HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY
ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NUMBER THIRTY-NINE
RESPECTING TAXI AND LIMOUSINE REGULATION

BE IT RESOLVED as a policy of the Council of the Halifax Regional Municipality pursuant to Section 305 of the *Motor Vehicle Act* as follows:

1.0 SHORT TITLE

1.1 This Administrative Order may be cited as Administrative Order Number Thirty-Nine, the Taxi and Limousine Regulation Administrative Order.

2.0 REGULAR FARES

2.1 Repealed

2.2 Rates for taxis and accessible taxis shall:

(a) be set by the broker or independent broker;

(b) meet the requirements of Schedule 1; and

(c) be approved by the Licensing Authority.

2.3 Rates for limousines shall:

(a) be set by the limousine owner;

(b) meet the requirements of Schedule 1; and

(c) be approved by the Licensing Authority.

2.4 Rates for Transportation Network Companies (TNCs) shall be set by the TNC, and do not require approval by or disclosure to the Licensing Authority.

2.5 Notwithstanding sections 2.2, 2.3, and 2.4, vehicles for hire approved by the Halifax International Airport Authority to operate at Halifax Stanfield International Airport may, while operating under such approval, charge the rates established by the Halifax International Airport Authority, and such rates shall not require approval by the Licensing Authority.

2.6 Notwithstanding sections 2.2, 2.3, and 2.4, vehicles for hire approved by the Halifax Port Authority to operate at the Port of Halifax may, while operating under such approval, charge the rates established by the Halifax Port Authority, and such rates shall not require approval by the Licensing Authority.

2.7 Should rates not be set by the Halifax International Airport Authority under section 2.5, or by the Halifax Port Authority under section 2.6, vehicles for hire shall charge the rates otherwise established under sections 2.2, 2.3, and 2.4.

2.8 If no rates are set under section 2.2 and 2.3, the default rates as set out in Schedule 7 shall apply.

2.0A VEHICLE FOR HIRE CODE OF CONDUCT

2.1A A driver while operating a vehicle for hire must abide by the Vehicle for Hire Code of Conduct as set out in Schedule 6 to this Administrative Order.

3.0 Repealed.

3.0A Repealed.

4.0 TAXI ROOF LIGHT, VEHICLE MARKING REQUIREMENTS & DESIGN

4.1 No vehicle may be operated as a taxi or accessible taxi unless it is equipped with a taxi roof light affixed on the top of the vehicle that;

(a) meets the design requirements set out in Schedule 4, or an alternative design approved by the Licensing Authority;

(b) is affixed on the top of the vehicle as near as possible to the centre of the roof, and positioned so the front of the roof light is facing the front of the vehicle and is clearly visible from all sides of the vehicle;

(c) is equipped with interior lighting sufficient to illuminate the roof light at all hours of the day; and

(d) bears the broker or independent broker name under which the vehicle is being operated.

4.2 The bulb or light required by subsection 4.1(c) must be mounted in the interior of the sign and;

(a) must be illuminated when the vehicle is being operated as a taxi or accessible taxi for hire but is not responding to a call or carrying passengers or parcels; or

(b) must be turned off when the taxi is responding to a call or is transporting passengers or parcels.

4.3 An accessible taxi;

(a) is required to have displayed and maintained on all four sides of the vehicle, the international accessibility symbol measuring 100 X 100 mm (4 X 4 in);

(b) Repealed.

4.4 A high sided vehicles such as a van, crossover vehicle or sport utility vehicle may in addition to a roof light, display markings on both sides of the vehicle showing the business name under which it is being operated and the taxi license number.

4.5 A limousine shall not have a roof light sign nor outside markings (other than the business name under which the vehicle is being operated and contact information for that business).

4.6 (1) The License Authority shall provide three interior licensing decals to the owner and each decal shall identify the vehicle for hire license number.

(2) A taxi, accessible taxi or limousine shall display the three interior licensing decals that are provided by the Licensing Authority as follows:

(a) one interior licensing decal shall be displayed in the front of the vehicle, and

(b) two licensing decals shall be displayed in the rear passenger area of the vehicle.

