

## Talk, Text and Crash

**Talk on a cellphone while driving – quadruple your chances of crashing.**



### The risks

Using a cellphone slows driver reaction time as much as or more than having a 0.08 BAC - blood alcohol concentration (the legal limit).

Talking on a cellphone while driving increases the risk of crashing by up to four times. Texting while driving increases a driver's crash risk by 23 times.

Hands-free cellphones eliminate the distraction of dialing. But, according to studies, talking on any cellphone is significantly more distracting than talking to someone in the car.

New drivers are inexperienced and are at higher risk of crashing. Young drivers are more likely to talk and text while driving than other age groups, which increases their crash risk dramatically.

### The law

As of January 1, 2010, new BC laws reflect those risks and require that:

- Drivers not send or read text messages or e-mails.
- Drivers not make or receive calls unless using a hands-free device.
- Drivers not hold or operate any electronic device.
- Learner and Novice drivers (those in the Graduated Licensing Program) not operate hand-held or hands-free cellphones.

***Is it worth the risk?***

## Cellphones and Driving

### Where do you stand?

A recent Ipsos Reid poll found that over 90 % of British Columbians support the legislation that bans the use of cellphones while driving. The same poll also found that some drivers plan to break the new laws.

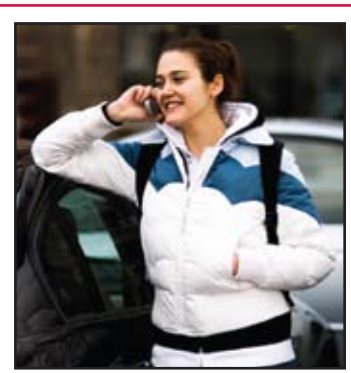
### What can you do?

**Drivers** – Decide NOT to use a cellphone or any other electronic communications device while driving (hand held or hands-free).

Pull off to the side of the road in a safe location to make a call, text, e-mail, respond to a message or access the internet. Or, turn your cellphone off when you are driving.

**Parents** – Do you have a young driver in your family? Make it a condition of your teenager's driving privileges that they will NOT talk or text while driving. It's the law.

**Employers** – Car crashes result in lost productivity. Develop and enforce a driving policy stating that employees must NOT use any electronic communications devices while they drive on company time. A sample policy is available at [www.tsfbca.com/37.aspx](http://www.tsfbca.com/37.aspx)



***Cellphones – Take a stand.***



***Drive to Save Lives***

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