a few Apps that function almost the same as Uber, and wondering if they violate the regulations. Thanks. I have been talking to a few companies in Vancouver such as RaccoonGo and kuaiche. They offer the same service as Uber and besides, they offer other services as taxi.

1. I wonder if these kind of service violate the regulations or not? (Since Uber is still forbidden in Vancouver)
2. How will the government deal with these companies/apps if they are not allowed yet.

Thank you very much!

Sincerely,

Xiao Xu

From: [Vanderkuip, Kristin TRAN:EX](#)
To: [Perzoff, Lara GCPE:EX](#)
Cc: [Lovell, Margaret G TRAN:EX](#); [Gergley, Chantelle J TRAN:EX](#)
Subject: FW: Media inquiry from the Globe and Mail
Date: Monday, June 26, 2017 12:58:37 PM

Hi Lara

We received this media enquiry on Friday. Sorry for the delay.

Here are our responses to

1. Has the provincial government heard any service like that? We are aware that there are some companies connecting drivers with unlicensed vehicles for hire.
2. Has the government received any complaints? Yes, we have received complaints and have an open investigation.
3. How will the government deal with these companies/apps? The fine for drivers found operating without a passenger transportation licence is \$1150. So far Ministry staff have issued 5 violation tickets to drivers.

Kristin Vanderkuip, Registrar and Executive Director
Passenger Transportation Branch | Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure
Mobile 604-992-9140

From: Passenger Transportation Br, TRAN:EX
Sent: Monday, June 26, 2017 11:37 AM
To: Vanderkuip, Kristin TRAN:EX
Subject: FW: Media inquiry from the Globe and Mail
Hi Kristin:

As requested.

Margaret Lovell

Passenger Transportation Inspector
Passenger Transportation Branch
Ministry of Transportation & Infrastructure
Toll Free: (1-800-663-7867)
Direct: (604) 527-2200
Branch: (604) 527-2198
Facsimile: (604) 527-2205
Email: margaret.lovell@gov.bc.ca
Web Address: www.th.gov.bc.ca/rpt

This message, including any attachments, is confidential and may contain privileged information intended to be relied upon by the sender and/or the person(s) named above. If you are not the intended recipient or have received this message in error, immediately notify the sender by reply email, permanently delete the original transmission from the sender, including any attachments, without making a copy and confirm these actions in your reply email. Thank you.

From: Xu, Xiao [<mailto:XXu@globeandmail.com>]
Sent: Friday, June 23, 2017 11:20 AM
To: Passenger Transportation Br, TRAN:EX
Subject: Media inquiry from the Globe and Mail
Hi Sir/Madam,

I am Xiao Xu, reporter with the Globe and Mail. I am currently working on an article about a few apps that function almost the same as Uber, and hoping to ask you a few questions about this.

Thanks!

I have been talking to a few companies in Vancouver such as RaccoonGo and kuaiche. They offer the same service as Uber and besides, they offer other services as taxi.

1. Has the provincial government heard any service like that?
2. Has the government received any complaints?
3. How will the government deal with these companies/apps?

Thank you very much! Look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,



Xiao Xu | Reporter

o: 6046316612 | c: 7786683063

e: xxu@globeandmail.com

From: [Pickering, Douglas J TRAN:EX](#)
To: [Vanderkuip, Kristin TRAN:EX](#)
Cc: [Rotgans, Naomi TRAN:EX](#); [Gergley, Chantelle J TRAN:EX](#); [Lovell, Margaret G TRAN:EX](#)
Subject: Re: A Letter of Anonymity
Date: Wednesday, June 28, 2017 1:54:18 PM

Hello,

No, we have not come across this one before. It appears to have the same functionality as two other services^{s.15}; RaccoonGo and Gokabu. All of these run their ride hailing function as a plug-in in WeChat (as opposed to using an independent app like other operators we targeted such as Udrop) and have very similar layout and style.

Doug Pickering

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 28, 2017, at 10:17 AM, Vanderkuip, Kristin TRAN:EX
<Kristin.Vanderkuip@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Hi Doug and Naomi

Please see the attached letter. Is this a company we are already investigating?

