

Registrar's Decisions: Notification (RDN) 02/2026: Citizenship Marker and Personal Health Number on Alberta Driver's Licence and Identification Cards

Access to Motor Vehicle Information Regulation (AMVIR)

Alberta is incorporating a Canadian Citizenship Marker (CM) on driver's licences (DL) and identification cards (ID cards). Alberta is also adding Personal Health Numbers (PHN) for eligible Albertans on DL and ID cards. This RDN is required to announce new release channels and new Motor Vehicle Information Products for the release of Personal Driving and Motor Vehicle Information that will allow for the display of the CM and the PHN on DL and ID cards.

I. Decisions

To comply with the requirements of the *Access to Motor Vehicle Information Regulation*, AR 140/2003, as amended (AMVIR), to address recent government initiatives, to reflect legislative changes, and to further strengthen, clarify, and manage the disclosure of Personal Driving and Motor Vehicle Information from Alberta's Motor Vehicle System (MOVES), the Registrar of Motor Vehicle Services (the "Registrar") decides to:

- A. Announce three new release channels for Type I Information, as defined in RDN 01/2004 required to facilitate the inclusion of Alberta's PHN and CM on Alberta DL/ID cards:
 - (a) PHN Validation
 - (b) Alberta Birth Validation
 - (c) Card Management
- B. Announce four new Motor Vehicle Information Products (MVIP) to be released by the Registrar, under AMVIR:
 - PHN Validation Batch Release File
 - Card Cancellation Notification
 - Card Recall Request
 - Card Recall Confirmation

II. Definitions

- **"AHCIP"** means the Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan, a publicly funded, health insurance program managed by Primary and Preventative Health Services (PPHS) that provides eligible Alberta residents with coverage for insured physician and hospital services.

- **“CM”** means the Citizenship Marker, a binary flag assigned and managed on MOVES that is used by the Registrar to print the mandatory “CAN” code on Alberta’s DL/ID cards.
- **“DL”** means an Alberta driver’s licence which is an “operator’s licence (OL)”, or “driver’s licence (DL)” as defined in the TSA. An individual is uniquely identified by the number provided on the front of the DL card. Information about obtaining and maintaining an Alberta DL is provided on Registrar’s Website at: <https://www.alberta.ca/get-drivers-licence>
- **“HIA”** means *Health Information Act*, RSA 2000, c H-5.
- **“Information”** means Personal Driving and Motor Vehicle Information in any electronic, written or other form that is collected by the Registrar under the authority of the Traffic Safety Act (TSA) and which is stored in the Registrar’s office.
- **“Integrated Card”** means an Alberta DL/ID card that displays a PHN.
- **“MOVES”** means the Motor Vehicles System which is the Alberta Motor Vehicle Registry database.
- **“MVID”** means Motor Vehicle Identification Number, a unique 9-digit client identifier found near the barcode on an Alberta DL card or at the top of an Alberta ID card.
- **“OL”** means an Alberta Operator’s Licence which is an “operator’s licence”, or “driver’s licence” as defined in TSA.
- **“PCR”** means the Provincial Client Registry used as the aggregate source of information related to patient identity in Alberta.
- **“Personal Driving and Motor Vehicle Information”** means personal driving and motor vehicle information as defined in section 8(1) of the TSA.
- **“PHN”** means the Personal Health Number, a unique 9-digit identification number, assigned to individuals eligible for ACHIP.
- **“Registrar’s Website”** means a sub-website maintained by the Registrar on the Government of Alberta website.
- **“Registrar”** means the Registrar of Motor Vehicle Services as defined in the TSA.
- **“TSA”** means the *Traffic Safety Act*, RSA 2000, c. T-6.
<https://open.alberta.ca/publications/t06>
- **“VISTAS”** means the Vital Statistics System which is the Alberta Vital Statistics Registry database.

III. Initiatives

As of July 2nd, 2026, when applying for or renewing a DL or ID card, proof of legal entitlement to be or remain in Canada must be provided. If the documentation confirms that the applicant is a Canadian citizen, the Registrar will add the CM to their card. Providing proof of legal entitlement at the time of initial application for a DL or ID card reflects current practice. For renewals, once legal entitlement has been provided at the first renewal, proof will not need to be shown at subsequent renewals, unless there has been a change in status. Once on the DL/ID card, the CM will streamline access to services like Student Aid, Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped (AISH),

Income Support, the Alberta Adult Health Benefit, and the Persons with Developmental Disabilities (PDD) Program, in circumstances where identity and Canadian citizenship must be proven to access such programs.

