Message to the Motorist

The information in this handbook is intended for all drivers. Road safety is a priority of the Province of Nova Scotia, and every driver, no matter how experienced, is encouraged to refresh their memory and skill from time to time.

Safe driving requires knowledge and skill. It must be learned through practice and a personal commitment to safety. Driving experience is extremely important, but experience itself is not enough. To become a safe driver you must continue to improve your skills, correct poor driving habits, and learn from your mistakes.

This handbook will familiarize you with the rules governing the operation of motor vehicles. Also included in this handbook is information about licensing, registration, inspection, and collision reporting.

The contents of this handbook explain the basic provisions of the law in Nova Scotia using language and terms that are easily understood by the general public. For the actual expression of the law, refer to the Motor Vehicle Act and Regulations.

Most driving decisions are based on judgement—yours and that of the other users of our roads and highways. Your attitude toward your own safety and that of others is an important factor.

Observing the rules and advice in this handbook will help you become a safer driver and avoid being involved in a collision. Drive defensively and remember—Caution is Critical.

Traffic laws are for your protection. Please observe them.
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### 2 Rules of the Road

#### Traffic Control
- Traffic signal lights
- Arrow signals
- Flashing signals
- Lane control signals
- Traffic signs
- Crosswalk guards
- Right of way
- Unmarked crosswalks
- Emergency vehicles

#### Basic Rules
- Driving on the right
- Stopping distances
- Driving too slowly
- Using the safety scan
- Blind spots
- Two-second rule
- Choosing a safe speed
- School zone
- Curves or sharp turns
- Using your signal lights and horn
- Turning
- Following
- Changing lanes
- Overtaking and passing
- Passing on the right
- When your vehicle is being passed
- Backing
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Vehicle Registration

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Transferring a vehicle from another jurisdiction
Selling a vehicle

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Operating a vehicle
Renewing your vehicle permit and licence plate
In-transit permits
Temporary permits
Accessible parking plates and permits

The Annual Safety Inspection

Vehicle Insurance and Financial Responsibility

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If you are involved in a collision
Consequences of not obtaining coverage
Protecting you from the uninsured driver
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People Who Do Not Have a Regular Driver’s Licence
Level 1: Learner motorcycle licence (called Class LM)
Level 2: Newly licensed motorcycle driver’s licence (called Class 6N)
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Motorcycle Safety Information—Safety First!

Always wear a helmet
Always wear eye protection
Always wear protective clothing

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