Driving in snow

Snow can make driving on even the simplest road unpredictable and possibly dangerous. You can’t predict how your work vehicle – or other vehicles – will react once it snows.

A few facts:
• Hard-packed snow on a road can be as slippery as ice.
• Snow can be rutted and full of hard tracks and snow ‘gullies’ that can throw your vehicle off track.
• Wet snow can make for slushy roads. Heavy slush can build up in the wheel wells and affect your ability to steer.
• Slush and spray from other vehicles can cause sudden loss of visibility.

Follow the general rules of driving in snow:
• Before you head out, check road conditions on the radio or visit DriveBC.ca.
• Stick to well-travelled routes. Avoid roads that may become dangerous.
• Sweep snow and ice from all parts of your vehicle – windows, mirrors, lights, wheel wells, and your hood. Wait until all windows are fully defrosted before pulling away.
• While driving, be prepared for sudden slush or spray from other vehicles. A smart way to prepare is to reduce your speed; keep your eyes on the road and your hands on the wheel.
• Give yourself lots of distance between you and the vehicle in front – at least four seconds.
• When you approach an intersection, really slow down. Just a few inches of packed snow can make stopping a challenge. You want to avoid collisions with OTHER vehicles that might be sliding through the area.
• Be careful when approaching maintenance vehicles such as snowplows, salt or sand trucks. They often spray snow making it tough to see.
• If you’re stuck or stranded, follow the company’s procedures. Stay with your vehicle for safety and warmth. If you have a cellphone, call for roadside assistance. In an emergency call 911.

Know before you go.
Before heading out:
• Visit DriveBC.ca for current road conditions.
• Visit ShiftIntoWinter.ca for tips on ways to prepare yourself, your vehicle, and how to drive safely on winter roads.

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Address: ________________________________________

Employer: ______________________________________
Supervisor: ______________________________________

Date: __________________________________________
Time: ___________________ Shift: _______________________

Number on Shift: ________________________________
Number Attending: ____________________________________

Other safety issues or suggestions made by attendees:
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Record of those attending:

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Manager's remarks:
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Manager: _______________________________________ Supervisor: _______________________
  (signature)                                      (signature)