

Honourable Joe Hargrave
Minister responsible for Saskatchewan Government Insurance
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CC: angela.currie@gov.sk.ca (Chief of Staff)

Dear Minister Hargrave,

We are writing the Government of Saskatchewan to encourage more private sector transportation options by adopting best practices for regulating ridesharing.

Ridesharing through companies like Uber and Lyft involve drivers using their standard Class 5 drivers licences and personal vehicles after meeting driver safety and criminal record history requirements.

This model has been shown to [reduce impaired driving](#), provide [new transportation options for the blind and visually impaired](#), provide [new income opportunities for thousands of drivers including the Deaf and hard of hearing](#), and encourage [economic activity for the hospitality sector and local economy](#).

It has been suggested that SGI will require ridesharing drivers to have a Class 4 licence. This will result in fewer people becoming rideshare drivers, which limits, rather than expands transportation options, particularly in remote and small communities where such options are already extremely limited.

We encourage Saskatchewan to fully embrace best practice and encourage more safe innovation in transportation. We recommend that criminal record checks be permitted to be completed electronically, and that the same Class 5 standard apply to ridesharing and taxi drivers that meet the appropriate driver safety record. SGI already permits holiday season driving programs, such as Operation Red Nose, to use a Class 5 licence. Ontario and Manitoba, both allow standard Class 5 equivalent licences to be used for ridesharing and taxis. Requiring a new driver's licence or other additional red tape would prevent the very ridesharing operations that have significantly invested in safety and technology from operating in our province.

We thank you for your action to date to enable ridesharing. As you finalize the regulatory framework, we ask that the government take action to allow ridesharing and taxi to utilize Class 5 licences.

Sincerely,

The undersigned

Christall Beaudry – Executive Director (Saskatchewan), Canadian National Institute for the Blind

Andrew Murie – CEO, Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) Canada

Todd Brandt – President & CEO, Tourism Saskatoon

Kari Stenson – President, Saskatchewan Craft Brewers Association

Keith Moen – Executive Director, North Saskatoon Business Association

Mark Regier – CEO , Prairieland Park

