

NOTICE TO NEW BRUNSWICK BASED CHARTER BUS COMPANIES

Please be advised that effective January 1st, 2016 buses that are used in the transportation of chartered parties will no longer be exempt from registration under the International Registration Plan (IRP). This change has come about after the International Registration Plan member jurisdictions voted in favour of removing the exemption for charter buses from the definition of an apportionable vehicle. This exemption previously allowed charter buses to travel inter-jurisdictionally on their base plate registration. As a result of the change all charter buses operating inter-jurisdictionally will be required to obtain IRP registration or purchase trip permits.

What is the International Registration Plan (IRP)?

The International Registration Plan (IRP) is a registration reciprocity agreement among the Canadian provinces and the continental United States. It allows a carrier to register annually for all jurisdictions at one time rather than dealing with each jurisdiction separately. Payment is remitted for all jurisdictions through the carrier's base jurisdiction. Upon payment of the fees, one set of plates and one registration certificate (cab card) is issued for each vehicle in the fleet allowing the vehicles to operate in any of the member jurisdictions throughout the year.

How are fees calculated under the International Registration Plan?

When you register with IRP for the first time, a percentage of your fees are paid to each member jurisdiction in the plan. The percentages are based on the New Brunswick Average per Vehicle Distance Chart. On subsequent annual renewals, your registration fees will be calculated and paid to only the jurisdictions through which you actually traveled in the prior year. (For example, if 50% of your fleet's travel was in New Brunswick and 50% was in Nova Scotia 50% of your fees would be based on Nova Scotia's fee schedule and disbursed to Nova Scotia. The other 50% would be based on New Brunswick's fee schedule and would be collected for New Brunswick.) All member jurisdictions will continue to be displayed on your cab card allowing you to travel to any jurisdiction throughout the year.

Carriers affected by this change can register with the International Registration Plan anytime between now and January 1st, 2016. IRP registrations do not have fixed expiry dates; therefore your new expiration date will be based upon when you register your fleet. Application forms are available at:

| IRP(1)-Carrier Application

<https://www.pxw1.snb.ca/snb7001/e/1000/CSS-FOL-SNB-78-0004E.pdf>

| IRP(2)-Vehicle Information

<https://www.pxw1.snb.ca/snb7001/e/1000/CSS-FOL-SNB-78-0003E.pdf>

Additional information can be found:

- On the Service New Brunswick website at https://www.pxw1.snb.ca/snb7001/e/2000/2006e_6.asp.
- On the IRP, Inc. website at <http://www.irponline.org>
- By contacting the New Brunswick International Registration Plan office at 506-453-2215.

Notes:

A “Chartered Party” is defined by the IRP as “a group of Persons who, pursuant to a common purpose and under a single contract, have acquired the exclusive use of a passenger-carrying Motor Vehicle to travel together as a group to a specified destination or for a particular itinerary, either agreed upon in advance or modified by the group after leaving the place of origin. This term includes services rendered to a number of passengers that a passenger carrier or its agent has assembled into a travel group through sales of a ticket to each individual passenger covering a round trip from one or more points of origin to a single advertised destination.”

The amended definition of an “Apportionable Vehicle” will be *any Power Unit that is used or intended for use in two or more Member Jurisdictions and that is used for the transportation of persons for hire or designed, used, or maintained primarily for the transportation of property, and:*

- (i) has two Axles and a gross Vehicle weight or registered gross Vehicle weight in excess of 26,000 pounds (11,793.401 kilograms), or*
- (ii) has three or more Axles, regardless of weight, or*
- (iii) is used in combination, when the gross Vehicle weight of such combination exceeds 26,000 pounds (11,793.401 kilograms).*