

NOVA SCOTIA REGULATORY AND APPEALS BOARD**IN THE MATTER OF THE MOTOR CARRIER ACT****-and-****IN THE MATTER OF THE MOTOR VEHICLE TRANSPORT ACT****-and-**

IN THE MATTER OF A MOTOR CARRIER TECHNICAL CONFERENCE to address Minimum Rates for Highway Motor Coaches for the years 2026 and 2027

NOTICE**Proposed Minimum Rates for Highway Motor Coaches for the years 2026 and 2027**

An initial technical conference to consider minimum rates for Highway Motor Coaches (defined as a “47-58 passenger vehicle which has three axles and a washroom”) was initiated as part of the Discount Review matter (M04994). That technical conference focused on the minimum costs associated with operating Highway Motor Coaches in a safe and reliable manner. In a Board Order dated March 20, 2015, the Board incorporated some of the recommendations arising from the technical conference, including the proposed minimum rates. Subsequent technical conferences on the issue of minimum rates for Highway Motor Carriers have been initiated by the Board in 2017, 2020 and 2023.

A Decision and Order was issued in the Motor Carrier Technical Conference proceeding (M11011) on March 23, 2023. That Decision and Order provided that a Technical Conference and hearing would be held in 2025 to address minimum rates for

Highway Motor for the years 2026 and beyond. The Board initiated the process to organize a Technical Conference by letter dated April 2, 2025.

The seven licensed motor carriers who own Highway Motor Coaches were invited to the Technical Conference. Five of these parties, who collectively own 97% of the Highway Motor Coaches authorized under their respective licenses advised that a consensus had been reached. In the circumstances, the Board decided to proceed with this matter by way of a paper hearing.

These parties invited to the Technical Conference who reached a consensus have recommended the following:

1. That the minimum rates for Highway Motor Coaches, for the years 2026 and 2027 be set as follows:

Year	Daily Rate	Hourly Rate	Kilometre Live	Deadhead
Current	\$1,575.00	\$185.00	\$3.65	\$3.35
2026	\$1,630.00	\$190.00	\$3.80	\$3.50
2027	\$1,685.00	\$195.00	\$3.95	\$3.65

PUBLICATION DATE: Wednesday, June 4, 2025, issue of the Royal Gazette.

Anyone wishing to object to the recommended minimum rates for Highway Motor Coaches must file an objection in writing, with the Board **no later than Wednesday, June 18, 2025**. Objections shall include a summary of each reason for opposing the recommendation. Objections may be filed by delivery to the Board, 1601 Lower Water Street, Suite 300, Halifax, Nova Scotia; by regular mail to the Board, Box 1692, Unit "M" Halifax, Nova Scotia, B3J 3S3; by fax to 424-3919; or by email to board@novascotia.ca

If no objections are received, the Board may issue an Order accepting the recommended minimum rates for Highway Motor Coaches, which order will apply to all

licensed motor carriers using Highway Motor Coaches for charter work, without further process.

If any objections are received, the Board will provide further directions on the manner in which this matter will be processed.

DATED at Halifax, Nova Scotia this 2nd day of June 2025.

Clerk of the Board