

Questions & Answers
TNS Decisions
January 23, 2020

When can the approved ride hailing companies (called a TNS in B.C.) start operating?

- Questions concerning potential launch dates should be referred directly to the companies.

What are the next steps for the approved companies?

- The approved companies will receive a licence from the Registrar. They must then obtain appropriate motor vehicle insurance from ICBC and work with municipalities in their respective operating areas to ensure compliance with local by-laws.

Why were the ReRyde Technologies Inc. and Kater Technologies Inc applications refused?

- That information is outlined in the application decisions which are published on the Board's website. It would not be appropriate to comment further.

Will Uber and Lyft expand their services to other TNS Operating Regions?

- Questions concerning the future plans of each company should be referred directly to the companies.

When will you announce the decisions for remaining applications? Will it be again more than a month?

- The Board has received a total of 29 ride hailing applications to date and with today's announcement has issued decisions on 6 of them.
- The Board is in the process of reviewing pending applications and is working towards issuing further decisions on ride hailing applications as expeditiously as possible.
- The review process is taking time because of the large number of applications that have been filed and the significant volume of materials involved.
- The Board will notify the public as soon as additional decisions have been made

Will you accept additional TNS applications?

- Yes, the Board continues to receive TNS applications from interested parties.

Why do drivers need a Class 4 licence to operate?

- That question should be directed to the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure as that was not a decision made by the Passenger Transportation Board.

Will TNS companies be required to provide wheelchair accessible vehicles?

- That was not a requirement imposed on the companies.
- The Passenger Transportation Act requires TNS operators to pay a 30 cent per trip fee to fund accessibility programs which fall under the responsibility of the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure.

What enforcement measures are in place to ensure TNSs comply with the rules?

- Questions regarding enforcement should be directed to the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure which is responsible for enforcement.

Are there any restrictions of picking up passengers from the airport?

- This question should be directed to the relevant airport authority.

Is the Board providing a level playing field between taxis and TNSs? Will its decisions impact the existing taxi industry?

- We refer you to the decisions of approved companies which address that issue.

Will TNS insurance be cheaper than taxi insurance?

- The Board does not exercise regulatory authority over insurance requirements for motor vehicles. This question should be directed to ICBC.

The taxi industry is bound by geographic restrictions, but ride-hailing services won't be subject to the same rules. How is this justified?

- We refer you to the decisions of approved companies which address that issue.

Why are TNS rates different from taxi rates?

- We refer you to the decisions of approved companies which address that issue.
- The use of coupons or discounts by approved companies to lower rates below the minimum rate is prohibited.

Why is there no initial limit on fleet size; don't you think it will worsen traffic congestion?

- The Board concluded that it did not have sufficient data to make a decision on fleet size with respect to approved applications at this stage; however, the Board will require regular data from approved companies and will be monitoring this issue.

Can municipalities prohibit ride sharing companies from operating within their municipal boundaries?

- The Passenger Transportation Act provides sole authority to the Board to set boundaries/operating areas for taxis and ride sharing companies.

Do you know when Green Coast Ventures Inc. which was approved last month will start offering service?

- Questions concerning the potential launch date should be referred directly to the company.

When will you announce decisions for other Regions? Are you announcing the decisions for big cities first?

- The Board reviews applications based on the order in which the applications were received and when all information requirements have been met.
- Green Coast Ventures Inc. was approved last month to operate in Region 1: Lower Mainland, Whistler; and Region 3: Vancouver Island, excluding Capital Regional District (CRD).
- LTG Technologies Ltd. and ReRyde Technologies Inc. applied to operate in Region 2, 3 and 4 but their applications were denied.
- Kater Technologies Inc. applied to operate in all five regions, but their application was denied.