

Letter of Comment

Name (first and last)

George Priest

Date:

October 13, 2017

Comment: Please specify the reasons for your interest in the proceeding, your views concerning the proceeding, any relevant information that supports or explains your views, the conclusion you support and any recommendations. The Commission may disallow comments that do not comply with the Rules of Practice and Procedure.

With regards to the request from ICBC, for a rate increase, of @ 6% across the board:

This writer, does have an issue with an increase " across the board " of ICBC's request. Several points to evaluate, I understand are necessary to prove or disprove an increase.

-vehicle damage, and repairs have spiraled drastically upward, in cost, in the last 5-7 years, speaking only of vehicles, not injuries. Repair shop rates usually replace damaged parts rather than repair. Workers in repair shops most often belong to unions that request top dollar for employees. While damaged vehicles must be repaired, this portion of the cost, is hard to limit. Injuries, and resulting law suits, from individuals involved in accidents, are not my focus here, but rather the insurance increase for everyone, across the board, which I have an issue with.

-drivers, who are involved in accidents, with damage to their vehicle, usually take their vehicle to a repair shop. Newer vehicles (2002-2017) including all makes, models, carry higher cost to repair with replacement components.—

-For the drivers who do NOT have accidents, this proposed increase, is a ' slap on the hand ', to pay for misfortune or mistakes made by other drivers. If ICBC wishes to request an increase, I believe it should be limited to those vehicles involved in accidents, causing accidents, when at fault. An increase of insurance for drivers at fault, should be where the increase of 6% is placed, in my opinion. This fault determination, usually rests on police attendance.

Personally, I have almost 50 years of driving experience with a top class of license, and all endorsements. Hundreds of thousands of miles, across Canada, United States, and have never had an accident, injury, or damage. If this seems rare, in today's society, I agree. Point is, I believe I had excellent teachers, trainers, along the last many years to READ danger points, hazards, blind spots, and so on. I do not believe anyone is accident proof. However, there is always room for improvement, and so many drivers today, appear careless, in a hurry, oblivious to dangers, of all kinds, and THAT is scary to me.

In closing, I appreciate the opportunity to comment. Once, long ago, I applied to ICBC to examine new drivers, and test their abilities, and never heard back from the application. Now that I am retired, I can see so many ways that things could be improved with driver requirements.

Further information and comments are available if requested

Thank you.