

MEMO / NOTE DE SERVICE



To / Destinataire	National Capital Heavy Construction Association (NCHCA), Ottawa Construction Association (OCA), Greater Ottawa Truckers Association (GOTA), Canadian Trucking Industry, Quebec Trucking Association and Other Stakeholders.	File/N° de fichier:
From / Expéditeur	Abid Ikram, M. Eng., P. Eng Infrastructure Assessment Engineer - Pavements - City of Ottawa	
Subject / Objet	2016 Seasonal Load Restrictions - Applications for Exemptions	Date: February 17, 2016

The City of Ottawa imposes seasonal load restrictions each year to protect our pavement network from damage during the spring thaw. The restricted period is generally in effect between early March and mid May, although the specific timing is determined by the progression of the thaw.

As the City of Ottawa is primarily concerned with the issues of public safety and the protection of its infrastructure, it should be made clear that the City is under no obligation to provide exemptions from the seasonal load restrictions at any time, as there is a high risk of damage to the pavement structure from such operations.

Notwithstanding, exemptions to the load restrictions are granted in some cases where the risk of damage is low, the movement of a load cannot be reduced or reasonably rescheduled until after the restricted period, as well as various other considerations.

Please Note: Financial hardship (or benefit) for the owner, agent, project manager, contractor or trucking operator is NOT considered sufficient justification for an exemption.

Seasonal load restriction exemptions are handled through the Over-dimensional Vehicle permit process as governed by City of Ottawa By-Law No. 2003-497. Depending upon the type of operation, a Single Trip permit or a 6-month Project permit for the entire load restricted period may be issued.

In addition to a completed Over-dimensional vehicle permit application for each vehicle to be used during the load-restricted period, the following information must be provided in a written letter, memorandum or email to Abid.Ikram@ottawa.ca with the title “Request for Seasonal Load Restriction Exemption”:

1. The proposed route,
2. Description of the materials/goods to be moved,
3. The total quantity of materials/goods to be moved,
4. The estimated number of trips per vehicle required to move the materials/goods,
5. The proposed start and end dates for the movements,
6. Justification for potential SLR exemption,

7. Any specific information that may assist the City with the review of the exemption application.

Over-dimensional Vehicle permit applications may be obtained through the Bylaws, Permits and Inspection Office located on the 6th Floor at 100 Constellation Crescent (Tel: 613-580-2424, Ext. 16000).

Written approval or denial of the seasonal load restriction exemption request will be provided within ten (10) business days of receiving the required information.

Please Note: Even if an exemption to the load restrictions is granted through the issuance of an over-dimensional vehicle permit, the permit holder is required to compensate the City of Ottawa for any costs required to repair damage to public property or infrastructure (including engineering and/or legal fees) as a result of over-dimensional vehicle movements made by the permit holder (as outlined in Section 39 of By-Law 2003-497).

Questions concerning the exemption application process may be directed to the undersigned.

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