

# Information Bulletin

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PST-48

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## THE PROVINCIAL SALES TAX ACT

### RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

This bulletin has been prepared to help you apply and collect the Provincial Sales Tax (PST). It is a general guide and not a substitute for the legislation.

*Changes to this bulletin are indicated by a bar (|) in the left margin.*

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#### **A. RECREATIONAL VEHICLE SALES**

Recreational vehicles include snowmobiles, motorcycles, off-road dirt bikes, all-terrain vehicles (ATVs), boats, personal watercraft and recreational trailers (cabin, tent, fifth wheel and slide-in campers).

New and used recreational vehicles are subject to Provincial Sales Tax (PST) on the total selling price, including charges such as documentation charges, freight, pre-delivery, accessories, undercoating and rust proofing installed by the dealer, and levies imposed by the federal government including the Luxury Tax (if applicable), but not the GST. The tax must be collected on the total selling price after deducting cash discounts and trade-in allowances.

**Note:** The \$300 exemption for used goods does not apply to recreational vehicles. For further information please see Information Bulletin, [PST-58, Used Goods](#).

The customer's invoice must segregate the selling price of the recreational vehicle, the trade-in amount, and the amount of PST collected. The item received on trade is subject to tax upon resale.

Dealers will collect PST on the cash difference under the following conditions:

- The owner paid Saskatchewan tax on the trade-in (vehicles registered out-of-province cannot be accepted for a trade-in credit until the vehicle is registered in Saskatchewan, as required, and the owner pays the tax); or
- The trade-in vehicle qualified for a tax exemption such as settler's effects; and,
- The trade-in is owned by the same registrant purchasing the recreational vehicle as indicated in the commercial transaction.

Trade-ins must be valued in a manner that is consistent with industry standards. The Ministry of Finance reserves the right to establish fair market value in circumstances where the trade-in allowance is viewed as unreasonable for PST purposes.

#### **Calculation of Tax on Recreational Vehicle Sales**

The following examples illustrate the correct method of calculating the tax on recreational vehicle sales:

(1)	Total Selling Price (excluding the GST)	\$20,000
	Less: Trade-in	<u>3,000</u>
	Cash Difference	\$17,000
	Tax at 6%	\$ 1020
(2)	Total Selling Price (excluding the GST)	\$20,000
	Less: 10% Cash Discount	<u>2,000</u>
		\$18,000
	Less: Trade-in	<u>3,000</u>
	Cash Difference	\$15,000
	Tax at 6%	\$ 900

Where the purchaser is a GST registrant and GST is included in the trade-in allowance, the GST must be deducted from the trade-in allowance before calculating the PST. GST registrants are required to show a trade-in as a sale. To accommodate this requirement, dealers must complete two invoices (one showing the sale of the new vehicle and one showing the purchase of the trade-in). In order to qualify for the trade-in allowance, the dealer invoice should include the notation "trade-in by GST registrant". Both invoices must show the same date and have the GST registrants number recorded for cross reference purposes. The PST is then calculated by the dealer on the cash difference as shown in the following example.

(3)	Total Selling Price (excluding the GST)		\$20,000
	Less: Trade in:		
	Trade-in Allowance (GST registrant)	\$3,000	
	GST (5/105 x \$3,000)	<u>143</u>	
	Trade-in Value		<u>\$ 2,857</u>
	Cash Difference		\$17,143
	Tax at 6%		\$ 1,028.58

**If the trade-in allowance exceeds the selling price of the recreational vehicle being sold, no tax is payable, and a tax refund is not allowed.**

#### **Manufacturers' Cash Bonuses and Rebates**

The tax must be calculated on the selling price of a recreational vehicle before the deduction of a manufacturer's cash bonus or rebate which is offered as an incentive to a recreational vehicle purchaser. This type of rebate is viewed as part of the consideration paid by the customer for the vehicle.

Manufacturer's cash bonus or rebate amounts offered by the manufacturer to the dealer (i.e. dealer incentives) may be used by the dealer to reduce the selling price of a vehicle to the customer, therefore PST applies after the deduction of these rebate amounts.