(3) Each interior licensing decal shall be displayed in such manner that it is visible from the rear seat of the vehicle.

5.0 VEHICLE REQUIREMENTS

5.1 All taxis, limousines and accessible taxis must comply with the standards set out in Schedule 5.

6.0 Repealed.

7.0 LIMITS ON NUMBER OF TAXI OWNER LICENSES

7.1 The number of taxi owner licenses, in force at any time in the Municipality is 1600.

(a) Repealed.

(b) Repealed.

(c) Repealed.

8.0 APPLICANT FOR A NEW TAXI OWNER LICENSE

8.1 The applicant for a taxi owner's license must be the holder, in good standing, of a VFH driver's license issued by the Municipality.

8.2 An applicant who receives an offer of a taxi owner's license must complete all of the requirements for licensing a vehicle as a taxi under By-Law T-1000 within 30 days of the date of the offer.

8.3 If an applicant for a taxi owner's license who holds a taxi owner's license in the Municipality in his or her name or in the name of a corporation in which the applicant is a shareholder receives an offer of a new owner license, the applicant must surrender the current license within 30 days of the date of the offer.

8.4 An owner's license may be issued only to an applicant who has successfully completed:

(a) Repealed

(b) Repealed

(c) the mandatory training course as approved by the Licensing Authority.

8.5 Repealed

8.6 Repealed

8.7 Repealed

8.8 Sections 8.1 – 8.6 apply only to the issuance of a taxi owner's license to an applicant from the waiting list and not to taxi owner's license renewals.

9.0 WAITING LIST

9.1 Repealed

9.2 If there are no names on a waiting list, the list must be closed but the Licensing Authority must re-open it or establish a new list whenever the number of applications for taxi owner licenses exceeds the number of licenses available.

9.3 If the Licensing Authority receives an application for a taxi owner's license that cannot be issued because the prescribed number of licenses have already been issued, the Licensing Authority shall add the applicant's name to the end of the current waiting list, in order of the date and time of receipt of the application and must process the names in order of seniority as they appear on the list as the number of licenses to which the application relates drops below the prescribed number of licenses.

9.4 Whenever a new taxi owner license can be issued because the number of licenses in force has fallen below the number prescribed, the applicants on the waiting list shall be offered the first opportunity to obtain a license in order of their seniority on the list, and the Licensing Authority shall notify the applicant forthwith by registered mail addressed to the mailing address of the driver maintained by the Licensing Authority that the applicant is being offered a license.

9.5 An applicant's name must be removed from the waiting list:

(a) Upon the issuance of an owner's license to the applicant; or

(b) if the applicant fails to license a vehicle as a taxi within 30 days of the delivery of the notice of an offer of an owner's license.

9.6 The procedure set out in sections 9.4 and 9.5~~,~~ must be repeated until the number~~s~~ of owners' licenses in force~~,~~ is equal to the number of licenses prescribed or until no names remain on the waiting list, whichever occurs first.

9.7 The name of an applicant must be removed from a waiting list on the conclusion of any applicable appeal process if the applicant's VFH driver's license is cancelled, revoked or otherwise lapses.

9.8 Nothing in section 9.5, 9.6 or 9.7 prevents a person who holds a VFH driver's license from re-applying for a taxi owner's license and having his or her name added at the end of the waiting list, if any.

10.0 Repealed.

Done and passed in Council this 23rd day of October, 2012.

_____
Mayor

_____
Municipal Clerk

I, Cathy Mellett, Municipal Clerk of Halifax Regional Municipality, here by certify that the above-noted Administrative Order was passed at a meeting of Halifax Regional Council held on October 23, 2012.

_____
Cathy Mellett, Municipal Clerk

Administrative Order #39

Schedule 1

TAXI AND ACCESSIBLE TAX RATES

1. The Licensing Authority shall approve the rate schedule of a broker or independent broker upon submission to the Licensing Authority in the manner established by the Licensing Authority, unless such rate schedule does not comply with the requirements of By-law T-1000 or Administrative Order 39.