The Registrar, on behalf of SARTR and in collaboration with PPHS, is also including the Personal Health Number (PHN) on DL and ID cards for eligible Albertans. A DL or ID card that displays a PHN is also known as an Integrated Card. The Integrated Card will be required as of July 2, 2026, for Canadian citizens and permanent residents with existing Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan (AHCIP) coverage who are obtaining their first or renewing their existing DL or ID card. As of July 2, 2026, Albertans with DL and ID cards that contain the PHN, will have their AHCIP account expiry date align with the DL and ID card expiry date once they revalidate their AHCIP eligibility as part of their DL or ID card service. Albertans will need to renew their AHCIP coverage before the expiry date to maintain uninterrupted AHCIP coverage for insured health services. This change will also address the Office of the Auditor General recommendation that regular touchpoints be established with Albertans to ensure their ongoing eligibility for AHCIP coverage.

These two initiatives provide the opportunity to create efficiencies and to streamline registry service delivery provided by the Alberta Registry Agent Network (RAN) on behalf of the Government of Alberta (GOA).

The Registrar must notify PPHS about any Integrated Card cancellation. PPHS can also recall any Integrated Card by requesting the Registrar to remove the PHN from the card. The Registrar must confirm the card's recall to PPHS.

Departments Responsible for the Initiatives:

- **Service Alberta and Red Tape Reduction (SARTR)**

The Motor Vehicles and Registries Administration (MVRA) branch in SARTR is the branch that includes the Registrar, who issues motor vehicle documents. MVRA is also responsible for contracting with the RAN offices and managing the Motor Vehicles System (MOVES), which issues the DL/ID cards, including the Integrated Cards. The Vital Statistics Branch includes the Registrar and is responsible for operating the Vital Statistics System (VISTAS) that supports the validation of Canadian citizenship process by confirming that an Alberta birth record exists for the client where written consent of the relevant individual is obtained as required under s. 2(3) in AMVIR. If it does, the Registrar of Vital Statistics accepts it as proof of Canadian citizenship for Albertans born in the province and providing that confirmation to the Registrar.

- **Primary and Preventive Health Services (PPHS).** PPHS is responsible for determining eligibility for and enrolling residents of Alberta in AHCIP. The Health Insurance Programs (HIP) branch staff provide oversight and the administration of AHCIP. HIP staff oversee the activities related to collecting and managing registration

information for AHCIP. The Provincial Client Registry (PCR) operates as a PPHS-managed system and supports the Integrated Card process by validating PHNs and related demographic information received from MOVES prior to the printing of Integrated Cards.

IV. Information Content

The Registrar's decision is to **release**, on an ongoing basis, Type I Information (Motor Vehicle Searches), as defined in [Registrar's Decision Notification 01/2004](#), for the purposes identified below, to the persons or categories of persons and/or organizations ("Recipients") identified below. Type I Information may be released by the Registrar through the release channels described below.

V. Purposes

Type I information (Motor Vehicle Searches) will be released under the following purpose identified under section 2 of AMVIR.

2(1)(c) The Registrar **may, on request**, release information on the Registrar's motor vehicle information system, collected and compiled for the purpose of identifying licensed operators and registered owners of motor vehicles to ensure responsibility and accountability for their actions with respect to motor vehicle only for any purpose in accordance with an enactment of Alberta or Canada that authorizes or requires the release.

2(1)(p) The Registrar **may, on request**, release information on the Registrar's motor vehicle information system, collected and compiled for the purpose of identifying licensed operators and registered owners of motor vehicles to ensure responsibility and accountability for their actions with respect to motor vehicle only if the individual the information is about has consented to its release in accordance with subsection 2(3)..

VI. Persons or Categories of Persons

2(1)(c)

A. The Registrar's decision is to **release** personal driving and motor vehicle information on the Registrar's motor vehicle information system, collected and compiled for the purpose of identifying licensed operators and registered owners of motor vehicles to ensure responsibility and accountability for their actions with respect to motor vehicles only for any purpose in accordance with an enactment of Alberta or Canada that authorizes or requires the release:

- Primary and Preventive Health Services (PPHS), Health Insurance Programs Branch (HIP), Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan (AHCIP)

2(1)(p)

A. The Registrar's decision is to **release** personal driving and motor vehicle information on the Registrar's motor vehicle information system, collected and compiled for the purpose of identifying licensed operators and registered owners of motor vehicles to ensure responsibility and accountability for their actions with respect to motor vehicles if the individual the information is about has consented to its release in accordance with subsection 2(3).

- Service Alberta and Red Tape Reduction (SARTR), Vital Statistics Registry

VII. Release Channels

(a) PHN Validation

When a PHN is requested to be added to a DL or ID card, a batch request file will be prepared by MOVES and will be sent daily to PCR using PPHS's SFTP client GoAnyWhere service to permit the Registrar to validate the PHN against PCR before it is placed on an Integrated Card. No direct interaction is established between MOVES and PCR. This process will also be used when a PHN is to be removed from an Integrated Card.