Kristin Vanderkuip
Registrar & Executive Director
Passenger Transportation Branch
604-992-9140

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Bauer, Steven TRAN:EX" <Steven.Bauer@gov.bc.ca>
To: "Vanderkuip, Kristin TRAN:EX"
<Kristin.Vanderkuip@gov.bc.ca>, "Gergley, Chantelle J TRAN:EX"
<Chantelle.Gergley@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Fwd: A Letter of Anonymity

Good morning,

Please review the below information for your consideration. Not sure if you have received this as well.

Regards,
Steve

Dear Officer,

I want to report a serious illegal transportation business in the Great Vancouver Area, i have already report him tax evasion issue to CRA, please review this case from the attached file, if you need further information, please reply the email and i will provide further evidence.

From: [Perzoff, Lara GCPE:EX](#)
To: [Vanderkuip, Kristin TRAN:EX](#); [Gergley, Chantelle J TRAN:EX](#)
Subject: For approval - Ride-hailing companies slip through cracks as Uber faces scrutiny - Xiao Xu - Globe and Mail
Date: Tuesday, July 4, 2017 11:24:53 AM
Attachments: IN Unlicensed Vehicles for Hire-Investigation.docx

Hi Chantelle,

I note that ^{s.22}

In her absence, and given the media attention this issue is getting, I've been asked to pull together the attached draft IN.

Please let me know if you have any edits to this one.

Thank you,

Lara

Lara Perzoff | Sr. Public Affairs Officer

Government Communications & Public Engagement

Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure

Direct: (250)356-0825

Cell: (250) 920-9040

e-mail: Lara.perzoff@gov.bc.ca

From: <tno@gov.bc.ca>

Date: July 4, 2017 at 4:30:00 AM PDT

To: Undisclosed recipients;;

Subject: TNO: Ride-hailing companies slip through cracks as Uber faces scrutiny - Xiao Xu - Globe and Mail

Ride-hailing companies slip through cracks as Uber faces scrutiny

Globe and Mail

04-Jul-2017

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By Xiao Xu

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ADVICE TO MINISTER

CONFIDENTIAL ISSUES NOTE

Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure
Date: July 4, 2017

Unauthorized companies connecting passengers to unlicensed vehicles for hire

ADVICE AND RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- **Safety in B.C.'s passenger transportation industry is government's top priority.**
- **We are aware there are some companies connecting drivers with unlicensed vehicles for hire.**
- **The Passenger Transportation Registrar has received complaints and has an open investigation.**
- **Due to the investigation, further details can't be provided.**
- **The fine for drivers found operating without a passenger transportation licence is \$1,150. So far Ministry staff has issued 5 violation tickets to drivers.**

KEY FACTS REGARDING THE ISSUE:

On July 4, 2017, media reported that several small companies catering to the Chinese market have been using their own apps, drivers and customers to operate ride-sharing services in the Lower Mainland.

Ride-sharing services are currently not permitted under provincial transportation laws.

The companies named in the news story insist that despite taking a commission from drivers, they're a platform that releasing information to connect drivers to passengers, and they're not cab companies.

The Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure, through its Passenger Transportation Branch, has received complaints about these unlicensed transportation companies and has an open investigation.

Ministry staff has issued five violation tickets to drivers so far. The fine for drivers found operating without a passenger transportation licence is \$1,150.

From: [Vanderkuip, Kristin TRAN:EX](#)
To: [Gergley, Chantelle J TRAN:EX](#)
Subject: Re: For approval - Ride-hailing companies slip through cracks as Uber faces scrutiny - Xiao Xu - Globe and Mail
Date: Tuesday, July 4, 2017 2:59:19 PM

Hi Chantelle

I would add that ^{s.13,s.15}
s.13,s.15

s.13

Kristin Vanderkuip
Registrar & Executive Director
Passenger Transportation Branch
604-992-9140

On Jul 4, 2017, at 1:09 PM, Gergley, Chantelle J TRAN:EX <Chantelle.Gergley@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Hi Lara,
Just some minor edits, attached.
Thank you!