2. Taxi and accessible taxi rates set by brokers and independent brokers shall include a metered rate which may consist of one or more of the following components:

    (a) an initial charge for starting a trip, which may or may not include an initial distance travelled;

    (b) a distance charge for distance travelled;

    (c) a wait time charge for time spent stationery or travelling below a specified speed;

    (d) charges based on zones established by the broker or independent broker;

    (e) an additional charge for additional passengers over the age of twelve (12), except where such additional passenger is a support person for a passenger with a disability;

    (f) the actual cost of any tolls incurred by the driver during the trip; and

    (g) a cleaning charge for a passenger who vomits or otherwise soils a vehicle.

3. Taxi and accessible taxi rates set by brokers and independent brokers shall not:

    (a) set different rates for taxis and accessible taxis;

    (b) include any additional charge for the use of certain payment methods;

    (c) include any additional charge for additional passengers aged twelve (12) or younger, or for an additional passenger who is a support person for a passenger with a disability;

    (d) include any additional charge for assisting a passenger in entering or exiting the vehicle or in loading or unloading articles from the trunk;

    (e) include any additional charge for the transportation of wheelchairs or other mobility aids or assistive devices; or

    (f) include any additional charge for the transportation of a service animal.

4. Taxi and accessible taxi rates set by brokers or independent brokers rate may vary by time of day or day of the week.

5. As an alternative to the metered rate, a broker or independent broker may offer a flat-rate fare based on distance or zones.

6. (1) A broker or independent broker and a passenger, where a trip is initiated by phone or any electronic means of dispatch, or a driver and a passenger, where a trip is initiated by street hail, may agree to an alternate rate for a trip prior to commencement of a trip.

(2) Where no agreement is reached, a passenger is entitled to the metered rate or flat rate as allowed on the approved fare schedule for the broker or independent broker.

7. A broker or independent broker may enter into a contract with a person or organization to provide special pricing, and such special pricing by contract need not meet the requirements of this Administrative Order and need not be disclosed to the Licensing Authority.

8. All rates shall include HST.

LIMOUSINE RATES

1. The Licensing Authority shall approve the rate schedule of a limousine owner upon submission to the Licensing Authority in the manner established by the Licensing Authority, unless such rate schedule does not comply with the requirements of By-law T-1000 or Administrative Order 39.

2. Limousine rates set by limousine owners shall consist of an hourly rate.

3. Limousine rates set by limousine owners shall not:

   (a) include any additional charge for the use of certain payment methods;

   (b) include any additional charge for assisting a passenger in entering or exiting the vehicle or in loading or unloading articles from the trunk;

   (c) include any additional charge for the transportation of wheelchairs or other mobility aids or assistive devices; or

   (d) include any additional charge for the transportation of a service animal.

4. A limousine owner may enter into a contract with a person or organization to provide special pricing, and such special pricing by contract need not meet the requirements of this Administrative Order and need not be disclosed to the Licensing Authority.

5. All rates shall include HST.

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Schedule 2
Repealed

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Schedule 3
Repealed

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Schedule 4 - Taxi Roof Light Specifications

Taxi/Accessible Taxi Roof Light Specifications		
	Roof Light	**Size – 425mm long** **Colour – white** **Placement – located in the centre and secured on the top of the vehicle**
	Cab Number	**Text – Cab Number** **Font – Arial** **Letter Size - front/rear – 51mm** **- Sides – 42mm** **Letter Colour – Blue** **Placement – Front, Rear, Both Sides of Roof Light - top**
	Taxi Company Name Plate	**Plate Size – 456mm x 64mm** **Plate Colour – White** **Text – Company Name** **Font – Arial** **Letter Size – 47mm high** **Letter Colour – Red** **Placement – Front, Rear of Roof Light**
	Illumination	**Interior lighting sufficient to make the sign visible at all times of day**