(b) Alberta Birth Validation

The VISTAS Verification Link is an electronic link created between MOVES and VISTAS to allow registry agent staff to perform the online Alberta birth validation against VISTAS. The Information sent to VISTAS for verification includes: MVID, First Name, Middle Name(s), Last Name, and Date of Birth. The VISTAS response is stored on MOVES as a flag: Y = Yes or U = Unable to verify electronically.

(c) Card Management

(i) Card Cancellation:

When the Registrar cancels an Integrated Card, PPHS is notified by email about the card cancellation (Card Cancellation Notification).

(ii) Card Recall:

When PPHS decides that an Integrated Card needs to be recalled, it will send an email request to the Registrar (Card Recall Request). Upon receiving a Card Recall Request, the Registrar will issue a notification letter to the relevant individual, requesting them to attend a Registry Agent Office within 15 days to have their PHN removed from their card. The Registrar will advise PPHS by email, once the recall notification letter is sent (Card Recall Confirmation). If the PHN is removed from the Integrated Card, a nightly batch file will be sent to PCR to notify of the PHN removal.

VIII. New Motor Vehicle Information Products

The Registrar's decision is to release, on an ongoing basis, Type I Information in the form of the **PHN Validation Batch Release File** to:

- Primary and Preventive Health Services (PPHS), Health Insurance Programs Branch (HIP), Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan (AHCIP) Program

The PHN Validation Batch Release File provides the following information:

- PHN
- First Name
- Middle Name(s) (if available)
- Last Name
- Date of Birth
- Sex (M, F, or X)
- DL/ID Expiry Date

Note: First Name and Last Name fields in MOVES may consist of letters and special characters (period, hyphen or apostrophe). If a client has only one name, a period will be placed in the First Name field.

The Card Cancellation Notification released by the Registrar to PPHS provides the following information about a card cancellation:

- Full Name
- Date of Birth
- DL/ID Cancellation Date
- Reason for Cancellation

The Card Recall Request released by PPHS to the Registrar and the Card Recall Confirmation provided by Registrar to PPHS provide the following information about a card recall:

- Full Name
- Date of Birth
- Reason for Recall

IX. Use Restrictions

When an eligible individual has their PHN added to their DL or ID card, the expiry date of the card will also serve as the expiry date of the PHN and AHCIP.

The expiry date of the card is the Personal Driving and Motor Vehicle Information of the relevant individual when it is stored in MOVES and may only be released by the Registrar under AMVIR.

To protect privacy of Albertans and the security of government systems, the DL/ID card expiry date should not be collected or used by third parties, nor should it be provided by Albertans as a means of confirming identity in a multi-factor authentication process.

The PHN and any health information collected by the Registrar are protected under HIA and used by the Registrar only for internal enforcement purposes. Such records and information cannot be subsequently released or redistributed by the Registrar. Any request for such records or information must be redirected to PPHS.

PPHS acknowledges that the Information (shared by the Registrar as articulated in this RDN can only be released under AMVIR. Such records and Information cannot be released or redistributed by PPHS. Any request for such records or Information must be redirected to the Registrar.

X. Transition, Application, and Release Process

Application

- AHCIP Program in PPHS and the Vital Statistics Registry in SARTR must apply under AMVIR using the standard AMVIR Application process presented on Registrar's website at: [Application for Access to Motor Vehicle Data: Information Sheet](#)

Access and Release

- PPHS will receive a daily batch release file allowing for PHN validation against PCR.
- The Registrar will review with PPHS the results of any audit that may relate to PPHS.
- Registry agents staff use the VISTAS Search Link (an online electronic link) to perform Alberta birth validation against VISTAS. The result is used to simplify the verification of Canadian Citizenship for Alberta born individuals. The validation process is documented in MOVES. No Personal Driving and Motor Vehicle Information released by the Registrar is saved on VISTAS.

XI. Notification and Review Process

In accordance with section 4 of AMVIR, on request by a Recipient, identified above, the Registrar's decision is to **release**, on an ongoing basis, the Information specified in this notification.

This notification was published on June 29, 2026. Any person may, within sixty days after the date of this publication, ask the Information and Privacy Commissioner (IPC) to

*Registrar's Decisions: Notification (RDN): 02/2026.
Published on Registrar's website on: 29/06/2026*

review the decision of the Registrar in accordance with Part 3, Division 2 of the *Access to Information Act*.

On the publication of this notification, in accordance with section 4(1) of AMVIR, notice is deemed to have been given for the current and any future releases of the category of information and of the person or category of persons to whom the information is released or not released, as described in the notification, for the purposes of notice under Part 3, Division 2 of the *Access to Information Act*.