

# CANADIAN AGREEMENT ON VEHICLE REGISTRATION \*

Updated April 2007\*\*

## PART I - RECIPROCITY

Pursuant to and in conformity with the laws of their respective jurisdictions, the member jurisdictions, acting by and through their lawfully authorized officials to execute this agreement, do mutually agree as follows:

### *Definitions*

1. The following words and phrases, when used in this agreement, shall have the meaning ascribed to them in this section:

a) **Category "B" Vehicle** means:

- (i) a power unit or power unit trailer combination having a registered weight of less than 11,794 kg, used or maintained for the transportation of property;
- (ii) a charter bus;
- (iii) a farm or fishing industry vehicle;
- (iv) any vehicle that is travelling unladen;
- (v) a private bus;
- (vi) a recreational motor vehicle;
- (vii) a power unit that is registered as a government vehicle
- (viii) a trailer, semi-trailer, converter dolly or, container chassis or their equivalent;

but does not include:

- (ix) any power unit, other than one described in clauses 1(a)(ii) to (vii), that has 3 or more axles; or
- (x) any vehicle prorated under the International Registration Plan.

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\* *The 1980 CAVR Agreement has been amended a number of times over the years. The December 2000 major amendment retains only those issues respecting reciprocity; all prorate provisions have been deleted.*

\*\* *The April 2007 update relates to a change in BC exceptions.*

- b) **CCMTA** means the Canadian Council of Motor Transport Administrators.
- c) **Charter bus** means a power unit engaged in the movement of a chartered party.
- d) **Chartered party** means a group of persons who, pursuant to a common purpose and under a single contract, and at a fixed charge for the vehicle in accordance with the carrier's tariff, have acquired the exclusive use of a passenger carrying power unit to travel together as a group to a specified destination or for a particular itinerary, either agreed upon in advance or modified by the chartered group after having left the place of origin.
- e) **Farm or fishing industry vehicle** means a vehicle that is registered in a member jurisdiction and is engaged in the transportation of the registrant's own goods that are related to the operation of the registrant's farm or fishing business.
- f) **Government vehicle** means a vehicle registered to the federal government or to a provincial, municipal or regional government.
- g) **Gross vehicle weight** means the weight of a vehicle or a combination of vehicles, including accessories, equipment and load.
- h) **Host jurisdiction** means a member jurisdiction:
  - (i) other than the jurisdiction where the vehicle is plated; and
  - (ii) that considers the registered owner of the vehicle to be a non-resident.
- i) **Interjurisdictional movement** means vehicle movement between or through two or more jurisdictions.
- j) **Intrajurisdictional movement** means vehicle movement from one point within a jurisdiction to another point within the same jurisdiction.
- k) **Jurisdiction** means a jurisdiction or territory of Canada.
- l) **Member jurisdiction** means a jurisdiction that is a party to this agreement.
- m) **Power unit** means a self-propelled motor vehicle having permanently attached thereto a truck, bus or delivery body and includes a truck tractor used for hauling purposes on a highway.
- n) **Private bus** means a motor vehicle used to transport persons, when such transportation is not undertaken for compensation or gain.
- o) **Reciprocity** means the condition in which a vehicle that is properly registered in a member jurisdiction is exempt from registration in other member jurisdictions.

- p) **Recreational motor vehicle** means a motor vehicle designed or redesigned to be used as a recreational vehicle.
- q) **Registration** means licensing a vehicle for use on a highway.
- r) **Tare weight** means the weight of a vehicle, including its permanently mounted equipment.
- s) **Semi-trailer** means a vehicle without motive power designed for carrying property and for being drawn by a motor vehicle and so constructed that some part of its weight and that of its load rests upon or is carried by the towing vehicle.
- t) **Trailer** means a vehicle without motive power designed for carrying property and for being drawn by a motor vehicle and so constructed that no part of its weight rests upon the towing vehicle.
- u) **Vehicle** means a power unit or trailer.

