

Kingston Area Taxi Commission Meeting Minutes

Meeting Information: 08-2023

- Date: August 23, 2023
- Time: 7:03 PM
- Location: Virtual
- Attendees: Commissioner Abreu, Commissioner Fraser, Commissioner Chaves, Commissioner Budarick

Agenda Items:

1. Separation of taxi license and taxi plate
2. Taxicab inspections
3. Industry health benefit program
4. Bylaw amendments

Discussion Points:

1. Separation of taxi license and taxi plate:

- Current bylaw has a combined fee for taxi plate and driver's license, which is not fair for plate holders with multiple plates.
- Proposed to separate the fees, with \$120 for the driver's license and \$120 for each taxi plate.
- Plate holders who have already renewed and paid the combined fee will be issued a refund for the difference.
- The changes to the fee schedule will be applied retroactively to the 2023 season, effective January 1, 2023.

2. Taxicab inspections:

- Taxicab inspections are ongoing, with 23 inspections completed so far and 198 vehicles still to be inspected.
- Plate holders are required to book appointments for their Taxicab inspections before the August 31st deadline.
- Inspections are being conducted to ensure proper taxi decals, metal plates, and other required items are in place.

- Consideration was given to having the inspections done on the plate holders' renewal dates instead of the August 31st deadline.

3. Industry health benefit program:

- The exclusive industry health benefits program is now open for applications and quotes for all licensed members and their families.
- Members can access the program through the commission's website and apply for various health benefit packages.
- Brochures will be made available to brokers and at the commission's office to share information about the program.

4. Bylaw amendments:

- Bylaw 1 was given third reading to amend section 7.2 regarding plate holders.
- Bylaw 2 was given first, second, and third readings to amend sections 4 and 5 of Schedule F, specifically to accommodate the separation of the taxi driver's license and taxi plate.

Decisions Made:

1. The separation of the taxi license and taxi plate was approved, with the changes to the fee schedule being applied retroactively to the 2023 season, effective January 1, 2023.
2. Plate holders who have already renewed and paid the combined fee will be issued a refund for the difference.
3. The Taxicab inspections will continue, with the August 31st deadline in place.
4. The industry health benefit program is now open for applications and quotes for all licensed members and their families.
5. Bylaw 1 and Bylaw 2 were approved with the amendments discussed.

Action Items:

1. Implement the separation of the taxi license and taxi plate, including the retroactive application of the new fee schedule and the issuance of refunds to eligible plate holders.
 - Responsible: Commission administration
 - Deadline: Immediately