

Talk Lead By: _____ Date: _____

Site/Location: _____ Time: _____

Weather Report/Conditions:

_____	High: _____ °C	Wind Speed: _____ km/hr
_____	Low: _____ °C	Wind Gusts: _____ km/hr

Winter Travel Basics

Winter driving can be a challenging task, even for the most experienced drivers. Staying aware of the conditions and hazards, as well as taking steps to eliminate or control them are essential.

- 1. When driving conditions are poor, avoid travel unless it is absolutely necessary.** By staying off the roads altogether, you can eliminate the hazard.
- 2. Identify ways to reduce the risk of travel.** These can include:
 - Ensuring the driver has enough & the right types of winter driving experience.
 - Ensuring the vehicle is well maintained and equipped for the conditions.
 - i. Does the vehicle have winter tires that are in good condition?
 - ii. Does the vehicle have 4-wheel or all wheel drive?
 - Does the vehicle have a fully equipped first aid and winter driving emergency kit?
 - Does the vehicle contain other important items, such as¹:

Sand, salt or non-clumping cat litter	Antifreeze and windshield washer fluid
Tow rope	Jumper cables
Fire extinguisher	Warning lights, road flares, hazard cones
- 3. Plan your route.** This will include:
 - Checking the weather reports before travel.
 - Checking resources such as Alberta 511 and AMA Road Reports for conditions and incidents.
 - Choose the route that will be the safest (not necessarily the fastest). Based your route things like conditions, the ability to stop and seek food or shelter if necessary.
- 4. Have a journey management/travel plan.** This will include:
 - Having a check-in system with someone who is not travelling (similar to a working alone plan).
 - The check-in person who is not travelling will need to know:
 - i. The name of the driver and passengers.
 - ii. The contact information for the driver and all of the passengers.
 - iii. Vehicle identification information.
 - iv. The route of travel. If this route changes for any reason, the check-in person will need to be told right away.
 - v. The destination(s).
 - vi. How and when the check-ins will occur. Base the frequency on what is reasonable for the circumstances.
 - vii. What to do if a check in is missed.