#### **B. DAILY RENTAL AND LEASED RECREATIONAL VEHICLES**

Leasing/rental firms are required to collect tax on the lease/rental charge of new and used recreational vehicles. Recreational vehicles, repair parts, including oil and grease, and repair labour can be purchased tax free providing these items are paid for by the leasing/rental firms.

Leasing/rental firms must provide their PST vendor's licence number to their suppliers in order to purchase these items tax exempt from PST.

#### **Taxable Lease/Rental Charges and Fees**

- Fixed fees, time, and distance charges
- Collision insurance charges
- Damage waiver fees
- Liability insurance fees
- Security deposit charges
- Accessory charges
- Accident deductible charges and loss or damage charges
- Repair parts and repair labour
- Extended warranty charges
- Down payments (see calculation below)
- Finance (interest)
- Levies imposed by the federal government including the Luxury Tax (if applicable), but not the GST

**Exempt Lease/Rental Charges and Fees**

- Individual or group life, health, disability, accident and sickness insurance charges
- Creditor protection insurance charges
- Parking and traffic violation fines and penalties
- Towing and battery boosting charges
- Gasoline charges
- Personal Property Security Agreement (PPSA) fees
- Lease termination charges that are in the nature of a penalty or a settlement for terminating a lease early (termination charges that are applied to lease arrears are subject to tax)

**Calculation of Tax on Leases Involving Trade-Ins and Down Payments**

A tax paid trade-in item accepted as a down payment on a lease or as part payment against future lease payments can be used to reduce the amount of tax payable on leased recreational vehicles. If a down payment is received, the tax must be collected on the down payment amount. The remaining lease value is subject to tax on each lease billing.

The following example illustrates the correct method of calculating the tax:

(a) Total Price (excluding the GST)	\$20,000
Less: Trade-in	<u>8,000</u>
Lease value subject to tax	\$12,000
Down payment	<u>1,000</u>
*Balance of lease	\$11,000
Tax payable at 6% on down payment of \$1,000	\$ 60
*Balance of lease is subject to tax	
(b) Total Price (excluding the GST)	\$20,000
Less: Trade-in	<u>8,000</u>
Lease value subject to tax	\$12,000
Plus: Lien Amount	<u>5,000</u>
**Balance of lease	\$17,000

\*\*The lien amount (loan amount) added to the lease is not subject to PST providing the lease document shows the lease payment separate from the payment applicable to the loan amount.

All new and used recreational vehicles sold upon termination of a lease/rental are subject to tax on the total selling price (excluding the GST) after the deduction of a trade-in. If a recreational vehicle is sold to another dealer for resale, the purchaser's PST vendor's licence number must be recorded on the sales invoice.

**C. WARRANTIES AND INSURANCE CONTRACTS**

When applying PST to a recreational vehicle service contract it is important to distinguish a warranty contract from an insurance contract.

(1) Manufacturers' Extended Warranty Contracts

PST applies to the selling price of optional manufacturer's extended warranty contracts as well as the deductible charges related to that contract. This applies to contracts for **new and used** recreational vehicles and contracts sold subsequent to the purchase or lease of the vehicle. Charges to transfer an existing contract to another owner are also subject to tax.

Since tax applies to the sale of the warranty, no tax will apply to parts and labour used to repair a recreational vehicle, when those repairs are completed under the terms of the extended warranty or factory warranty.

Tax will apply to any of the charges that are billed directly to the customer including deductible charges and charges for parts or labour that are not covered under the terms of the warranty contract.

(2) Equipment Warranty Insurance Contracts

Equipment Warranty Insurance Contracts (such as Mechanical Breakdown Insurance) are different than a Manufacturer's Extended Warranty. Equipment Warranty Insurance Contracts are underwritten by an insurance company and the dealer selling these contracts must be licensed with the Insurance Councils of Saskatchewan.

Dealers selling Equipment Warranty Insurance Contracts for new and used recreational vehicles are required to collect PST on the sale of these contracts. Repair services provided under the insurance contract are also subject to tax regardless of who is billed for the services.

