



Resolution No. 10 – 07

Enhancement of Provincial Legislation for Drinking/Driving Offences

WHEREAS the “Alberta Traffic Safety Plan” contains the following:

VISION: Alberta has the safest roads in Canada

MISSION: Saving lives on Alberta’s roads

GOAL: Achieve a 30 per cent decrease in the average number of road users killed or seriously injured during 2008-2010, compared with the average figures during 1996 – 200; and,

WHEREAS the Alberta Office of Traffic Safety Coordinator is presently working on amending the current legislation for presentation to government; and,

WHEREAS fatal collisions remain the leading cause of death in Canada; and,

WHEREAS according to 2009 statistics, 22% of all fatal collisions in Alberta list alcohol as a contributing factor; and,

WHEREAS a total of 5.0% of drivers involved in injury crashes were judged to have consumed alcohol prior to the crash, as compared to 21.1% of drivers involved in fatal collisions, i.e., as the severity of the collision increased, the involvement of alcohol dramatically increased; and,

WHEREAS other jurisdictions, including British Columbia, have recently enhanced this category of offences, which includes significantly increased the monetary penalties, the periods of license suspension, and mandatory vehicle impoundments; and,

WHEREAS a greater deterrence is required to the current Alberta 24-hour Suspension legislation, i.e., Section 89 of the Traffic Safety Act, which has limited continuing consequences to the driver involved, e.g., suspension of driving privileges for 24 hours.

NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT

The Alberta Association of Chiefs of Police urge the Solicitor General and Public Security Minister, the Minister of Justice, and the Minister of Transportation to enhance the current Provincial legislation dealing with the legal consequences of driving while having consumed alcohol, specifically dealing with adding progressive penalties, including but not limited to monetary penalties, periods of driving prohibitions and periods of vehicle impoundment.