

## **AWARENESS**

### **Motorcycle Awareness!**

Have you noticed? Two wheelers are popping up everywhere! A lot of you love to ride your bikes when the weather warms up, so you know what it's like to have to watch the vehicles around you to make sure they see you. As truck drivers, we are trained to be aware of the vehicles around us, so that we don't end up hitting them in a panic situation. As a bike rider, it's a life and death situation for the biker... very rarely does the motorcycle win in a collision with another vehicle! This Spring, especially be aware of the traffic around you during those lovely Spring showers when it's hard to see in your mirrors because of the road spray... and be aware that there just might be a motorcycle coming up beside you in that spray! Keeping the mirror heat on during the rain will keep your mirrors clear, too, so you only have the spray to look through and not the raindrops on your mirror!

### **Is Winter Over?**

Keep an eye on the temperature, especially at night! Yes, I know Spring is here, but sometimes Winter just can't quite give it up! You will, most likely, be in another snowstorm before warmer weather is here to stay. And, with the closure of the Renton terminal, we will be going to places we haven't been going to very much (way up North, for instance!) and we may have to deal with the possibility of ice and snow year round. Just be aware of you surroundings!

### **How's Your Footing?**

Do you know where your next step is going to be? Recently, we had a training session on this very subject. Let me revisit it here. Be aware of your footing! If your undecking area is muddy, be extra careful walking around, and let your Safety Man know about it! You should not have to undeck in an area that has unsafe footing! Also, as brought out in the previous point, you may still have to deal with ice when you get out of the truck, especially in the night and early morning.