**D. RECREATIONAL VEHICLES PURCHASED OR LEASED BY STATUS INDIANS OR INDIAN BANDS**

The sale or lease of recreational vehicles to Status Indians, Indian bands, or non-commercial band-empowered entities is exempt from PST providing the transaction is finalized on reserve and the vehicle is delivered to a reserve by the vendor or a third-party carrier arranged by the vendor. The exemption applies whether or not the customer resides on reserve.

To qualify for the exemption, an individual must present their *Certificate of Indian Status* card and the vendor must record the complete 10-digit card number on the sales invoice. For an Indian band or non-commercial band-empowered entity, the band number and band name must be recorded on the sales invoice. A band-empowered entity must also certify the purchase is for non-commercial band-management activities. **The vendor must retain documentation to support the exemption, including proof of delivery to the reserve such as a waybill, freight bill or postal receipt.**

An [Exempt Motor Vehicle Sales Certificate](#) must also be completed to support the exemption on sales and leases to Status Indians. In lieu of completing *the Exempt Motor Vehicle Sales Certificate*, the vendor may print, type, write or apply by rubber stamp on the sales invoice supporting the sale, the following information:

**Status Indian and Indian Band Exempt Motor Vehicle Sales Certificate**

I acknowledge that the above described recreational vehicle was purchased/leased by \_\_\_\_\_, on the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_ 20\_\_\_\_. The transaction was finalized and delivery was taken on reserve number \_\_\_\_\_, location \_\_\_\_\_, and is for my own use or for approved band management activities. I have provided a copy of my *Certificate of Indian Status* card or band number to the dealer.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Purchaser  
or Authorized Representative

If the purchaser takes possession off-reserve, tax must be collected in all cases. If the transaction is finalized off-reserve, PST applies. If the purchaser arranges for their own delivery from a location off-reserve, possession takes place off-reserve, and the exemption does not apply.

Repair parts and labour purchased off-reserve are subject to tax.

A joint purchase by a Status Indian and non-status individual is subject to tax.

No exemption is provided where the purchase is made by, or on behalf of, an Indian corporation. However, an exemption is available to non-commercial band-empowered entities and corporations that act as the general partner on behalf of certain fully Indian-owned Limited Partnerships.

Please see Information Bulletin [PST-63, Sales to First Nations Individuals and Organizations](#) for additional information.

**E. RECREATIONAL VEHICLE EXEMPTIONS**

Sales and leases of the following nature are not subject to tax:

- Dealers purchasing for resale provided that the dealer's PST licence number and Motor Dealer licence number are recorded on the sales invoice (**Note:** Out-of-province dealers must provide their dealer licence number or equivalent documentation to purchase vehicles exempt of tax for resale).
- Federal government departments and agencies (**Note:** Sales to federal government crown corporations and provincial government ministries, agencies and crown corporations are taxable).
- Leasing companies (the purchaser's PST licence number must be recorded on the sales invoice).
- Status Indians or Indian bands, where the sale is finalized on reserve, the vehicle is delivered to the reserve by the dealer, and the *Certificate of Indian Status Card* or band number is recorded on the invoice (Please see [Section D](#) for detailed information).

- Non-residents, upon completion of an [Exempt Motor Vehicle Sales Certificate](#) (see below). A resident of Saskatchewan who intends to establish a residence outside the province must pay the tax at the time of purchase. However, if the recreational vehicle is permanently removed from Saskatchewan within 30 days of the date of purchase, a refund of the tax is available providing proof of non-residency is submitted. The following recreational vehicles may be purchased by a non-resident exempt from tax upon completion of an *Exempt Motor Vehicle Sales Certificate*:
  - Recreational trailers, including cabin, tent and fifth wheels;
  - Snowmobiles;
  - Motorcycles;
  - All terrain recreational vehicles (ATVs); and,
  - Personal watercraft, boats and motors with a trailer.

