

# Immediate Roadside Sanctions Pilot Project

Strathcona County Enforcement Services



# IRS Pilot Project Addresses Resident's Priorities

- For the past three years, impaired driving has ranked in the top three priorities of Strathcona County residents in the annual Policing Priorities Survey.
- To demonstrate commitment to our residents, the implementation of additional authorities for Immediate Roadside Sanctions is consistent with Strathcona County's strategic goals of creating a healthy and safety community.
- This advanced authority aligns with the vision of Strathcona County Traffic Safety Strategic Plan, which seeks to ensure no one is seriously injured or killed while travelling on Strathcona County's road network.

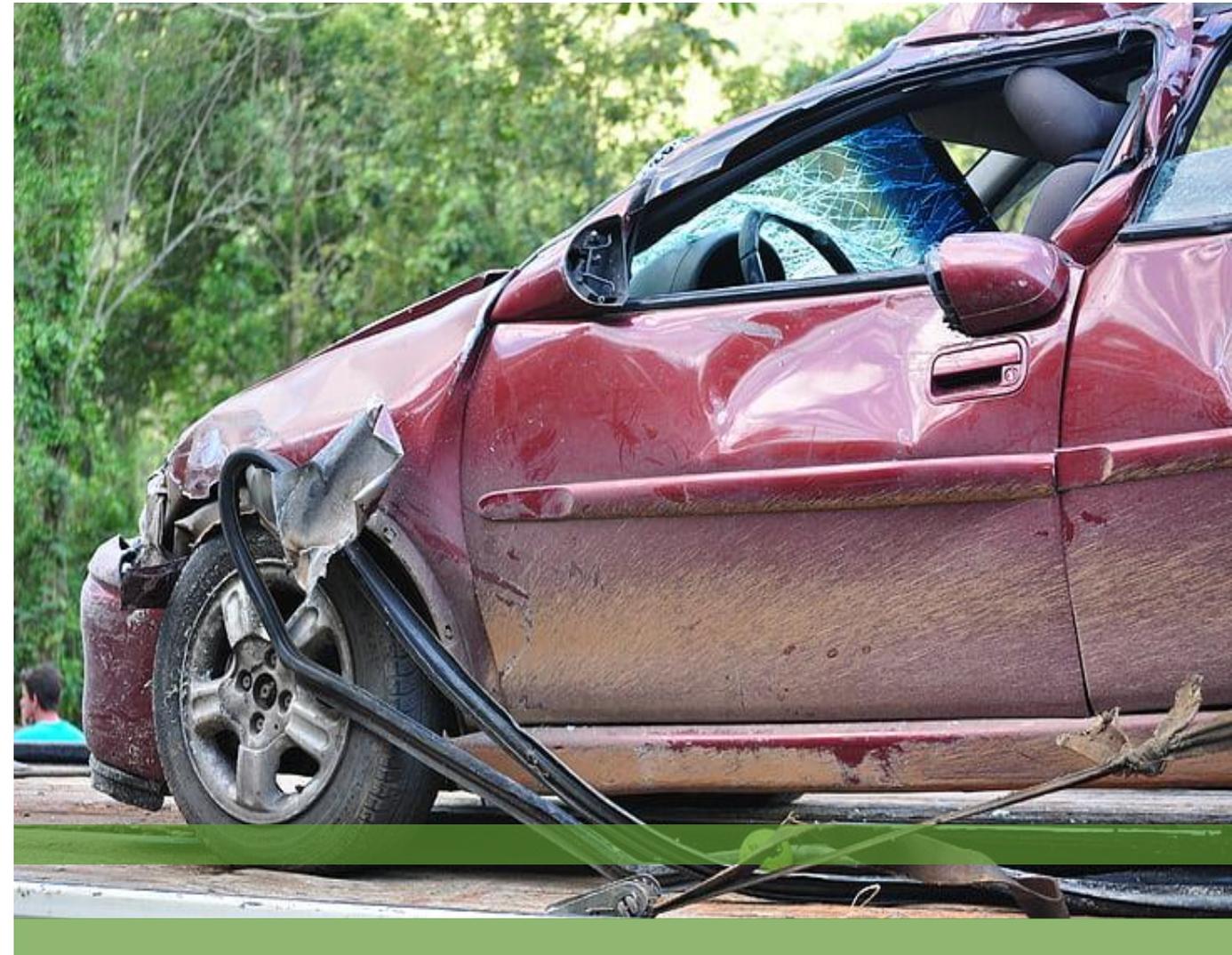


# What is Mandatory Alcohol Screening (MAS)?

- In December 2018, the federal government enacted several changes to the criminal code.
- Mandatory Alcohol Screening came into effect with Bill C-46.
- This new measure allows an authorized peace officer to obtain an immediate roadside breath sample from any motor vehicle driver.
- Detection and deterrence of impaired driving is a key element to increasing safety on our roadways.

# Why Did Impaired Driving Laws Need To Be Changed?

- Impaired driving is one of the leading causes of criminal death in Canada.
- The new reforms passed in 2018 include the following improvements:
  - Clearer and more coherent laws
  - New authorities
  - Increase deterrence
  - Easier impaired driving detection
  - Simplified investigations and proof of impaired driving offences
  - Reduced delays in the criminal justice system

