

Highlights:

- Bloomberg published a story on March 31 titled “In North America’s Biggest Uber Holdout, It Pays to Know Chinese”.
- The story reports that Vancouver is the largest city in North America without legal ride hailing, however Chinese-language apps are thriving.

Contrast:

- We will see legal ride hailing services in B.C. this year, and we are bringing it in with safety in mind.
- The Passenger Transportation Branch works with local police agencies to investigate companies providing illegal ride hailing services.
- We will be ramping up enforcement and issuing fines where possible.
- We know this is a problem, which is why we will soon be able to issue fines of up to \$100,000 against companies operating illegally.
- We are also going to add more enforcement officers to the Passenger Transportation Branch to help enforce the rules.
- Customers need to know that if they choose to get a ride through these apps they are

choosing to take a trip in a vehicle that's not licenced to operate legally.

- Our priority is the safety of people, which includes ensuring ride hailing drivers are properly licensed, undergo criminal record check, and insured to carry passengers commercially.

Background

- Several companies operating under the names Longmao, Udi Kuaiche/U Drop, RaccoonGo, GoKabu, Dingdang Carpool, and AO Ride hailing have developed ridesourcing apps.
- These companies have been recruiting drivers to operate their personal vehicles as commercial passenger directed vehicles in the Lower Mainland, mostly operating in Richmond.
- Ride-sharing services are currently not permitted under provincial transportation legislation.
- Passengers must know that when they hail a ride in a vehicle through these apps they are choosing to take a trip in a vehicle that has not been licenced to operate legally in British Columbia.
- Current provincial and municipal regulatory requirements include a regular, government approved safety inspection of the vehicle, insurance that will cover the carrying of paying passengers and a police background check for drivers.
- These companies insist that despite taking a commission from drivers, they are not functioning as a cab company, but operate more like a ride 'pool' service, that would enable passengers to share the costs of a ride or to "pool rides" which they claim is legal under B.C. regulations.
- The Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure, through its Passenger Transportation Branch, has received complaints about these unlicensed transportation companies and has several open investigations that are currently ongoing.

- As of March 2019, the PTB has issued 52 violation tickets (\$1,150.00 per ticket) and 32 cease and desist orders.

Hi Aileen,

Looks good thanks. Made some minor amendments.

Steve

From: Machell, Aileen GCPE:EX

Sent: April 2, 2019 7:38 AM

To: Haywood, Steven TRAN:EX <Steven.Haywood@gov.bc.ca>; Beale, William TRAN:EX <William.Beale@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: RE: Compliance & Enforcement for Unlicensed Operators

Can you please review and let me know if you have any concerns?

From: Haywood, Steven TRAN:EX

Sent: Monday, April 1, 2019 2:00 PM

To: Beale, William TRAN:EX <William.Beale@gov.bc.ca>; Machell, Aileen GCPE:EX <Aileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: FW: Compliance & Enforcement for Unlicensed Operators

As discussed this morning. Note that there is personal information in the spreadsheet and should not be disseminated further.

From: Gergley, Chantelle J TRAN:EX

Sent: April 1, 2019 1:57 PM

To: Haywood, Steven TRAN:EX <Steven.Haywood@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Compliance & Enforcement for Unlicensed Operators

Hi Steve,

Attached is the violation tickets and Cease and Desist orders that have been issued by PTB since 2017.

As the compliance activity is directed towards the unlicensed driver, the VTs and C&Ds are issued to individuals who were caught picking up passengers through an app based platform. The app based platforms that have had C&E activity directed towards them are:

- Longmao
- Udi Kuaiche (U-Drop)
- RacoonGo

- GoKabu
- Dingdang Carpool
- AO Rideshare
- BB Express

Our last roadside enforcement was on March 12, 2019. 8 of the 52 violation tickets were issued on that date. C&D orders will also be issued to drivers as a result of that activity.

We are currently in the process of confirming future roadside enforcement activity for the unlicensed operators in collaboration with local enforcement agencies. There will be additional C&E this month.

NOTE – the spreadsheet is not fully updated so you will note that 32 C&D orders have been issued; however, there are only 15 marked off on the sheet. We are in the process of updating that now and I will send it to you as soon as it is up-to-date.

Also, important to note is that we have received several FOI requests about all of our VT and C&D activity since 2017 and all of these are on Open Information.

Let me know if there is additional information I can provide.

Chantelle Gergley, Director Operations & Deputy Registrar
Passenger Transportation Branch | Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure
Phone: 604-862-5550
Branch email: passengertransportationbr@gov.bc.ca