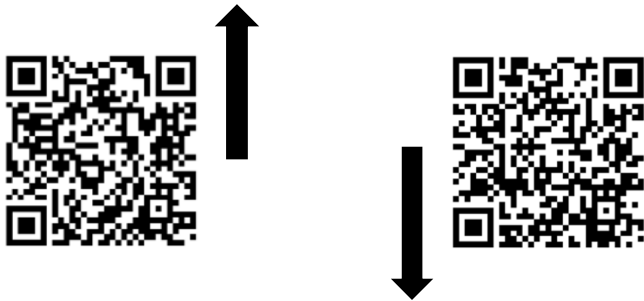




Alberta RCMP Traffic - Information Sheet on Impaired Driving, Mandatory Alcohol Screening - Immediate Roadside Sanctions

Did you know that on December 18th, 2018, Bill C-46 became law in Canada and it included Mandatory Alcohol Screening? Police officers can demand that any lawfully-stopped driver provide a preliminary breath sample to test for alcohol without reasonable suspicion that the driver has alcohol in their body.



Did you know that on December 1st, 2020, Bill 21 became law in Alberta and included changes to the Immediate Roadside Sanctions Program?

The new Immediate Roadside Sanctions (IRS) Program was introduced on December 1, 2020 and provides a comprehensive array of serious, immediate and escalating consequences for impaired drivers—a system that has been proven to reduce impaired driving significantly in other jurisdictions. Consequences for drivers will include driver's licence suspensions, new fines, vehicle seizures, mandatory education, and participation in the Ignition Interlock Program (IIP).

Increased impaired driving consequences under the new IRS Program include:

- Driver's licence suspensions of 15 months for first offence, longer for repeat offenders;
- First offence fines of \$1,000, with increasing fines for repeat offenders;
- Vehicle seizure of 30 days;
- Mandatory education programs for offenders;
- Drivers can pay for the IIP after 90 days of suspension with extended periods of IIP for repeat offenders, and
- Depending on the circumstances, criminal code charges can still be laid by the police officer.



Alberta RCMP Traffic will be concentrating on Impaired Driving Enforcement this Holiday Season.

Please, if you drink, don't drive. Plan ahead to have a safe ride home. In the month of October 2021, Alberta RCMP removed 698 impaired drivers from Alberta roadways! That's almost one impaired driver per hour!