### *Reciprocity*

2. Full and free registration reciprocity is granted to all category "B" vehicles for interprovincial operations in a host jurisdiction.
3. The licence plate and registration certificate issued by the plate jurisdiction to a category "B" vehicles shall serve as evidence of proper registration and shall be recognized as such by a host jurisdiction.
4. Where the applicant wishes to conduct a temporary intraprovincial operation with a category 'B' motor vehicle in a host jurisdiction:
  - a) the applicant shall, if required, make application to the host jurisdiction and the host jurisdiction may levy an additional registration fee for that power unit; and
  - b) notwithstanding item 3, the host jurisdiction may issue a licence plate, registration or cab card, identification decal and/or sticker, which shall be displayed as required.
5. Notwithstanding item 4 of this agreement, reciprocity is granted for intraprovincial operations in a host jurisdiction to trailers, semi-trailers with or without converter dollies, a converter dolly, container chassis or equivalent, private buses, recreational motor vehicles and, power units that are registered as government vehicles.
6. A vehicle covered by this agreement shall enjoy all other privileges and be subject to all other responsibilities under all applicable statutes and regulations of the member jurisdiction in which it travels.

7. No vehicle or combination of vehicles shall be operated or moved in a member jurisdiction when:
  - a) the gross weight of the vehicle or combination of vehicles is in excess of the weight for which the vehicle or combination of vehicles is registered; or
  - b) the number of axles of the vehicle or combination of vehicles is in excess of the number of axles for which the vehicle or combination of vehicles is registered.
8. This agreement shall supersede any agreement between member jurisdictions covering in whole or in part matters covered by this agreement.

### *Exemptions*

9. Exceptions to the provisions of this agreement, which may be required as a condition of entry by a jurisdiction and which have been approved by all member jurisdictions, will form part of this agreement by appendix listing.
10. There shall be no exceptions taken to the reciprocity as set out in item 6.

### *Administration*

11. The member jurisdictions of this agreement shall be represented by one member on a standing committee of the CCMTA.
12. Recommendations and decisions regarding interpretations of any question at issue shall be reached by a majority vote of at least two-thirds of the CCMTA committee.
13. Provisions of this agreement amended by less than a unanimous vote shall be retained as exceptions hereto and will continue to apply on behalf of dissenting member jurisdictions.
14. Notwithstanding the foregoing, amendments to this agreement shall not come into force until the CCMTA committee formally confirms that affected member jurisdictions have established, and are able to carry out, administrative procedures necessary to give effect to such amendments.
15. The CCMTA committee shall be the official repository of this agreement and shall be responsible for the required duties attendant to the administration of this agreement.
16. Any member jurisdiction may withdraw from this agreement upon 30 (thirty) days written notice to the committee and to each other member jurisdiction.
17. The withdrawal of a member jurisdiction may not be made retroactively.

**APPENDIX I**

1) Saskatchewan

For the purposes of item 1 a) (i), only a motor vehicle or combination of vehicles that has a registered or actual gross vehicle weight of 5,500 kg or less is considered a category B vehicle.

2) British Columbia

1. Notwithstanding item 1 e), for the purpose of section 1 a) (iii), a farm motor vehicle not qualified as a farm vehicle in British Columbia and having a licensed gross vehicle weight of 13,601 kg or more shall not be included as a category B vehicle for use in the Province of British Columbia.

*Amended  
April 1, 2007*

2. For the purposes of temporary intra-provincial operation as provided for in Item 4, in BC the time period for temporary operation of category “B” vehicles as described in Item 1(a)(i) is limited to 90 days in a calendar year with these 90 days including any operation of the vehicle on a highway in the Province of British Columbia.

3. Notwithstanding item 1 a) (iv), a vehicle traveling unladen is not considered to be a category B vehicle if used in the Province of British Columbia.

*Amended  
April 1, 2007*

4. Notwithstanding items 4 and 5, apart from vehicles described in items 1(a)(i) and 1(a)(viii), British Columbia does not grant intra-provincial reciprocity for category “B” vehicles used on a highway in the Province of British Columbia.

5. Notwithstanding item 1 f), for the purpose of section 1 a) (vii), government vehicle does not include a vehicle registered to the federal government.