

I would like to provide my comments on the "accessible transportation discussion paper" for consideration in the development of any new regulatory frameworks.

My comments relate to the accommodation of individuals with severe food allergies.

1. Individuals with severe food allergies should be accommodated on any mode of transportation covered by the regulations through documented procedures with the goal of reducing the risk of exposure to the individual's allergens. The procedure should acknowledge that the individual is also responsible for protecting themselves by carrying epinephrine and wiping down eating surfaces etc.
2. Transportation providers should make the procedures to accommodate readily available to passengers via their websites and staff should be trained to a) be aware of such procedures existence and b) direct inquiring passengers who may need additional information or want to know more.
3. All staff should be trained in the use of an epinephrine auto injector and should be trained to understand the sign and symptoms of anaphylaxis. A procedure should be created and followed on what to do if an allergic reaction occurs on board.
4. All staff working in all facets of the transportation services should receive education, that is updated at regular intervals, on Canada's priority allergens, the percentage of the population that suffers from food allergy, precautions that allergic individuals typically take, anaphylaxis 101 etc. Cleaning staff should also be included as they could be taught to better understand the potential threats lurking and how better to clean tables, chairs, benches etc.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback. I look forward to hearing how my comments were considered.

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