

minibikes and trailers; six standards limiting motor vehicle exhaust, evaporative and noise emissions; and 11 standards applying to snowmobiles. These standards are reviewed regularly and additions or revisions incorporated to keep pace with engineering or technical advances. The regulations require all Canadian motor vehicle manufacturers or distributors to apply the national safety mark, accompanied by a label certifying compliance with all applicable federal motor vehicle safety standards, to every classified vehicle produced after January 1, 1971. Vehicles imported for commercial or individual use must comply with the Act and Regulations.

### 15.3.2 Motor vehicle and traffic regulations

**Operators licences.** The operator of a motor vehicle must be over a specified age, usually 16 years (17 in Newfoundland and generally 16 in Alberta and New Brunswick but 18 for certain classes of motor vehicle), and must carry a licence, obtainable in most provinces only after prescribed qualification tests. In New Brunswick the holder of an out-of-province licence must be 18. A licence is renewable annually in Saskatchewan and the Northwest Territories and annually at the end of the licensee's birth month in Manitoba; in Alberta it is renewable every five years but annually where a medical report is required; in British Columbia it is renewable every five years expiring on the licensee's birth date and classified according to the operations by the licensee; in Quebec operators and chauffeurs permits are renewable every two years on the holder's birthday; in New Brunswick a licence is renewable every two years and expires at the end of the licensee's birth month; in Newfoundland, Ontario and the Yukon Territory a licence is issued on a three-year basis and expires on the licensee's birth date; and in Nova Scotia a licence is issued on a three-year basis and expires at the end of the licensee's birth month. Prince Edward Island is phasing into a three-year cycle.

Special licences are required for chauffeurs in all provinces except Newfoundland, British Columbia, New Brunswick and the Yukon Territory. In British Columbia, New Brunswick and the Yukon Territory, although no special chauffeur's licence is issued, all drivers' licences are classified according to demonstrated skills at the time of licensing. There are six classes of licence, one for motorcycles and five for other vehicles. Special tests are given to taxi drivers (in British Columbia and the Yukon Territory only), bus drivers and drivers of single vehicles over 24,000 lb. GVW and tractor-trailer combinations. In the Northwest Territories persons under 18 but over 16 may obtain a chauffeur's licence at the discretion of the Registrar, on receipt of a letter of approval from the RCMP and a letter from the employer verifying that the licence is necessary for employment. In some provinces a motorcycle operator is required to pass a special examination and have his driver's licence endorsed authorizing him to operate this class of vehicle or, if he has no driver's licence, he may be issued a licence to operate only a motorcycle. In Alberta a person under 16 but over 14 years of age is permitted to operate a motorcycle with a piston displacement of not more than 100 cc. In Quebec all snowmobile operators must hold valid permits issued for that purpose. Operators or chauffeurs permits issued under the Highway Code are considered valid for snowmobiles. Special restrictions apply to minors; 10 is the minimum age for obtaining a permit and operating conditions and locations are controlled.

**Motor vehicle regulations.** Motor vehicles and trailers are usually registered annually with the payment of specified fees. Most motor vehicles carry a registration plate on the front and one on the rear; trailers carry one on the rear. In Alberta passenger cars, vehicles licensed for Drive-ur-self service and vehicles operated by motor vehicle dealers for demonstration or resale all display two plates. All other cars or trucks have one rear licence plate.

In some provinces registration plates stay with the vehicle when it is sold, but in Quebec, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia the owner retains them. In the Northwest Territories the registration expires when a vehicle changes hands. The owner notifies the Registrar, returns the number plates and the new owner applies to register the transferred vehicle in his name. In Nova Scotia vehicles change hands by due process of law and title must be secured before plates and permits are issued. A change of ownership must be recorded with the registration authority.

Exemption from registration is granted for a specified period, usually at least 90 days, although the maximum in Quebec is three months for non-residents. In Nova Scotia, a non-resident full-time student residing temporarily in the province may receive, without fee, a driver's licence, plates and permit in exchange for the same valid out-of-province documents;