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Schedule 5

VEHICLE REQUIREMENTS

1. A taxi, accessible taxi or limousine must be maintained to the following requirements:

   (a) Repealed

   (aa) is a “motor vehicle” as defined and registered pursuant to the *Motor Vehicle Act*, 1989, R.S.N.S., c. 293, and for greater certainty excludes a motorcycle;

   (ab) must be less than 10 years old at the initial time of licensing;

   (b) pass inspection by an authorized official of the Licensing Authority;

   (c) bear a valid, non-rejected, Province of Nova Scotia motor vehicle safety sticker and matching certificate, which must still be valid for 30 days past the date of inspection;

   (d) be insured in the amounts and with the coverage required by By-law T-1000;

   (e) have a height from the top of the floor to the underneath side of the roof of at least 45 inches (114.3 cm);

   (f) have a width from the inside of one door post to the inside of the door post on the opposite side of at least 54 inches (137.1 cm);

   (g) have a length from the dashboard, excluding extremities, to the front of the back seat of at least 63 inches (160.0 cm);

   (h) have first class repairs with no visible body fillers, rust, primer paint, accidental damage or similar defects and the interior passenger and trunk area must be maintained in a clean and orderly condition;

   (i) have a wheelbase measurement of at least 105 inches (266.7 cm);

   (j) have a maximum seating capacity of eight passengers excluding the driver; and

   (k) have matching wheel covers or designer rims on all 4 wheels, winter rims are permitted between October 15th to April 30th, must be kept clean and rust free.

1A. A vehicle being considered for use as a taxi, accessible taxi or limousine may be brought to the Licensing Authority for inspection prior to purchase.

2. (1) A taxi must have a minimum of four passenger doors (excluding any rear hatches) and may be a sedan, station wagon, sport utility vehicle (SUV), cross over vehicle or mini-van.

   (2) Notwithstanding section 1, an electric, hybrid, or alternative renewable energy fuel vehicle that does not meet the minimum size requirements may be used as a taxi**,** or accessible taxi (if D409 compliant) if:

      (a) **Repealed.**

      (b) the vehicle meets the requirements of paragraphs (1) (b) (c) (d) (h) and (j);

(c) the vehicle has a width from the inside of one door post to the inside of the door post on the opposite side of at least 51 inches (129.5 cm); and

(d) the vehicle has a wheelbase measurement from the centre of the front wheel to the centre of the rear wheel of at least 101 inches 256.5 cm).

3. An accessible taxi must provide ease of entry to or egress from the vehicle in a safe and dignified manner by means of an on-board lift or ramp, and conforms with all sections of Canadian Standard Association D409-02: Motor Vehicles for the Transportation of Persons with Physical Disabilities, and is required to

(a) have displayed and maintained on all four sides of the vehicle, the international accessibility symbol measuring 100 X 100 mm (4 X 4 in);

(b) have on board a fully stocked NS First Aid Kit #3;

(c) have on board a seat belt cutter; and

(d) have on board one current (2 – 2.5 kg) dry chemical fire extinguisher.

4. (1) A limousine~~s~~ must be a full sized luxury class sedan or full sized luxury class sport utility vehicle (SUV) vehicle and must have;

(a) a minimum of four passenger doors (excluding any rear hatches);

(b) standard seating capacity for at least four passengers and a maximum seating capacity of eight passengers excluding the driver;

(c) a leather or other superior quality upholstered interior; and

(d) repealed.

(2) Repealed.

(3) The Licensing Authority may publish a list of vehicles that may be used as a limousine.

5. (1) A vehicle which has an “Ignition Alcohol Interlock Device” installed cannot be issued an owner’s license or remain licensed as a vehicle for hire.

