

Registry of Motor Vehicles



Official NSU
Policy and Platform

INTRODUCTION:

The Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) needs to be simplified to focus on essential services and limit overreach including unnecessary fees and restrictions. The DMV should not be a reinforcement agent of the police or a bureaucratic cash grab. Their job is to provide a service to taxpayers not generate revenue for the government.

FACTS:

- Drivers in Nova Scotia are denied service from the DMV for unpaid fines/penalties, despite their vehicle registration and despite having no DMV related issues.
- In most of Europe there are no sales taxes on used vehicles. [4]
- In most of Europe, trailers have a license plate similar to the one of the vehicles carrying them.
- British Columbia has reciprocal driver's license exchange agreements with many countries, states and provinces of other countries, which attracts more foreign students and temporary workers to it and benefits its economy. To enjoy the same benefits, Nova Scotia should also seek such reciprocal agreements.
- Tinting reduces heating of the interior of vehicles in the summer and reduces glare from the sun in all seasons, which allows safer driving and saves fuel due to less need to turn the air conditioner high. Even Quebec, which is less hot than Nova Scotia in the summer, allows the top 6 inches of the windshield to be tinted [6] (at any level) [7].
- No relationship was found between speeding in highways and accidents or deaths, Texas does not apply demerit points to speeding in highways [3] and New Brunswick did not apply demerit points to speeding up to 25 km/h above the posted limit until June 2022.

OBJECTIVES:

1. Service at the DMV will not be denied from people with outstanding fines/penalties.
2. Registration of a vehicle will only be necessary at the time that it is bought/sold.
 - a. Remove the registration stickers requirement.
3. A safety inspection would be required when selling or buying a vehicle prior to registration or every 5 years, whichever comes first.
 - a. Safety stickers will no longer be required.
 - b. The responsibility of the inspection will be negotiated between the seller and the buyer.
4. Trailers will not need to be separately registered/licensed, a license plate similar to the one of the vehicles will be issued for trailers, meaning, when carrying a trailer, the trailer will carry a license plate similar to the vehicle's (same size, same license plate number).
5. Remove sales tax on used vehicles.
6. The police would need reasonable grounds to believe the driver committed an impaired driving offense to request a breath test, as it used to be before 2018.
 - a. The amendment related to this in C-46 will not be valid in Nova Scotia.
 - i. Transportation in the province is under provincial jurisdiction, we may legislate our own laws regarding this.

Closing Statement:

By not permitting the denial of services for outstanding fines, NSU will make sure that Nova Scotians are not discriminated against by the DMV for their financial situation. NSU will make sure the DMV is not a reinforcement agent of the police. Our main goals are to simplify the processes required at the DMV, cut red tape, and lower the cost of owning and operating a vehicle in Nova Scotia.

Nova Scotians pay enormous amounts for the police to investigate crime and enforce laws. Taxpayers are footing the bill for law enforcement to stand on roads dealing with misdemeanors with the intention to generate revenue. NSU would prioritize the police to focus their attention on major crimes.

Our traffic laws should be aimed at keeping our roads safe and not place unnecessary burdens on motorists. NSU policies seek to support people who want to stop the cash grab and overregulation.