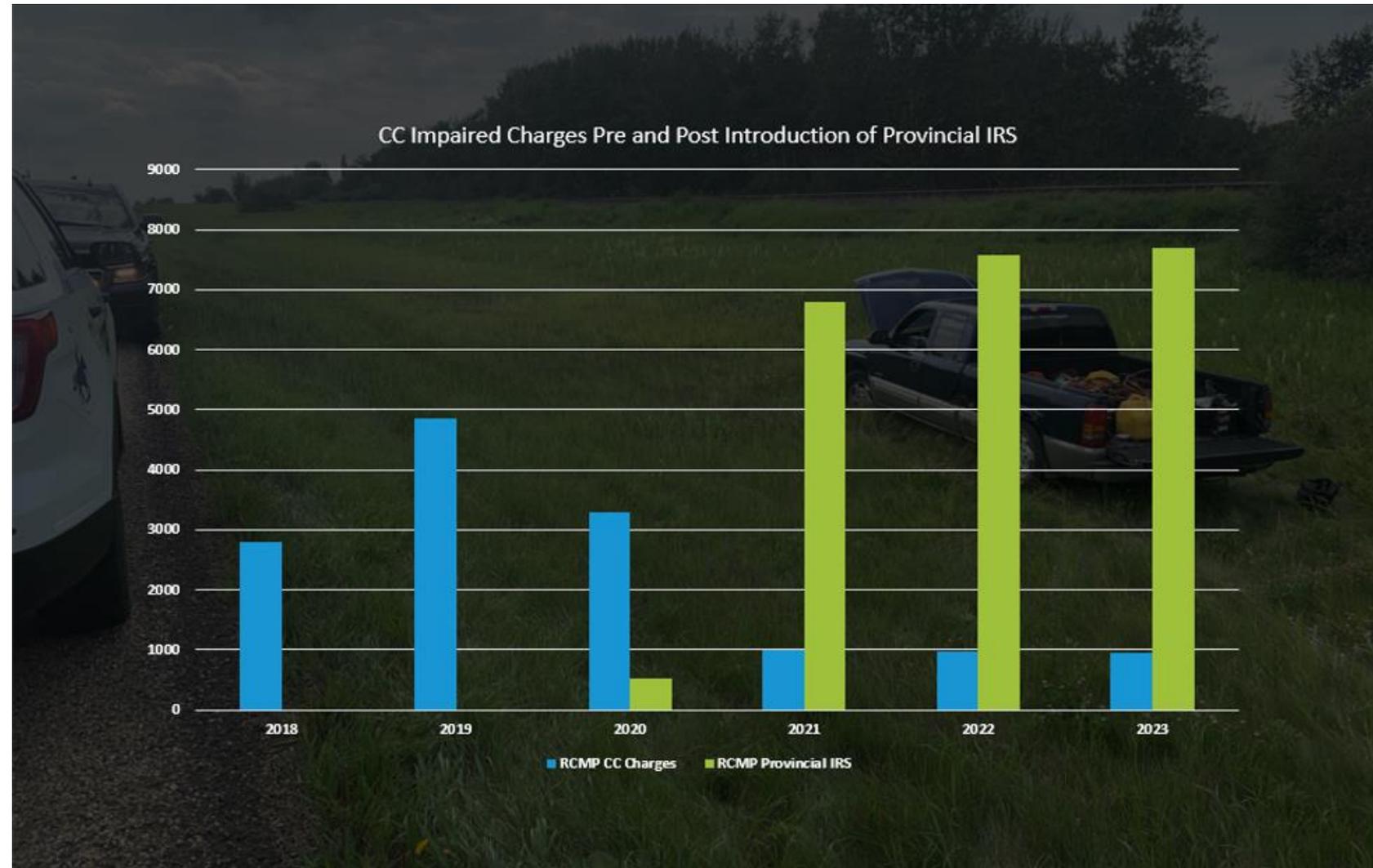


# Why is Mandatory Alcohol Screening needed?

- Studies indicate that as many as half of the drivers exceeding the legal blood alcohol concentration limit might go unnoticed during roadside check stops.
- Implementing mandatory alcohol screening has been shown to be an effective traffic safety strategy that will discourage and more effectively identify alcohol-impaired drivers.
- Additionally, in several other jurisdictions where mandatory alcohol screening was enacted, the rates of impaired driving and fatal road collisions were substantially reduced.



# Criminal Code Impaired Charges Pre and Post Introduction of Provincial IRS



\*Graph provided by Alberta RCMP\*

# What Does The New Law Do?

- Authorize mandatory alcohol screening at the roadside.
- Repeal and replace all transportation offences with a modern, simplified, and coherent structure.
- Increase some minimum fines and maximum penalties.
- Facilitate investigation and proof of blood alcohol concentration.
- Eliminate and restrict defences that encourage risk-taking behaviour.
- Clarify what is required to be disclosed by Crown to the defence with respect to proving blood alcohol concentration.
- Permit an earlier enrolment in provincial ignition interlock programs.

# New Penalties

FIRST OFFENCE	SECOND OFFENCE	THIRD OFFENCE
90-day driver's licence suspension	90-day driver's licence suspension	90-day driver's licence suspension
12-month Alberta Ignition Interlock Program	36-month Alberta Ignition Interlock Program	Lifetime Alberta Ignition Interlock Program
30-day vehicle seizure	30-day vehicle seizure	30-day vehicle seizure
Planning Ahead Course (1 day)	Impact Course (2 days)	
\$1000 fine + victim fine surcharge	\$2000 fine + victim fine surcharge	\$2000 fine + victim fine surcharge
	Charged under the Criminal Code	Charged under the Criminal Code

# Pilot Project Implementation

- A project team consisting of eight Community Peace Officers will initiate the Immediate Roadside Sanctions pilot project.
- Strathcona County is the first and only authorized employer to be provided this authority/opportunity.
- The project team will receive sobriety training in addition to the use of roadside screening devices that include scenario and infield training.
- The project team will formalize our processes to maximize success of the program.
- All appointed officers will eventually receive training and participate in the pilot project, which is expected to successfully conclude at the end of 2025 and continue as a regular duty for our Peace Officers in 2026 and beyond.





# Communications Plan



Council presentation



Public awareness campaign



Print and online tactics



Media release to the public



# Questions?