

Winter Weather Safety: Protecting Our Teams on the Road

Along with colder temperatures, snow, and ice, winter also brings potentially dangerous driving conditions. Slippery roads and decreased visibility make driving in the winter more challenging. Non-essential travel should be avoided in adverse conditions when possible, but sometimes driving is unavoidable.

Leadership's Role in Journey Management

Leaders play a crucial role in ensuring the safety of their teams during travel. Your active promotion of CEDA's Journey Management Practice is essential in mitigating risks associated with adverse weather conditions.

Key Responsibilities

- **Encourage Awareness:** Ensure your team is aware of current weather alerts and conditions before embarking on any journey.
- **Promote Risk Assessment:** Emphasize the importance of completing the Trip Risk Assessment prior to travel. This assessment helps identify potential hazards and allows for informed decision-making.
- **Model Safe Practices:** Lead by example in planning and executing safe journeys, demonstrating a commitment to safety that your team can emulate.
- **Facilitate Open Communication:** Encourage team members to voice concerns about road conditions and safety. Foster an environment where safety is prioritized and discussed regularly.

Stay Informed: Winter Weather Safety

Monitor Alerts - Regularly check public weather alerts and reliable sources for road conditions, including:

- [Environment Canada](#)
- [National Weather Service \(US\)](#)
- [511 Alberta](#)
- [DriveBC Road Conditions and Events](#)
- [Highway Hotline \(gov.sk.ca\)](#)
- [Ontario 511 \(511on.ca\)](#)

Planning Stage: Key Considerations

The planning stage is vital for safe journeys and is integral to the Trip Risk Assessment process. Most incidents are preventable with proper planning. Assess weather and road conditions, ensure trips are necessary, and prepare the crew with fuel, maps, emergency kits, and communication tools. Remember that driving while fatigued is similar to impaired driving—always assess your fatigue level and do not drive if tired.

For a detailed assessment of potential risks during your journey, refer to the Trip Risk Assessment on page two.

Further information can be found within CEDA's [Safe Journey Management Practice](#) and a one page version of the Trip Risk Assessment can be found in [SharePoint](#).

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Risk Assessment Process

Trip Risk Assessment Form