

# All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV)<sup>1</sup> Legislation Chart

## CANADA

### Provincial and Territorial ATV Legislation<sup>2, 3</sup>

Province/Territory	Minimum Operating Age, Location for Use, Supervision	Mandatory Driver Safety Training	Mandatory Helmet Use
<b>British Columbia</b> Motor Vehicle (All Terrain) Act, Chapter 319 (MVAT)	No provincial legislation for recreational use of an All-Terrain Vehicle.  (MVAT): ATVs for farming or industrial use must be registered. Children under 16 cannot register an ATV.	✘	✘
<b>Alberta</b> Traffic Safety Act – Off-Highway Vehicle Regulation (TSA-OHVR) Traffic Safety Act – Part 6 (TSA)	(TSA-OHVR) & (TSA): Children under 14 years cannot operate an ATV on a highway.  Children under 14 years cannot operate an ATV on public property unless they are supervised by an adult who is 18 years of age or older and who occupies the passenger seat of the ATV or is following in close proximity to the ATV.	✘	✘
<b>Saskatchewan</b> All Terrain Vehicles Act (ATVA) Traffic Safety Act (TSA)	(ATVA) & (TSA): Children under 16 years can operate an ATV on land owned by an immediate family member.  Children ages 12-15 years can operate an ATV on public or private property provided they have passed and approved ATV training course, are accompanied on the ATV or are supervised by an adult who has held continuously for the immediately preceding 365 days a permit to operate an ATV or have passed an approved safety training course.  Children ages 12-15 years can operate an ATV on an untravelled portion of the highway or for the purposes of crossing a highway at the shortest route available.  Must have permission to operate an ATV on private land.	✘	✓  (Does not apply when operating on land owned by an immediate family member)

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2 Municipal Authorities may enact by-laws regulating the use of ATVs within their jurisdictions. Please consult to your local municipality for any related ATV by-laws.

3 For information purposes only. Please consult local authorities for further interpretation and current status.

Province/Territory	Minimum Operating Age, Location for Use, Supervision	Mandatory Driver Safety Training	Mandatory Helmet Use
<p><b>Manitoba</b> Off-Road Vehicles Act (ORVA)</p>	<p>(ORVA): Children under 14 years can operate an ATV provided they are supervised by a parent or an adult who is at least the age of 18 years (and authorized by the parent) and is in clear view of the ATV during operation.</p>	<p>✘</p>	<p>✓ (Does not apply when operating an ATV for the purpose of farming, commercial fishing, hunting or trapping)</p>
<p><b>Ontario</b> Off-Road Vehicle Act (ORV) Highway Traffic Act (HTA)</p>	<p>(ORV): Children under 12 years cannot operate an ATV unless they are operating the ATV on land owned by the vehicle's owner or are closely supervised by an adult.  (HTA): Minimum operating age of 16 years for ATV use on roads or crossing roads.</p>	<p>✘</p>	<p>✓ (Does not apply when operating an ATV on land occupied by the ATV owner)</p>
<p><b>Quebec</b> An Act respecting Off-Highway Vehicles (OHVA)</p>	<p>(OHVA): Minimum driver age of 16 years for adult sized ATVs.  Children under 16 years can operate youth sized ATVs as approved by regulation.  Children under the 16 years may operate an ATV on competition circuits as approved by regulation under the Minister of Education, Recreation and Sport.</p>	<p>✓ (ages 16-17 only – must have certificate of competency)</p>	<p>✓</p>
<p><b>New Brunswick</b> Off-Road Vehicle Act (ORVA)</p>	<p>(ORVA): Children under 14 years can operate an ATV provided they are supervised by an adult who is 19 years of age or older.  Children under 16 must complete an approved safety training course to operate an ATV.</p>	<p>✓ (&lt; 16 years old)</p>	<p>✓</p>
<p><b>Nova Scotia</b> Off-Highway Vehicles Act, Chapter 323 (OHVA)</p>	<p>(OHVA): Minimum driver age of 14 years.  Children 14-15 require direct parental/guardian supervision to operate ATVs and both child and parent/guardian need to complete an approved safety training course.  Children under 14 can operate an ATV in a closed course provided they are supervised by an adult, have completed an approved safety training course, are wearing protective equipment, are operating an ATV that is fit for their age, size and capability and a trained official and trained first respondent are present.</p>	<p>✓</p>	<p>✓</p>

