

Transcript

Episode 1. Clearing the air – addressing misconceptions around impaired driving in Ontario.

00:00:00 - 00:00:13

[Upbeat music plays]

[Video: *Preparation for a video shoot is shown*]

[Text on screen: *Episode 1*]

[Animation: *A Google search engine appears on the screen and the words “What are the rules with driving and cannabis?” are typed into the search bar and a cursor clicks the search button.*

Red and blue panels come up from the bottom. The CAA logo stops in the middle. #DontDriveHigh appears above the logo. “A conversation with Teresa & Kerry” appears below.

Teresa >> Hey Kerry how are you?

Kerry >> Awesome, really good!

Teresa >> I really thank you for joining me.

00:00:13 - 00:00:20

[Animation: *Red and blue panels flow across the screen from bottom of the screen to top.*]

[Video: *Teresa and Kerry are sitting together*]

Teresa >> There's a lot of misunderstanding or misconceptions out there so who better to team up with us than you, so thanks!

Kerry >> Awesome, hey I'm looking forward to it.

00:00:20 - 00:00:33

[Upbeat music plays]

[Animation: *Red and blue panels flow across the screen from bottom to top to reveal a white screen with text. The white background fades to show a person driving a motorcycle and a busy highway.*]

[Text on Screen: *Episode One. In Ontario, it is illegal to operate any type of motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol or drugs. This applies to all types of motor vehicles, including cars, trucks, boats, snowmobiles and off-road vehicles.*
#DontDriveHigh]

00:00:33 - 00:00:45

[Video: *A picture of a horse is shown. Kerry and Teresa are shown sitting together*]

[Text on screen: *Sgt. Kerry Schmidt Ontario Provincial Police*

Teresa Di Felice CAA SCO]

Teresa >> Does a horse constitute a vehicle?

Kerry >> A horse! Well I don't know about that. I know, you know, a lot of cars have a lot of horsepower, but you're not gonna be charged with impaired driving if you're on a horse. But I still would suggest that would not be a wise idea.

00:00:45 - 00:01:02

[Video: *A photo of a boat crossing a body of water is shown. We then see a video of two people paddling a canoe.*]

Kerry >> When we talk about vessels that includes anything that floats in the water, that's navigable by the operator. So if you're in a rowboat, a canoe, a paddleboard, anything that floats on water, that is something that you need to be aware of and if you're impaired, you can be charged criminally with impaired operation.

00:01:02 - 00:01:27

[Video: *Teresa and Kerry are sitting together*]

Teresa >> I think the key point there is se discretion, keep yourself and other people safe around you.

Kerry >> Absolutely, there's no question about that.

Teresa >> There's a lot of jokes about this and we've seen some other memes out there around how the police are gonna catch whether you're high behind the wheel, but why don't you talk about the tools.

Kerry >> There are some funny sketches out there for sure, but when we talk about impaired driving and the way we determine whether or not someone is impaired or not is still very subjective by the officers' test that they do.

00:01:27 - 00:03:13

[Video: A background image of a police car sirens. The background changes to an office walking towards a stopped vehicle to talk to them. The shot then goes back to Kerry and Teresa sitting together]

[Text on Screen: Kerry says Standardized Field Sobriety Test (SFST) and Drug-Recognition Expert (DRE) training programs have been in place for years and have proven to work well in identifying impaired drivers]

Kerry >> So they will do a roadside a field sobriety test which are coordinated physical tests that the officers will demand that the driver performs. If they fail the tests, and these tests have been tested and approved through the medical profession, through the justice system, and through the courts to be very reliable in determining someone's impairment. If those tests are then forward on to a drug recognition expert who will do further tests, another battery of physical and coordination tests, based on the totality of all those tests, which includes blood pressure and pupil dilation, and heart rate and respiration, all followed by walking a line, a night vision, doing mental calculations, standing on a leg touching your nose, based on all those results the officer will then determine whether or not this person is impaired, by what kind of drug their impaired, and that evidence is used in court.

Teresa >> What you're saying is these tests can actually like go all the way to court and get a conviction?

Kerry >> Absolutely. So alcohol is very different than cannabis and how it is read and registered in your body. When it comes to cannabis there's no breath test that actually tells us how high a person is and we are allowed to do blood demands to require someone to provide them a blood sample that will be tested for alcohol or drugs, if the person is found to be impaired and they're not capable of providing and performing the tests that we demand.

Teresa >> Sounds like you guys have a big toolbox.

Kerry: There are a lot of tools that we use and we're getting trained more and more. There's more officers being trained in standard field sobriety testing as well as drug recognition.

Teresa >> You can't have weed in the car ready to go, ready to smoke when you get out of the car, and neither can your passengers. It has to be properly sealed and put away.

Kerry >> Absolutely, very good.

00:03:13 - 00:04:04

[Text on Screen: Kerry says Drivers found with 2.5 ng of THC and 50 mg of alcohol in the blood, face a mandatory minimum fine of \$1,000]

Teresa >> What is two point five nanograms mean?

Kerry >> Well, again it all depends on the person's body size and type, the potency of the marijuana that they're smoking. If you are a chronic user, if you use it medicinally all the time, there may be a baseline of THC in your blood at all times.

Teresa >> Even after consuming one joint it can affect those driving skills even up to five hours after. And everybody wants to know what's the magic number? Do I have to wait two hours, five hours, ten hours? And so you know there is some thought around you should be waiting something like five, six, seven, eight, and thinking about the skills that you need. If you're still feeling the effects ten hours later you shouldn't be getting behind the wheel.

Kerry >> It really is difficult to say how much you can smoke and still be safe and that's why we say if you're gonna smoke don't drive just like if you're gonna drink..

Teresa >> Don't drive.

00:04:04 - 00:04:08

[Upbeat music plays]

[Animation: *Red, blue and grey panels flow across the screen from the bottom to the top. The CAA logo appears on the middle of the screen*]

[Text on screen: *caasco.com/cannabis #DontDriveHigh*]

[Small Text on Screen: *The advice is intended to provide general information only and is not intended to provide legal or professional advice, or to be relied on in any dispute, claim, action, demand or proceeding. CAA Club Group (o/a CAA South Central Ontario) does not accept liability for any damage or injury resulting from reliance on this information. CAA trademarks are owned by, and use is authorized by the Canadian Automobile Association.*]