Schedule 6

Vehicle for Hire Code of Conduct

1. As a passenger, you have the right to:
    - A professional operator who is courteous and knowledgeable and who practices good hygiene.
    - An environment free of harassment, including sexual harassment.
    - Expect the provision of or access to service free from discrimination based on:
        - age,
        - race,
        - colour,
        - religion,
        - creed,
        - sex,
        - sexual orientation,
        - gender identity,
        - gender expression,
        - physical disability or mental disability,
        - irrational fear of contracting an illness or disease,
        - ethnic, national or aboriginal origin,
        - family status,
        - marital status,
        - source of income,
        - political belief, affiliation or activity, and
        - an individual's association with another individual or class of individuals having characteristics referred to above.
    - Be transported by the most cost-effective route unless you request a different route.
    - Expect all reasonable assistance in entering or exiting the vehicle when requested.
    - Expect all reasonable assistance in loading or unloading items in or out the vehicle when requested.
    - Expect service animals to be transported.
    - Expect no other person(s) to be in the vehicle while you are being transported unless your consent is given.
    - Expect a receipt upon request which indicates the fare paid, date & time, company name and roof light number. (if in a taxi)
    - Expect that there be no smoking at any time in the vehicle.
    - A vehicle in good mechanical and physical condition.
    - A vehicle that has a clean passenger and trunk compartment and vehicle exterior.
    - A vehicle which is clearly identifiable and has the municipal licence clearly displayed.
    - A vehicle with a meter which charges an accurate fare for the distance and time travelled according to regulations.

Note: The by-law stipulates there are two options for charging fares;

- A fare may be negotiated between the operator and passenger prior to departure, or
- The passenger may request the meter be used to calculate the fare.

2. Your driver has the right to expect a passenger or passengers to:
    - Behave in a civil manner.
    - Not engage in behaviour that constitutes harassment, including sexual harassment.
    - Refrain from smoking, drinking or eating food inside the vehicle.
    - Not leave the interior of the vehicle in an unsanitary or unusable condition.
    - Not distract or otherwise prevent the operator from focussing on driving the vehicle.
    - Clearly disclose their destination prior to departure.
    - Confirm a method of payment upon request.
    - Make prompt payment of the agreed upon or posted fare.
    - Provide a deposit, up to the estimated amount of the fare, in advance, if requested.

3. Service may be refused or interrupted in the following circumstances:
    - Passenger refuses to show proof of payment or partial payment in advance as requested.
    - Passenger request would constitute the driver breaking the law or violating the HRM vehicle for hire regulations.
    - Passenger appears to be in need of emergency medical assistance.
    - Passenger refuses to disclose a specific final destination or the person's conduct is such that it causes and operator to be fearful for his or her safety.

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Schedule 7

DEFAULT TAXI AND ACCESSIBLE TAXI RATE SCHEDULE

1. Taxi and accessible taxi brokers and independent brokers who have not submitted a fare schedule for approval by the Licensing Authority are deemed to have adopted the following fare schedule, inclusive of HST:

    a. an **INITIAL CHARGE** of **SIX DOLLARS AND FORTY CENTS ($6.40)** for the first 142.8 metres travelled;

    b. a **DISTANCE CHARGE** of **TWENTY SIX CENTS ($0.26)** for each additional distance of 142.8 metres travelled, or part thereof;

    c. a **WAIT TIME CHARGE** of **TWENTY EIGHT CENTS ($0.28)** per thirty seconds where the vehicle is stopped or travelling below a speed of 18.5 kilometres per hour; and

    d. an **ADDITIONAL PASSENGER CHARGE** of **EIGHTY CENTS ($0.80)** for each additional passenger over the age of twelve (12).

DEFAULT LIMOUSINE RATE SCHEDULE

2. Limousine owners who have not submitted a fare schedule for approval by the Licensing Authority are deemed to have adopted an **HOURLY RATE** of **EIGHTY THREE DOLLARS AND NINETY CENTS ($83.90)**, inclusive of HST.

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Amendment # 3 – Schedule 5	
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Amendment #8 – Amending Schedules 1 and 2	
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Amendment #9 – Repealing section 2.1, 3.0, 3.1, 3.0A, 3.1A, 4.3(B) Adding sections 2.2-2.8, Amending sections 2.0A, 2.1A, 4.1, 8.1, 9.7, 9.8, Repealing and replacing Schedule 1, repealing schedule 2, amending schedule 4, schedule 5, schedule 6, adding schedule 7	
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