

The Amendment

2(1) of the Motor Vehicle Safety Regulations (Canada) and that is:

11. How did the Ministry of Transportation come up with the definition of "a power-assisted bicycle"?

Ontario adopted the definition contained in s. 2(1) of the Motor Vehicle Safety Regulations (Canada) and that is:

"power-assisted bicycle", means a vehicle that:

- a. has steering handlebars and is equipped with pedals,
- b. is designed to travel on not more than three wheels in contact with the ground,
- c. is capable of being propelled by muscular power,
- d. has one or more electric motors that have, singly or in combination, the following characteristics:
 - i. it has a total continuous power output rating, measured at the shaft of each motor, of 500 W or less,
 - ii. if it is engaged by the use of muscular power, power assistance immediately ceases when the muscular power ceases,
 - iii. if it is engaged by the use of an accelerator controller, power assistance immediately ceases when the brakes are applied, and
 - iv. it is incapable of providing further assistance when the bicycle attains a speed of 32 km/h on level ground,
- e. bears a label that is permanently affixed by the manufacturer and appears in a conspicuous location stating, in both official languages, that the vehicle is a power-assisted bicycle as defined in this subsection, and
- f. has one of the following safety features,
 - i. an enabling mechanism to turn the electric motor on and off that is separate from the accelerator controller and fitted in such a manner that it is operable by the driver, or
 - ii. a mechanism that prevents the motor from being engaged before the bicycle attains 3 km/hr