

Amusement rides and devices proposed regulation changes

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Consultation closed

Thank you to everyone who took part in this consultation. [Read our summary](#) for an outline of the consultation activities that took place, as well as an overview of the input and feedback received through the various engagement channels.

Overview

With public concern about trampoline parks rising, Technical Safety BC began a review of its [Amusement Devices program](#) as a whole to address new and emerging types of equipment, including but not limited to trampoline parks.

Our review of the regulatory framework around amusement rides and devices indicates that the current framework would benefit from improvement to ensure that it is: (i) adaptive, as technologies change; and (ii) clear, so owners of amusement rides and devices and the public know what is regulated and what form of safety oversight is in place. This aligns with what we have heard from owners, operators, the public, and other agencies during our [public consultation on trampoline parks](#).

The proposal addresses four key areas:

1. Clearer definitions of amusement rides and devices;
2. Adoption of a new safety code (ASTM International F2783-17) for the design, maintenance, and operation of amusement rides and devices;
3. New regulatory framework to amusement ride and device safety regulations, including the clarification of the obligation to report incidents for investigation; and
4. Procedures to address new amusement rides and devices.

Clearer definitions of amusement rides and devices

Technical Safety BC is proposing new definitions of amusement rides and devices that would provide clarity to operators and the public as to which amusement rides and devices are regulated and which are not.

Proposed revised definition of an amusement [ride](#):

“amusement ride” means equipment or a combination of equipment, incorporating a mechanical system, that carries, conveys, and directs a person over or through a fixed or restricted area for the purpose of amusement or entertainment.

Proposed new definition of an amusement [device](#):

“amusement device” means an arrangement of technical systems that produces the desired effect of amusement or entertainment when the patron moves through it or on it primarily by their own action, or any other system that is not an amusement ride.

It is proposed that the following amusement rides and devices would be exempted from the proposed changes:

- Professional or sports training with oversight by training or coaching staff and appropriate safety precautions (e.g., simulators used exclusively for pilot training, or gymnastics facilities with trampolines used exclusively for sports training);
- Specific extreme thrill rides and devices (e.g., parasailing, zorb balls, and via ferrata); and
- Low risk rides (e.g. coin-operated children’s rides, commonly found at malls or shopping centers, and children’s playgrounds that are covered by other safety codes).

Code update

Technical Safety BC is proposing that the ASTM International F2783-17 code, Standard Practice for Design, Manufacture, Operation, Maintenance, and Inspection of Amusement Rides and Devices in Canada, be adopted as the safety code for regulated amusement rides and devices, instead the CSA Z267 code which is no longer updated.

The ASTM code is more up-to-date and inclusive of current wise practices for the safety of the public. It provides guidance on design, construction, installation, operation, maintenance, and inspection of amusement rides and devices. The design of new rides or devices designed or purchased after the code is adopted would be required to comply with ASTM F2783.

Proposed regulatory framework

Recognizing the balance between amusement, thrill and safety, Technical Safety BC is proposing a new regulatory approach that would establish categories of rides and devices based on their level of safety risk.

The following is a high-level summary of the proposed categories and corresponding level of safety oversight.

	REGULATED RIDES	REGULATED DEVICES – CLASS 1	REGULATED DEVICES – CLASS 2
TECHNICAL RISK	High	High or medium	Low
DESCRIPTION	Mechanized amusement rides. E.g., roller coasters, fairground rides	Technical systems. E.g., Waterslides, ziplines, trampoline courts	Technical systems. E.g., Inflatable devices, such as bouncy castles, and obstacle courses
REGULATORY SAFETY OVERSIGHT APPROACH	Significant to moderate	Significant to moderate	Moderate to low
EXISTING REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS	• <u>Contractor licence</u> • <u>Design registration</u> • <u>Installation permit</u> • <u>Operating permit</u>		
PROPOSED ADDITIONAL REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS			
SAFETY MANAGEMENT PLAN	Comprehensive	General	Basic
QUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL	Yes		

	REGULATED RIDES	REGULATED DEVICES – CLASS 1	REGULATED DEVICES – CLASS 2
MIN. LIABILITY INSURANCE	\$2 million		
ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR INCIDENT REPORTING	Yes		

Here is the proposed regulatory framework, which includes existing and proposed additional regulatory requirements.

Certificate of Qualification (New)

Technical Safety BC is proposing a requirement that all operators of amusement rides and devices name a Qualified Individual as part of their license application and renewal process. Qualified Individuals would be certified and need to:

- Be knowledgeable about the *Safety Standards Act* and regulations, the safety code for amusement rides and devices, and risk assessment and mitigation of the operations they oversee.
- Following a physical inspection, declare that the applicable amusement rides and devices are compliant with the Act, regulations, and code.
- Ensure that the Safety Management Plan is developed and implemented appropriately.
- Take any required training and pass any required exams, as determined by the safety manager.

Technical Safety BC is proposing that training and knowledge development opportunities be provided for these qualified individuals to help establish a minimum standard of knowledge across the industry.

