

March 18, 2020

ICBs have temporary option to reduce or suspend scheduled service

In order to provide inter-city bus (ICB) operators the flexibility they need to respond quickly to public safety and transportation needs as they change during the coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic, licensees have the temporary option to reduce or suspend scheduled services that they are normally required to provide.

In accordance with sections 31(2) and (3) of the *Passenger Transportation Act*, the Board has directed the Registrar to amend all inter-city bus licences to add the following term and condition of licence:

“Until this term and condition is revoked, the licence holder may temporarily, after providing public notice, reduce or suspend scheduled services that it normally must provide at the minimum frequencies set out in the licence.”

This is a temporary option that the Passenger Transportation Board will revoke when circumstances are no longer warranted. The Board will publish a notice in its Bulletin before it revokes the option.

At the present time, licensees do not need to apply to the Board to change ICB services. However, any licensee that suspends or reduces service while the temporary option is in effect must give public notice. We strongly urge licensees to provide as much advance notice as possible to affected passengers and local governments in areas where service changes are being made. Licensees should also share written notices with the Registrar of Passenger Transportation and the Passenger Transportation Board.