

Perspective of Vehicle for hire industry in London Ontario – Current Governing By-Laws Prohibit Un-Licensed Participants

Checker Limousine has faithfully served consumers in the City of London while conforming to the existing 'Taxi & Limousine Licensing By-Law L.129-51' since our inception. We have provided the market with safe, insured, and equitable services absorbing the associated costs related to executing the principals of the by-law in place.

Our commitment to abide by and conduct ourselves within the confines of these governing principals of the by-law has always been our priority and will continue to be so evidenced by our track record of compliance for the past 30 years.

As London's Premium Car Service brand, we expect to continuously invest a large portion of our operating profits back into the community in order to comply with pre-existing by-law. Our daily operating investment provides for a number of compliant directed features such as;

- 24/7 Call Management Centre,
- 24/7 Dedicated Dispatch Service,
- Camera Equipped Vehicles,
- Trained Licensed Driver and Administration Personnel,
- Standards of Insurance and Maintenance,
- Licensing Fees,
- Fleet/Vehicle Condition and Age,
- and many more typical operating restrictions under the confines of by-law L.129

Licensed operators that provide London with Taxi and Limousine service are well aware of the penalties for non-compliance understanding failure to comply can result in fines and or suspension, and maintain a practice of investing in their business to meet and exceed these operating guidelines.

In turn, London consumers have an expectation of compliance allowing for safe and confident travel when using the products of our communities' mass transit and licensed Taxi Limousine services, trusting that municipal officials ensure participants in these services adhere to the operational standards outlined in the by-law.

Additionally, London's current by-laws provide for accommodation to all persons, at all times with respect to special needs transportation services offered by our industry of qualified, trained professional in either a purpose built or approved accommodating vehicle.

While changes and updates have been reviewed and implemented a number of times over the last 30 years amendment has always been applied thru public participation forums, with a focus on safety (for the public and the driver), fair and consistent pricing and application of standards of service.

Failure to enforce the existing by-law equitably and equally to all those seeking to participant in London's Taxi and Limousine service sector is both unfair, and more importantly risky for municipalities concerned with potential exposure as a result of unsafe non-compliant activity.

We at Checker Limousine Service fully expect that London Council and By-Law Enforcement officials will diligently continue to uphold and enforce the existing governance of By-Law L.129.51 to their fullest extent. Furthermore, we would encourage our council to support the enforcement officials with whatever means necessary to effectively manage enforcement of these by-laws given the increased presence of non-compliant participants such as UBER, or any other ride-sharing service.

We will continue to be supportive of recommendations put forward in their recommendations and are willing to participate in discussions that will explore opportunities for non-traditional service under an amended by-law application.

In closing we ask that London Council immediately request that Uber stop operating illegally and become a good corporate citizen by joining the discussion to create a bylaw that will better serve all stakeholders needs.

Should Uber or any ride-sharing service wish not to recognize your authority I would hope you will continue to protect my drivers and their investments through increased enforcement, higher fines and stiffer penalties until equitable solutions are put in place.

Perry Ferguson