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Province cracks down on drunk drivers in December

Be careful on the road this holiday season

Edmonton... Every year, more than 110 Albertans are killed and 1,900 injured in collisions due to impaired driving. Twenty-two per cent of all fatal collisions involve impaired driving and on average approximately 7,700 people are convicted of impaired driving in Alberta each year.

Impaired driving imposes enormous costs on our society. Families, the health care system, the legal system, insurance companies and the general public all pay the price for impaired drivers. Drivers who choose to drink and drive face not only killing themselves, their friends or someone else, but also very serious legal, financial, and social consequences.

December is impaired driving awareness month, and the Alberta government is reminding Albertans of the dangerous consequences of driving while impaired. This holiday season, law enforcement agents throughout Alberta will be cracking down on drunk drivers through enhanced Check Stop programs.

The message is clear: if you drink and drive you are going to get caught.

This holiday season, remember the following:

- Make the right choice for everyone - don't drive if you have been drinking.
- If you plan to drink, plan ahead for safe transportation. There are alternatives to drinking and driving.
- You do not have to be legally drunk to be charged with impaired driving.
- If you encounter a suspected impaired driver, record the vehicle license plate number and dial 911 anywhere in the province.

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Media inquiries may be directed to:

Liz Owens
Office of Traffic Safety
Alberta Transportation
780-427-6775
liz.owens@gov.ab.ca

Paul Oss
Communications
Alberta Transportation
780-644-5786 or 780-619-5874
paul.oss@gov.ab.ca

To call toll free within Alberta dial 310-0000.

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