

## BRIEFING NOTE: CHANGES TO PERMITS

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The Government of Alberta has recently updated regulations to incorporate some requirements that used to be in permits. This means that carriers will have to apply for fewer permits for vehicles, equipment, and record management practices, saving them time and money.

Approximately 10,000 provincial permits annually will no longer be needed as the requirements will be in regulations instead. All of the same safety standards remain in place to ensure transportation safety in Alberta is unchanged.

With a few exceptions, the permits that will no longer be required include the following annual exemption and dimension permits:








- Mobile Treatment Centre Module
- Divided Record Authority
- Sleeper Cabs
- Stinger Steer Auto Carrier
- Toter-Homes
- Wide Base Single Tires
- Hitch Offset
- Spider/Loader
- Transportation Association of Canada
- Steering Axle




The regulation changes that remove the need for these exemption and dimension permits will come into effect on January 1, 2021. Permits will still be required until this date.

Municipalities will continue to have authority under the *Traffic Safety Act* to restrict the weight allowed on their roads by bylaw to less than what is allowed in the regulation and to designate truck routes to protect municipal infrastructure. This includes the authority to restrict bridge capacities and post capacity limits.

As these changes may allow different types and weights of vehicles to operate on municipal roads, depending on municipal bylaws, municipalities are encouraged to review the changes to determine if they need to create additional bylaws and add signage to ensure local public safety and infrastructure is protected.

The following table summarizes the changes that have been made in regulation to include several common vehicle types, configurations and equipment and the permits that have been eliminated as a result. Full details can be found in the Alberta Gazette available at [gp.alberta.ca](http://gp.alberta.ca), as of August 15.

#	Permit	Change
1		<p><b>Mobile Treatment Centre Module</b></p> <p>Injured workers to be transported in a truck with a camper used for first-aid/medical transport to meet up with pre-arranged ambulance.</p>
2		<p><b>Divided Record Authority</b> (Carrier permitted to keep records at multiple locations)</p> <p>Removes the requirement for carriers to maintain records at their principal place of business and replaces it with a requirement to produce them within 14 days at the request of a peace officer.</p>
3		<p><b>Sleeper Cabs</b> (Bed, picker, and winch trucks equipped with a sleeper cab)</p> <p>Change the definition of a bed truck, picker truck, and winch truck to allow these trucks to operate with a sleeper cab</p>
4		<p><b>Stinger Steer Auto Carrier</b> (Truck that hauls multiple vehicles or boats)</p> <p>Increase maximum axle weight allowance for the steering axle of a bed, picker or winch truck based on tire size.</p>
5		<p><b>Toter-Homes</b></p> <p>Adds definition and dimensions for Toter-homes (trucks with living accommodations towing a trailer to support event specific equipment (e.g., rodeo)).</p>
6		<p><b>Wide Base Single Tires</b></p> <p>Trucks and trailers to use wider, single tires instead of dual (two) tires on provincial and municipal roads.</p>
7		<p><b>Hitch Offset</b> (A special/longer hitch for commercial vehicle hauling light trailers or RVs)</p> <p>Increase hitch offset for a single or tandem drive truck towing a utility or light accommodation trailer or a vehicle if the maximum weight does not exceed 6,000 kg. Increase hitch offset for a single drive truck towing a recreational trailer.</p> <p>Note: Hitch offset exemption permits are still required for Permanently Mounted Equipment Trucks to tow trailers with weights exceeding 6,000 kg if hitch offset exceeds allowable dimensions.</p>

#	Permit	Change
8	 <p><b>Spider/Loader</b> (Trucks with a forklift mounted on the back)</p>	<p>Provide a length allowance of 1.5 metres for vehicles when carrying a spider/loader at the back of the vehicle. This allowance will be excluded from maximum overall length measurements.</p>
9	 <p><b>Transportation Association of Canada</b></p>	<p>Increase the weight allowed on local roads to the weight that is allowed on provincial roads, for tridem axles and GVW exceeding 53,500 kilograms.</p> <p>Note: Vehicles must comply with all posted bridge capacities and municipal bylaws restricting weights.</p>
10	 <p>Steer Axle    Sleeper</p> <p><b>Steering Axle</b> (Bed, picker, and winch trucks with a heavier steering axle)</p>	<p>Increase maximum axle weight allowance for the steering axle of a bed, picker or winch truck based on tire size.</p> <p>Note: Weight increase is for tare weight of vehicle only.</p>

If you have any questions, please contact Andrew Pillman, Director of Permitting and Approvals at 403-340-5086 or by email at [Andrew.Pillman@gov.ab.ca](mailto:Andrew.Pillman@gov.ab.ca).

Sincerely

Office of the Minister of Transportation