From: Perzoff, Lara GCPE:EX
Sent: Tuesday, July 4, 2017 11:25 AM
To: Vanderkuip, Kristin TRAN:EX; Gergley, Chantelle J TRAN:EX
Subject: For approval - Ride-hailing companies slip through cracks as Uber faces scrutiny - Xiao Xu - Globe and Mail

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I note that ^{s.22}

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Thank you,
Lara

Lara Perzoff | Sr. Public Affairs Officer
Government Communications & Public Engagement
Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure
Direct: (250)356-0825
Cell: (250) 920-9040
e-mail: Lara.perzoff@gov.bc.ca

From: <tno@gov.bc.ca>
Date: July 4, 2017 at 4:30:00 AM PDT
To: Undisclosed recipients;;
Subject: TNO: Ride-hailing companies slip through cracks as Uber faces scrutiny - Xiao Xu - Globe and Mail

Ride-hailing companies slip through cracks as Uber faces scrutiny

Globe and Mail
04-Jul-2017
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By Xiao Xu
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From: [Gergley, Chantelle J](#) TRAN:EX
To: [Perzoff, Lara](#) GCPE:EX
Cc: [Vanderkuip, Kristin](#) TRAN:EX
Subject: RE: For approval - Ride-hailing companies slip through cracks as Uber faces scrutiny - Xiao Xu - Globe and Mail
Date: Tuesday, July 4, 2017 1:09:00 PM
Attachments: [IN Unlicensed Vehicles for Hire-Investigation.docx](#)

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Thank you!

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Government Communications & Public Engagement

Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure

Direct: (250)356-0825

Cell: (250) 920-9040

e-mail: Lara.perzoff@gov.bc.ca

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Date: July 4, 2017 at 4:30:00 AM PDT

To: Undisclosed recipients;;

Subject: TNO: Ride-hailing companies slip through cracks as Uber faces scrutiny - Xiao Xu - Globe and Mail

Ride-hailing companies slip through cracks as Uber faces scrutiny

Globe and Mail

04-Jul-2017

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By Xiao Xu

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ADVICE TO MINISTER

CONFIDENTIAL ISSUES NOTE

Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure
Date: July 4, 2017

Unauthorized companies connecting passengers to unlicensed vehicles for hire

ADVICE AND RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- **Safety in B.C.'s passenger transportation industry is government's top priority.**
- **We are aware there are some companies connecting drivers with unlicensed vehicles for hire.**
- **The Passenger Transportation Registrar has received complaints and has an open investigation.**
- **Due to the investigation, further details can't be provided.**
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KEY FACTS REGARDING THE ISSUE:

On July 4, 2017, media reported that several small companies catering to the Chinese market have been using their own apps, drivers and customers to operate ride-sharing services in the Lower Mainland.

Ride-sharing services are currently not permitted under provincial transportation lawslegislation.

The companies named in the news story insist that despite taking a commission from drivers, they're a platform that releasesing information to connect drivers to passengers, and they're not cab companies.

The Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure, through its Passenger Transportation Branch, has received complaints about these unlicensed transportation companies and has an open investigation.

Ministry staff has issued five violation tickets to drivers so far. The fine for drivers found operating without a passenger transportation licence is \$1,150.

From: [Gergley, Chantelle J TRAN:EX](#)
To: s.22
Subject: Re: Complaint
Date: Thursday, July 6, 2017 6:30:39 PM

Thank you s.22

I understand your concern and appreciate your position. The investigation is still underway and I'm happy to keep you apprised of any new developments as I am able to share them.

Have a good evening.

On Jul 6, 2017, at 6:15 PM, s.22

· wrote:

Hi Chantelle:

Appreciate for the information and you may recall the last time Cease and Desist order were given in 2012 to stop these type of the operation. I am not trying to suggest anything but it is important for my members to see and feel that these type of illegal operations cannot continue to operate compromising the public safety . Thanks.
s.22

From: Gergley, Chantelle J TRAN:EX [<mailto:Chantelle.Gergley@gov.bc.ca>]

Sent: July 6, 2017 9:12 AM

To: s.22

Subject: RE: Complaint

Thank you for bringing this to our attention s.22

We had previously received a complaint and are conducting an investigation currently and have issued 5 fines to-date.

