

**From:** Sam Walker-Kierluk [sam@albertafrancemotollicence.info](mailto:sam@albertafrancemotollicence.info)  
**Subject:** Alberta-France Exchange of "Permis de Conduire" for Motorcycles!  
**Date:** July 7, 2017 at 6:16 PM  
**To:** [accueilfrancais@consulfrance-vancouver.org](mailto:accueilfrancais@consulfrance-vancouver.org)  
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SW

Hello M. Frédéric LARCHER and/or M. Olivier DELLAPINA,

*I apologise if you do not normally deal with the matters addressed in this message, but I am not certain to whom I should send it. If there is a more appropriate email address, I would greatly appreciate if you could either forward this message or provide me with the address.*

I am a French and Canadian citizen, raised in Canada and currently living in Alberta. I have recently been interviewed for a position at a French business, and may be moving to Paris quite soon. What a great chance to learn the language, which I did not learn as a child!

I have already been planning to move to France for a while, but there is an administrative concern that I discovered months ago: although France and Alberta have signed a reciprocal agreement regarding the exchange of driving licences, it applies only to Class B permits for automobiles (Class 5 licences in Alberta), without including Class A permits for motorcycles (Class 6 licences in Alberta).

Having done some investigating, I've discovered the [list of countries with which France exchanges driving licences](#) (link to PDF document on [diplomatie.gouv.fr](http://diplomatie.gouv.fr)). As you can see on that list, France accepts licences from more than 120 jurisdictions (not including the European Union and European Economic Area), including both well-developed countries as well as third-world developing countries, and almost all of these agreements include motorcycle licences. However, motorcycle licences are not often exchanged with Canadian provinces; that list mentions only New Brunswick for motorcycle licence exchanges, although the authorities of British Columbia and Newfoundland and Labrador have indicated to me that their exchange agreements with France include motorcycle licences.

Because France exchanges motorcycle licences with virtually all authorities outside of North America, and that the majority of the exchange agreements with states in the US include motorcycle licences, I would like to know the consulate's position on modifying the licence exchange agreement with Alberta to include motorcycle licences. Many of the US states with which France exchanges motorcycle licences have licensing standards that are either equivalent to or less restrictive than Alberta's, so it is obviously possible to exchange such licences with France. Alberta's exchange agreements with Switzerland and Northern Ireland, with similar progressive licensing schemes to the licences in France, do include motorcycle licences.

In addition to having sent a letter in February to the Embassy of France in Ottawa, to which I received no response, I have been in contact with Alberta Transportation for several months about this issue, as early as December 2016, and only received responses that made little sense or were dismissive. Because of this lack of action from the Alberta government, I actually started a website, [AlbertaFranceMotoLicence.info](http://AlbertaFranceMotoLicence.info), that compiles all information about the licence exchange agreements of both France and Alberta. This web site also includes all correspondence I have had with authorities of Alberta and France, as well as a copy of the current agreement signed by Alberta Transportation and the Consulate General of France in 2008. Amazingly, I have actually been contacted by another French citizen in Alberta who discovered my website, and is equally frustrated by the exclusion of motorcycle licences from the exchange agreement.

However, after sending a letter detailing my concerns to the office of Alberta's Minister of Transportation, I received a response on June 21 indicating that Alberta Transportation is open to the possibility of renegotiating the licence exchange agreement to include motorcycle licences, and that **Alberta Transportation has reached out to the Consulate General of France, but has yet to receive a reply**. As a French citizen who will be directly affected by the outcome of this correspondence, due to an imminent relocation to France, I would greatly appreciate if the consulate would engage with Alberta Transportation to examine the modification of the exchange agreement to include motorcycle licences, a policy that seems to be common practice with France in relation to most other jurisdictions in the world.

Your feedback on this issue would be greatly appreciated. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions whatsoever.

Kindest regards,

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