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<p><b>Prince Edward Island</b> Off-Highway Vehicles Act – General Regulations (OHVA)</p>	<p>(OHVA): Minimum driver age of 14 years.</p> <p>To operate an ATV, children ages 14-15 years must have completed an approved safety training course and be directly supervised by an adult who either holds a valid driver's license for at least 24 months prior to supervising or has completed an approved safety training course.</p> <p>Persons over the age of 16 years must have a valid driver's license for at least 2 years or have completed an approved safety training course to operate an ATV.</p>	<p>✓ (ages 14 + or have valid driver's license for 2 years)</p>	<p>✓</p>
<p><b>Newfoundland and Labrador</b> Motorized Snow Vehicles and All-Terrain Vehicles Act – Regulation (MSVATVA)</p>	<p>(MSVATVA): Minimum driver age of 14 years.</p> <p>Children under 16 years cannot operate a full-size ATV.</p> <p>Children 14-15 years can operate a 90 cc or less (youth sized) ATV provided they are supervised* by an adult who is 19 years of age or older.</p> <p>*Supervision must consist of visual and voice communication with the operator.</p>	<p>✗</p>	<p>✓</p>
<p><b>Yukon</b></p>	<p>No provincial legislation regarding the operation of All-Terrain Vehicles (ATVs)</p>		
<p><b>Northwest Territories</b> All-Terrain Vehicles Act (ATVA)</p>	<p>(ATVA): Minimum driver age of 14 years to drive on highway.</p>	<p>✗</p>	<p>✓</p>
<p><b>Nunavut</b> All-Terrain Vehicles Act (ATVA)</p>	<p>(ATVA): Minimum driver age of 14 years to drive on highway.</p>	<p>✗</p>	<p>✓</p>

### Provincial Links:

British Columbia <http://www.qp.gov.bc.ca/statreg/default.htm>

Alberta <http://www.qp.gov.ab.ca/index.cfm>

Saskatchewan <http://www.publications.gov.sk.ca/legislation.cfm>

Manitoba [http://web2.gov.mb.ca/laws/statutes/index\\_ccsm.php](http://web2.gov.mb.ca/laws/statutes/index_ccsm.php)

Ontario <http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/index.html>

Quebec [http://www.mtq.gouv.qc.ca/portal/page/portal/grand\\_public\\_en/vehicules\\_hors\\_route/securite/quad](http://www.mtq.gouv.qc.ca/portal/page/portal/grand_public_en/vehicules_hors_route/securite/quad)

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New Brunswick <http://www.gnb.ca/acts/acts/o-01-5.htm>

Nova Scotia <http://www.gov.ns.ca/natr/ohv/whocanride.asp>

Prince Edward Island <http://www.gov.pe.ca/law/statutes/pdf/o-03.pdf>

Newfoundland and Labrador <http://www.hoa.gov.nl.ca/hoa/statutes/m20.htm>

Yukon <http://www.gov.yk.ca/>

Northwest Territories [http://www.dot.gov.nt.ca/\\_live/pages/wpPages/Legislation\\_and\\_Regulations.aspx](http://www.dot.gov.nt.ca/_live/pages/wpPages/Legislation_and_Regulations.aspx)

Nunavut <http://www.justice.gov.nu.ca/apps/authoring/dspPage.aspx?page=CURRENT+CONSOLIDATIONS+OF+ACTS+AND+REGULATIONS&letter=A>

**Other Links:**

Safe Kids Canada [www.safekidscanada.ca](http://www.safekidscanada.ca)

Canadian Paediatric Society, "Are We Doing Enough: A Status Report on Canadian Public Policy and Child and Youth Health." 2007 Edition.

<http://www.voicesforchildren.ca/documents/CPSreport.pdf>

Insurance Corporation of British Columbia (ICBC) [http://www.icbc.com/registration/reg\\_spec\\_veh\\_offroad.asp](http://www.icbc.com/registration/reg_spec_veh_offroad.asp)

Saskatchewan Government Insurance (SGI) [http://www.sgi.sk.ca/sgi\\_pub/drivers\\_licences/classifications/endorsement\\_6.htm](http://www.sgi.sk.ca/sgi_pub/drivers_licences/classifications/endorsement_6.htm)

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