



For immediate release

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**AUTO RECYCLERS SUPPORT CALL FOR ONTARIO VEHICLE SCRAPPAGE PROGRAM
Mandatory provincial licensing of auto recyclers must form part of initiative**

TORONTO – The Ontario Automotive Recyclers Association (OARA) supports efforts to develop a provincial vehicle scrappage program, an idea called for today by Progressive Conservative Members of Provincial Parliament Tim Hudak and Ted Chudleigh, and raised last week by Premier Dalton McGuinty. To ensure all vehicles are retired in an environmentally sound manner, a provincial licensing or accreditation system for auto recyclers must also be developed.

“A provincial vehicle scrappage program, coupled with mandatory provincial licensing or accreditation of auto recyclers, would provide a significant boost to both Ontario’s economy and its environment,” said Steve Fletcher, Executive Director of the Ontario Automotive Recyclers Association. “Increasing responsible recycling of older vehicles stimulates vehicle sales, ensures economic spinoffs, and improves our environmental footprint.”

OARA has been actively involved in the development of a national vehicle scrappage program and the associated code of practice for auto recyclers. One of OARA’s proudest achievements was the development of the Car Heaven program, which provided incentives for people to retire their older vehicles through charitable receipts, new car discounts and other incentives.

“Legitimate auto recyclers purchase end-of-life and accidented vehicles and retire them in an environmentally sound manner, taking into consideration the hazardous fluids and mercury a vehicle contains,” said Fletcher. “Many other scrap dealers or junkyards buy vehicles solely for the scrap metal content without regard to proper environment processing, and often contribute to the underground economy. A provincial licensing or accreditation system would solve these problems.”

Since 1992, OARA has been the voice of the auto recycling industry in Ontario, representing members in every region of the province. Since its inception, OARA has partnered with government and other automotive associations to find solutions to problems around waste oil, CFCs, used tires and wrecked vehicle issues.

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