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For immediate release

IMPROVEMENTS TO SLOW DOWN, MOVE OVER LAW APPLAUDED BY CAA MANITOBA

MANITOBA - Amendments to the Highway Traffic Act effective today protect emergency workers like tow truck drivers and is welcome news to CAA Manitoba.

Since 2009, CAA Manitoba has been lobbying the government to go further to protect emergency workers at the side of the road, including tow truck drivers who were included in this legislation in 2011.

“We were pleased to see tow truck drivers recognized in this legislation in 2011,” says Mike Mager, President and CEO of CAA Manitoba. “Since then, we have been working towards making the law less ambiguous for motorists and setting clear expectations for drivers.”

Mager notes that before today, motorists were asked to “proceed with caution when safe to do so”.

As of today, motorists on either side of an undivided highway who pass emergency vehicles stopped with their beacons flashing will be required to:

- Slow down to 40 km/h on roads with posted maximum speed limit below 80 km/h
- Slow down to 60 km/h on roads with posted maximum speed limit of 80 km/h or greater.

The penalty for failing to do so is two demerits and \$299.65.

“Emergency workers deserve safe room to do their work,” says Mager. “These amendments give our drivers peace of mind that their workspace is protected under this law.”

A tow truck driver in both Winnipeg and Brandon are available to speak to media today.

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