We need to hear from you. If you are having issues with Insurance, please let us know and to contact Susan @ 306 566-4450.

**CURRENT ACTIVITY**

**Provincial Update**

Executive Director, Susan Ewart spoke with David Kirton Thursday afternoon on 650 CKOM/980 CJME. Ewart stressed the importance of the Provincial Government releasing messaging that supports truck drivers’ access to basic needs such as food and washrooms. Truck drivers are being depended on to deliver essential resources across the province and are being denied access to public spaces, including shipper facilities. It is critical that drivers receive the necessary supplies and resources. This means, access to sanitation supplies, access to food, and importantly, access to washrooms. The STA can attest to the work done by trucking companies in Saskatchewan who have implemented best practice policies for their company and fleet. Drivers are taking every measure possible to remain safe and do their job in these challenging times.

- SGI and IRP are still operating but closed to public. SGI Class 5 driver examinations have been cancelled and no new appointments are being scheduled. STA has been working with SGI to figure out alternatives to Class 1A testing. SGI reminds you that the majority of your needs can be done online at MySGI.
- The Province of Saskatchewan released their 2020-2021 budget estimates. The 2020-21 Estimates will initiate $2.7 billion in infrastructure investment that will be an economic stimulus and create jobs at this challenging time. Included in this will be $358 million of capital spending to improve 1000km of roads and create 24 sets of passing lanes. The Ministry is committed to safety and building a reliable transportation system; The STA believes those goals can be achieved through their investment. One major highlight, $13 million will be spent to enhance intersection safety, including HWY 11 at Davidson. The STA will have a full release on the 2020-2021 budget soon.

**Canadian Trucking Alliance (CTA) Update**

- Removal of Cash Transactions at Blue Water Bridge: The CTA has been informed by the Federal Bridge Corporation representing the Blue Water Bridge (BWB) crossing in Ontario, regarding imminent changes the bridge will be implementing involving the temporary removal of cash collection processes moving southbound. These changes will only impact southbound traffic at the moment, but BWB officials admitted this measure may be implemented on both sides of the
border should it be necessary. An announcement is expected to be made as soon as tomorrow, with the change coming into effect early next week. BWB has stated that credit and debit card transactions will still be permitted, along with continued payment via commercial account card holders. Full article.

- The CTA and ATA are urging on both governments to ensure public rest areas remain open. Trucking in Canada and the U.S. are playing a critical role in the COVID-19 response. Our economy depends on trade with the U.S—with 7 percent of which is moved by the trucking industry. In these critical times truckers are helping provide this emergency relief—however the safety and wellbeing of the drivers does come first and having appropriate areas to rest in both Canada and the U.S. at this time is paramount. Full article

- With respect to border crossing, as Prime Minister Trudeau announced, “Trucking will not be affected.” U.S. Customs and Border Protection has indicated that Canadian truck drivers should not see any issues beyond the additional screening and questioning pertaining to Covid-19, unless a truck driver exhibits clear symptoms or has returned from a “hot spot” country within the past 14 days.

- In Ontario, all municipal bylaws will be cancelled so the transportation industry can make night deliveries and not worry about noise cancellations. Other local delivery restrictions will also be removed. This is seen as a positive step by the Ontario Government to support the supply chain. Full article.

National Update:

New Brunswick declares state of emergency. The provincial government today declared a state of emergency under section 12 of the Emergency Measures Act to enhance measures to help contain the spread of COVID-19 (the novel coronavirus).