

To: RSA Insurance Brokers

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## **RSA provides safety tips in advance of storm warnings**

### *Travel with a vehicle emergency kit in anticipation of extreme weather*

Environment Canada has issued a storm watch across areas of Ontario for today and tomorrow. In anticipation of this, RSA, in support of our brokers, is proactively reminding Canadians, through media outreach, to stay safe while driving through and to ensure they have taken proper precautions within their homes as well.

Below is a list of tips that we encourage you to share with your customers ahead of the storm activity:

- Use extreme caution when travelling in your vehicle.
- If you become stuck in your vehicle due to dangerous weather conditions, remain inside and provide a signal to rescuers such as placing a brightly visible cloth in a window where it will be visible.
- Start the car once an hour and leave it running for 10 minutes. Keep the exhaust pipe clean so that fumes can escape

It's extremely essential to have an emergency travel kit ready in your vehicle at all times, in the event of extreme weather. Kit contents should include:

- Blanket
- Flashlight and batteries
- Fully-charged cell phone
- Extra clothing – includes hats, gloves and boots
- First aid kit
- Map or GPS
- Bottled water
- Ice scraper and/or snow brush
- Flares
- Extra windshield washer fluid
- Battery booster cables
- Bag of sand or salt
- Shovel
- Candy or chocolate bar for energy
- Paper towels
- Matches

An emergency kit should also be kept inside the home as well in the event of power outages and should include:

- Bottled water
- Flashlights/battery powered lantern
- Fully charged cell phone
- Non-perishable food items
- Essential medications
- Essential items for babies or elderly people with special needs

By keeping abreast of weather conditions and having the right items on hand, your customers will be better prepared for severe weather activity.