



## **Motor Dealer Council of BC Ready to Regulate Motor Dealer Industry and Protect Consumers**

April 1, 2004

Burnaby, BC – The Motor Dealer Council of BC (MDC), a new non-profit organization delegated by the Province of BC to administer and enforce the Motor Dealer Act, opened its doors to the public today in Burnaby.

The MDC oversees consumer protection and regulates and licenses approximately 1,700 motor dealers and their sales representatives. As one of the first examples in the province of a “delegated administrative authority”, it represents an alternative administrative structure for the delivery of public service by the provincial government.

“Our vision is to protect the consumer in a developed industry”, said MDC Chair Bob Stewart. “The cooperative nature of our work with the Ministry of Small Business and Economic Development and the retail motor vehicle industry over these past months assures us that the transition is seamless.”

The provincial government maintains responsibility for policy and legislation governing the licensing of motor dealers, including any future changes to the Motor Dealer Act and continuing oversight of the MDC.

The MDC focuses on four areas of service: licensing, compliance, consumer inquiries and complaints and consumer relations and education. Effective today, for the first time in five years, a new dealer licence fee structure aligns size and volume of motor dealership to level of fee. One of the other changes that comes into effect May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2004, is the introduction of a process where licensed motor dealers are required to ensure their retail vehicle sales personnel licensed to sell motor vehicles to the general public.

“The MDC has considerably more resources available to enforce the Motor Dealer Act,” added Stewart. “A province-wide program of inspections and investigations will help to increase consumer protection and enhance consumer confidence in a professional industry.”

Guided by an 11-member Board of Directors made up of individuals from the motor dealer industry, consumers and the general public, the MDC is committed to the principles of continual improvement in its business operations. For more information on the MDC, visit [www.mdcbc.com](http://www.mdcbc.com), call (604) 294-9889 or fax (604) 294-9313.

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