Thanks again.

From: s.22

Sent: Thursday, July 6, 2017 7:08 AM

To: Gergley, Chantelle J TRAN:EX

Subject: Complaint

Hi Chantelle:

I had received the complaints from my members and it was on the Global TV news in the morning that Raccoon Go , a similar Uber type operation is operating in Richmond illegally.Mr. Jack Huang, CEO of the Raccoon Go states that he is not breaking any laws . It is requested that the complaint should be addressed to ensure that the public safety is not compromised and these types of illegal operation do not operate. Thanks.
s.22

From: Gergley, Chantelle J TRAN:EX
To: "Passengertransportation"
Subject: FW: Complaint
Date: Thursday, July 6, 2017 11:11:00 AM

Hi all,

I have responded to s.22 regarding s.2 email this morning so no further action needs to be taken. I wanted to be sure that we document/log the complaint.

Thank you!

From: s.22
Sent: Thursday, July 6, 2017 7:08 AM
To: Gergley, Chantelle J TRAN:EX
Subject: Complaint
Hi Chantelle:

I had received the complaints from my members and it was on the Global TV news in the morning that Raccoon Go , a similar Uber type operation is operating in Richmond illegally. Mr. Jack Huang, CEO of the Raccoon Go states that he is not breaking any laws . It is requested that the complaint should be addressed to ensure that the public safety is not compromised and these types of illegal operation do not operate. Thanks. s.22

From: [Gergley, Chantelle J](#) TRAN:EX
To: [Lovell, Margaret G](#) TRAN:EX
Subject: FW: Complaint
Date: Friday, July 7, 2017 9:21:00 AM

Hi Margaret,

To add to the information we have already tracked.

Thank you!

From: Gergley, Chantelle J TRAN:EX
Sent: Thursday, July 6, 2017 6:31 PM
To: s.22
Subject: Re: Complaint
Thank you s.22

I understand your concern and appreciate your position. The investigation is still underway and I'm happy to keep you apprised of any new developments as I am able to share them.
Have a good evening.

On Jul 6, 2017, at 6:15 PM, s.22

wrote:

Hi Chantelle:

Appreciate for the information and you may recall the last time Cease and Desist order were given in 2012 to stop these type of the operation. I am not trying to suggest anything but it is important for my members to see and feel that these type of illegal operations cannot continue to operate compromising the public safety . Thanks.
s.22

From: Gergley, Chantelle J TRAN:EX [<mailto:Chantelle.Gergley@gov.bc.ca>]
Sent: July 6, 2017 9:12 AM
To: s.22
Subject: RE: Complaint

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To: Gergley, Chantelle J TRAN:EX
Subject: Complaint
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s.22

From: [Calbick, Bruce W](#) TRAN:EX
To: [Pickering, Douglas J](#) TRAN:EX; [Rotgans, Naomi](#) TRAN:EX
Subject: FW: rideshare
Date: Thursday, July 27, 2017 10:14:42 AM


FYI

Most likely you've seen this.

From: Bauer, Steven TRAN:EX
Sent: Thursday, July 27, 2017 9:52 AM
To: Calbick, Bruce W TRAN:EX
Subject: FW: rideshare

FYI

Rideshare company operates without licence in Vancouver area
metronews.ca
Tuesday, July 25, 2017

By Wanyee Li 

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From: Bindra, Nina JAG:EX
To: Calbick, Bruce W TRAN:EX; Rotgans, Naomi TRAN:EX
Subject: RE: Legal Opinion Request S. 14
Date: Wednesday, July 5, 2017 11:57:25 AM

Hello folks,

FYI, s.22

and my colleague Ron Bell

(Ronald.Bell@gov.bc.ca) will be here to provide any urgent legal advice that can't wait until my return.

