

MTO Announces a Further 18-month Extension for MVIS Stations to Transition to the National Safety Code 11B for Annual and Semi-Annual Inspections

Buses, accessible vehicles and school purposes vehicles are subject to 6 and 12-month safety inspections. A passed inspection results in a yellow (12 month) or orange (6-month) sticker that goes on the vehicle.

Back on July 1, 2011, Ontario adopted the national standard for the 6 and 12 month safety inspections under the National Safety Code Standard 11B, January 2006 version (National Standard) and made supporting amendments to Ontario's *Highway Traffic Act* (HTA) Regulations 611 and 601. At that time, the Ministry of Transportation (MTO) provided a **24-month transition period** to allow motor vehicle inspection stations (MVIS), mechanics, and commercial vehicle owners and operators to become familiar with and apply the new inspection criteria. This transition period was to have expired on July 1, 2013.

Last week, MTO announced they have decided to extend the July 1st transition deadline a further 18 months to December 31, 2014 after which the 6 and 12 month inspections must be conducted to the National Standard.

MTO's rationale for the extension is that the National Safety Code Standard 11B is currently being updated and while the proposed revisions will not add any significant inspection requirements, it will add clarity and consistent language that is lacking in the current National Standard.

So until December 31, 2014, inspection stations can inspect buses using any of the following standards:

- HTA Regulation 611, Schedules 1, 2 & 4, as they were in effect June 30, 2011
- National Standard 11B, 2006 version
- The updated National Standard 11B (when it becomes available and published CCMTA)

It should be noted that vehicles can be inspected to any of the above inspection standards until December 31, 2014 provided all the requirements for the chosen standard have been met. **Effective January 1, 2015**, all annual, semi-annual and SSC inspections for buses must be conducted to the updated National Standard.

We will monitor the progress of updating the National Standard and will advise OSBA members once it is published. In the meantime, we encourage MVIS stations to get on with the transition to the current National Standard which will see only minor changes when the new version is released. Many bus operators with a MVIS fleet station have already switched over and have given positive feedback on how much better the new standard is. OSBA sells Guidebook for technicians (\$29.95 member rate) that shows in detail what components and systems need to be inspected, how they are to be inspected, and the pass/reject criteria for each. Also OSBA sells inspection report forms for use by the technician to ensure all items are inspected and that required measurements are recorded.



Calendar of Events May & June

This publication is a member service of the
Ontario School Bus Association

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May 2013

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
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Upcoming Events

May 12-17, 2013 - Professional Instructor in Driver Education Program - Burlington, ON

July 7-12, 2013 - Professional Instructor in Driver Education Program - Burlington, ON

June 2013

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
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