



Resolution 2016-01

Window Tinting of Vehicles

Approved at the 65th Annual General Meeting, June 29th, 2016

WHEREAS Transport Canada sets new vehicle standards, including minimum light transmittance of 70 percent for the windshield and the windows to the direct left and right of the driver for passenger vehicles; and

WHEREAS the issues of ultraviolet transmission, light transmittance, and visibility with regard to diminished visual performance (especially for the elderly), visual cues for pedestrians and other drivers are blocked by dark windows and the inability for police to see occupants from outside of the vehicle, constitutes a serious public and officer safety issue; and

WHEREAS Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Saskatchewan, Alberta, British Columbia, and the Northwest Territories do not permit glazing material application on the windshield and front side window; and

WHEREAS the National Institute of Optics (INO) has reported that a light transmitted below 70 percent level increases accident risks in poor light conditions since it reduces the visibility of low contrast objects at a distance, increase the time needed to react, and hinders communication between road users; and

WHEREAS the 1999 inquest into the death of Faraz Suleman in York Region recommended that, "A review take place of the tinting and coating of vehicle windows under *Highway Traffic Act*"; and

WHEREAS the current legislation is non-specific and difficult to enforce.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police urges the Government of Ontario to amend Section 73 of the *Highway Traffic Act* to add subsection 73 (3) (A) with the following wordings.

"When enforcing the above noted section, a Peace Officer may use a Photometric Meter, commonly known as a "Tint Meter" to measure the amount of light being transmitted through the front windshield and any window to the direct left or right of the driver's seat. Any reading on such a meter cannot fall below 70 percent of light being transmitted into the driver's compartment of said vehicle."

Exceptions:

(B) Subsection (A) does not apply to Emergency Services Vehicles.