Also FYI, you may have already seen this article which seems related to your request:

<https://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/british-columbia/ride-sharing-companies-slip-through-cracks-as-uber-faces-pressure-from-regulators/article35538333/>

B.C. ride-sharing companies slip through cracks as Uber faces pressure from provincial regulators

XIAO XU

VANCOUVER — The Globe and Mail

Published Monday, Jul. 03, 2017 8:15PM EDT

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Thanks,

Nina Bindra

Barrister & Solicitor | Ministry of Justice | Legal Services Branch | Justice and Education Law Group
4F 1001 Douglas St. | Victoria BC | Tel: 250 387-4173 | Fax: 250 356-9264

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From: Calbick, Bruce W TRAN:EX
Sent: Wednesday, June 21, 2017 3:20 PM
To: Bindra, Nina JAG:EX; Rotgans, Naomi TRAN:EX
Subject: RE: Legal Opinion Request -s.14
Thanks Nina. ☺

From: Bindra, Nina JAG:EX
Sent: Wednesday, June 21, 2017 3:14 PM
To: Calbick, Bruce W TRAN:EX; Rotgans, Naomi TRAN:EX
Subject: RE: Legal Opinion Request -s.14

s.14

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s.14



ISSUE NOTE

Issue:

- Modernizing Passenger Transportation in British Columbia

Background:

- In September 2016, the Province publicly released a report entitled *Ride Sourcing in BC* which summarized the views and opinions of passenger transportation stakeholders under five themes:
 1. Ensuring Passenger Safety and Vehicle Safety
 2. Meeting Consumer Demand
 3. Guaranteeing Accessibility
 4. Ensuring a Fair and Level Playing Field
 5. Building a Streamlined and Modernized Passenger Transportation Sector
- On March 7, 2017, the Province announced a series of proposed actions to enable ridesharing by the end of this year.
- The announcement included up to \$1 million towards the development of new technology for the taxi industry, up to \$3.5 million crash avoidance technology to improve passenger safety and reduce costs associated with collisions, new passenger transportation insurance options, streamlining the regulatory and supply framework between local and provincial governments and further consultation through the summer and fall.

Decision required:

- Direction required to determine the approach to enable ridesharing.

ISSUE NOTE

Issue: **Modernizing Passenger Transportation in British Columbia**

Background:

The Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure and the Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development and Minister Responsible for TransLink led initial consultations with a diverse group of stakeholders from across the province resulting in a public report, *Ride Sourcing in BC*, which was publicly released September 2016. The report was created to inform government on what steps would be required to modernize the passenger transportation sector and enable the arrival of commercial ride-sharing services and transportation network services in British Columbia.

On March 7, 2017, the Province announced its intention to introduce a series of actions to help the taxi industry modernize and remain competitive in anticipation of ride-sharing services being introduced in British Columbia for the 2017 holiday season. Government also pledged to seek additional input from the ride-sharing and taxi industries, tourism, police, airports, local governments, ICBC and RoadSafetyBC.

The March 7, 2017 announcement included:

- **New app-based technology:** The Province would invest up to \$1 million to help the taxi industry develop an app to allow the taxi sector to allow the public to hail and pay for a taxi.
- **Crash prevention technology:** ICBC would invest up to \$3.5 million to install crash avoidance technology in all B.C. taxis to improve passenger safety and reduce costs associated with collisions.
- **Insurance products:** ICBC to improve taxi insurance to make it more flexible and cost effective, which could save taxi drivers up to 25% depending on the number of kilometres they drive.
- **Reduced red tape:** The Province would work with municipal governments and the taxi industry to remove red tape and overlap within the system, which will save drivers time and money.
- **Exclusive rights to street hailing for taxis:** Taxis would retain exclusive rights to be hired by phone, at a taxi stand or flagged down at the curb.
- **Pick-up/drop-off anytime, anywhere:** The Province would work with municipalities and other stakeholders to allow all drivers, including taxis, to provide services wherever and whenever.
- **Open up taxi supply:** The Province and municipalities would address the shortage of taxis and vehicles for hire to provide more choice, accessibility and opportunity for consumers and drivers.

Decisions required:

s.13