**Note:** In lieu of completing the [Exempt Motor Vehicle Sales Certificate](#), the vendor may print, type, write or apply by rubber stamp on the sales invoice supporting the sale, the following information for the non-resident.

**Non-Resident**

I acknowledge that the above described recreational vehicle was purchased by me on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_\_\_. This recreational vehicle will be removed from Saskatchewan within 30 days and will be licensed for use outside Saskatchewan. I have provided copies of my out of province recreational vehicle registration or permit and driver's license to the dealer.

\_\_\_\_\_

Date

\_\_\_\_\_

Purchaser's Signature

**Note:** Boats, motors and personal watercraft sold without a trailer to non-residents are subject to tax. An *Exempt Motor Vehicle Sales Certificate* cannot be used to sell dirt bikes, truck toppers and slide-in campers tax free. These items can only be sold exempt from tax if the goods are shipped or delivered out of province by the dealer (evidence of shipment must be retained).

Non-residents, who accept delivery of these recreational vehicles in Saskatchewan, may apply for a refund of the tax providing the recreational vehicle is registered or the tax is paid to their home jurisdiction. Documentation must be submitted with the refund request.

**F. REPAIR PARTS, REPAIR LABOUR AND SERVICE LABOUR**

Repair and service labour are taxable. This includes charges such as installation, assembly, dismantling, adjusting, restoring, examining, testing, reconditioning, wheel alignments, wheel balancing, tire repairs, lubrication, inspections, battery charging and diagnostic charges.

Mandatory safety inspections as required by Saskatchewan Government Insurance (SGI) are exempt.

New repair parts, including manufactured and repair labour, are subject to tax. On the sale of used parts to individuals, tax applies to the selling price of the goods less a deduction of \$300 per item. (The \$300 deduction does not apply to sales of items for commercial use).

On the sale to individuals of used parts with a core value in excess of \$300, the greater of \$300 or the core charge may be deducted, but not both.

Reconditioned or remanufactured goods, such as motors, transmissions, alternators, brake shoes, fuel pumps, water pumps and retreaded tires, are subject to tax on the total selling price. If an exchange unit is traded in, the tax is calculated on the total selling price after the deduction of the value of the exchange unit. A refund is permitted on core credits.

Dealers are **not** required to pay the tax on parts or repair labour used to repair recreational vehicles which are in their inventory for resale purposes, or for daily rental and leased recreational vehicles. Tax will be charged on the full charge to the customer, excluding the GST.

## **G. SHOP SUPPLIES**

Charges to the customer for shop supplies are subject to PST. This includes charges invoiced to the customer as a fixed percentage of the total labour charge to cover the shop supplies used.

If these charges are shown as a separate line item on the invoice to the customer, the repair shop is required to collect the PST on the charge and may purchase these items exempt from tax by quoting their vendor's licence number to their suppliers.

If the shop supplies are not invoiced as a separate line item to the customer, the repair shop is required to pay PST on the purchase of these goods.

Shop supplies include the following:

- Abrasive stones and discs
- Acid core solder and bits
- Adhesive sealant
- Bearing grease
- Bench lubricant
- Brass rods
- Carburetor solvent
- Chassis grease
- Choke cleaner
- Door ease
- Electric rods
- Electrical tape
- Fibreglass
- Gasket material
- Gasket sealer compound
- Glue
- Lubriplate paste
- Masking paper
- Mechanical wire
- Minor hardware (nuts, bolts, washers)
- Parts cleaning solvent
- Permatex compound
- Protective material
- Resin
- Sandpaper
- Silicone spray
- Solder
- Steel wool
- Steel rods
- Undercoat
- Upholstery cleaner
- Window weld
- Wiping rags



#### H. **ENVIRONMENTAL HANDLING FEES**

Environmental handling fees imposed by the Government of Saskatchewan are **not subject to PST when they are segregated on the customer's invoice.**

Exempt environmental handling fees include charges billed to a customer for disposal of oil, oil filters, antifreeze, diesel exhaust fluid containers, diesel fuel filters and tires.

See Information Notice [IN 2023-05, \*Disposal and Environmental Fees\*](#) for more information.

