

December 3, 2010

Checkstops out in full force throughout December

Play it safe this holiday season-don't drive impaired

Edmonton... Law enforcement agencies throughout Alberta will target impaired drivers in coordinated Checkstops this holiday season. The message is clear: driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs will not be tolerated.

In 2009, 112 people were killed and 1473 were injured in collisions involving drivers who had been drinking.

In addition to being a danger on the road, drivers who choose to drink or use drugs and drive also face serious legal, financial, and social consequences. This holiday season, remember the following:

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

December is impaired driving awareness month on the [Traffic Safety Plan Calendar](#), and the Alberta government is reminding Albertans of the dangerous consequences of driving impaired.

Enforcement combined with strong education and awareness strategies are a central part of the Traffic Safety Plan, which also includes community mobilization, engineering and legislative enhancements. Alberta also has several programs in place to tackle impaired driving such as the [Ignition Interlock Program](#); the [Alberta Administrative License Suspension Program](#); and zero tolerance for [Graduated Driver Licencing](#) drivers.

For more information, contact the Office of Traffic Safety at 780-422-8839 or your regional traffic safety coordinator. To find your local coordinator, visit www.saferoads.com and click on Contact Us, then [Regional Traffic Safety Coordinator](#) on the left-hand side.

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