	REGULATED RIDES	REGULATED DEVICES – CLASS 1	REGULATED DEVICES – CLASS 2
SAFETY OVERSIGHT KNOWLEDGE	Comprehensive	General	Basic
TRAINING REQUIRED	Comprehensive	General	Basic

Safety Management Plan (New)

Technical Safety BC is proposing an additional requirement that all regulated amusement ride and device operators would be required to prepare a Safety Management Plan and submit it to Technical Safety BC for review. When guided by safety codes and regulations, Safety Management Plans are comprehensive and responsive to the risks associated with amusement rides or devices, promoting a higher level of safety than only a safety code. They would need to include:

- Manufacturer’s operating instructions and the operator’s instructions;
- Details of the training program for operators and employees;
- Emergency procedures; and
- An operational and patron use risk assessment, including risks for vulnerable populations, and details of how those risks will be managed by employees and the operator.

	REGULATED RIDES	REGULATED DEVICES – CLASS 1	REGULATED DEVICES – CLASS 2
RISK ANALYSIS	Comprehensive	General	Basic
CODE REQUIREMENT	Include operational, training, and maintenance requirements as described in ASTM F2783/F770		
ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS	• Identify all workers who will perform regulated work • Include a regulatory compliance plan • Include a corporate organizational structure		

Licence

The proposed changes to the current licensing requirement for amusement rides and devices include the name of the qualified individual on the licence application, proof of \$2 million liability insurance, and the submission of a Safety Management Plan.

red = new

	REGULATED RIDES	REGULATED DEVICES – CLASS 1	REGULATED DEVICES – CLASS 2
CONTRACTOR LICENCE	Annual contractor licence Safety Management Plan		
QUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL	Qualified individual named on the contractor licence		
INSURANCE	Proof of \$2 million liability insurance Annual contractor licence		

Design registration

The proposed changes to the current design registration requirement for amusement rides and devices include varying levels of design registration dependent on the amusement ride or device category.

red = new

	REGULATED RIDES	REGULATED DEVICES – CLASS 1	REGULATED DEVICES – CLASS 2
SUBMISSSION PACKAGE	<u>Design Registration Technical Information Package</u>	<u>Design Registration Technical Information Package</u>	<u>Design Registration Technical Information Package</u> Declaration checklist
REVIEW	Engineering review	Engineering review	Completeness check

Installation

Technical Safety BC is proposing a pre-inspection declaration to occur for all rides and devices and a simplified review of installation permits for low-risk devices.

red = new

	REGULATED RIDES	REGULATED DEVICES – CLASS 1	REGULATED DEVICES – CLASS 2
ACCEPTANCE INSPECTION	Construction and acceptance inspection-physical	Acceptance inspections-physical	Declaration/ audit-based acceptance assessment
TEST DOCUMENTS	Acceptance test documents		
PERMITS	Installation permit		
DECLARATION	Pre-inspection declaration		

Operation

It is proposed to make a shift from scheduled physical assessments to a risk-based and audit-based model, which will allow our resources to focus on high hazards and high technical risk.

red = new

	REGULATED RIDES	REGULATED DEVICES – CLASS 1	REGULATED DEVICES – CLASS 2
PERMITS	Annual operating permits, with sub-classes (thrill/ family/ children)	Annual operating permits, based on size/ number of features	Annual operating permits with submitted pre-operation declaration
ASSESSMENT	Initial physical assessment - Annually for new inclusion in safety system Risk-based physical assessment and audit thereafter	Initial physical assessment - Annually for new inclusion in safety system Risk-based physical assessment and audit thereafter	New contractors are assessed on their first declaration followed by audit-based assessment
DECLARATION	Annual declaration		

Procedures to address new rides and devices

Technical Safety BC is proposing an approach to address new and novel devices brought into British Columbia that are not accounted for under current regulations. The regulations would outline specific regulatory criteria that a safety manager must consider about the nature, risks, and operations of new and novel amusement rides or devices created or brought into British Columbia in order to determine whether or not they would be regulated. An appeal process on decisions relating to the inclusion or exclusion of a new or novel amusement ride or device is in place, which creates an additional level of fairness.

Have your say

We are seeking feedback from owners and operators of amusement ride and device facilities, as well as members of the public on the proposed amusement ride regulatory changes.

Through conversations with facility owners and operators, we would like to hear about the industry's interests, priorities and challenges when it comes to amusement ride safety. To facilitate these conversations, we are holding webinars, one-on-one meetings and an industry focus group to ensure that stakeholders have the opportunity to share their important perspectives.

We are also interested in hearing feedback from community members, parents, and patrons to understand the public's expectations and desires around amusement device safety in BC. You can do this by visiting our team at the following community events:

- **Alberni District Fall Fair**
Sept 5-8, 2019
Hollywood Street, Port Alberni, Vancouver Island
- **Point Grey Village Fair**
September 14, 2019
West 10th Avenue & Sasamat, Vancouver

More events will be added as they are confirmed.

FAQs

<u>What were the findings from reviewing the current BC regulations for amusement rides and devices?</u>	+
<u>Why propose changes to the existing regulations?</u>	+

<u>How do you determine what category new and existing amusement devices fall under?</u>	+
<u>Do you have a list of the proposed classification of rides and devices?</u>	+
<u>How much will this cost for operators?</u>	+
<u>How do I get up-to-speed with the minimum standard of regulatory knowledge?</u>	+
<u>When would these changes start?</u>	+
<u>How can I stay up-to-date on this proposed regulatory change?</u>	+