#### I. **GOODS AND SERVICES FOR YOUR OWN USE**

Businesses are required to pay tax on purchases of new and used equipment, supplies and taxable services purchased for use in their business operations. Tax is payable as follows:

- When purchased from a licensed supplier, the tax must be paid to the supplier at the time of purchase.
- When purchased from a supplier who did not collect the tax, or when taken from an exempt resale inventory, the tax must be self-assessed and remitted with the regular tax return. This includes goods taken for personal or business use.
- When purchased from an unlicensed supplier located outside Saskatchewan, the tax must be self-assessed and remitted with the regular tax return on the laid-down cost, which includes currency exchange, transportation charges, customs and excise duties and importation charges, but not the GST.

#### J. **SALES OF USED BUSINESS ASSETS**

Businesses are required to collect tax on the sale of used assets, such as taxable vehicles and equipment. When used assets are being sold as part of the closure of a business, the purchaser is required to self-assess and report the tax.

When individuals purchase used goods for personal use, other than vehicles, tax applies to the selling price of the goods less a deduction of \$300 per item. If a trade-in is involved, the purchaser is entitled to a deduction of \$300 or the value of the trade-in, whichever is greater. If the goods are for commercial use, the \$300 deduction does not apply.

For further information please see Information Bulletin, [PST-58, \*Used Goods\*](#).

#### K. **TAX TIPS LINE**

When a business or individual does not comply with provincial tax legislation, businesses face unfair competition and a burden is placed on all taxpayers who do comply. It causes significant loss in the revenue available to fund services such as health, education and other important government programs.

Tax Tips Line provides an anonymous, fully confidential way for the public to report businesses or individuals who are participating in tax fraud. If you suspect that a business or individual is being dishonest with their provincial taxes or is misrepresenting their activities to reduce their taxes, you can report them using Tax Tips Line.

Please visit our website at [saskatchewan.ca/business/taxes-licensing-and-reporting/provincial-taxes-policies-and-bulletins/tax-tips-line](http://saskatchewan.ca/business/taxes-licensing-and-reporting/provincial-taxes-policies-and-bulletins/tax-tips-line) to find out more regarding types of tax fraud and the information to report, if possible.

Tax Tips Line is specifically and solely for information related to provincial tax compliance. Any unrelated inquiries or information will not be addressed by the Tax Tips Line, and should be directed to the appropriate organization.

How to Report:

- 1) Toll-free 1-833-334-8477
- 2) Write: Ministry of Finance  
Revenue Division  
PO Box 200  
REGINA SK S4P 2Z6
- 3) [Online Form Submission](#)

#### L. **SASKATCHEWAN eTAX SERVICES (SETS)**

Finance has made it possible to report and remit tax electronically through a secure, fast, easy and convenient online self-service portal. Several services are currently available to businesses through SETS ([sets.saskatchewan.ca](http://sets.saskatchewan.ca)):

- Register for secure, self-managed access to all your tax accounts.
- Apply for a new tax account.
- File and pay returns and amend previously filed returns.
- Make payments on account, including post-dated payments.
- View account balance and statement information.
- Authorize employees or accountants to file on your behalf.
- Receive notifications by email when a tax return should be filed. This replaces the paper forms usually sent in the mail.
- Submit a service request to update the mailing address or add a new business location.
- Submit a service request to receive tax information, interpretations or rulings related to your specific business activities.
- View and download up-to-date tax information promptly.
- Subscribe to receive email notifications when new and revised tax publications are available.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION**

Write: Ministry of Finance  
Revenue Division  
PO Box 200  
REGINA SK S4P 2Z6

Telephone: Toll Free 1-800-667-6102  
Regina 306-787-6645

Email: [sasktaxinfo@gov.sk.ca](mailto:sasktaxinfo@gov.sk.ca)

Internet: Tax bulletins, forms and information are available at [saskatchewan.ca/business-taxes](http://saskatchewan.ca/business-taxes).

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Government website: [Saskatchewan.ca](http://Saskatchewan.ca)