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## NEWS RELEASE

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Office of the Premier  
Ministry of Environment

### **B.C. EXPANDS PROGRAM TO SCRAP INEFFICIENT AUTOMOBILES**

VANCOUVER – The Province is investing \$15 million to enhance and expand the successful Scrap-It program across British Columbia, giving people real incentives to take old automobiles with higher greenhouse gas emissions off the road, Premier Gordon Campbell announced today.

“This expansion of the Scrap-It program will help improve air quality and reduce greenhouse gas emissions across the province by getting some of the most polluting vehicles off the road,” said Campbell. “The Scrap-It program gives real incentives to people who want to exchange their older, less-efficient automobiles for options that create fewer emissions like higher-efficiency vehicles, transit, or carpooling.”

Scrap-It is a voluntary program that provides incentives to help British Columbians to trade in pre-1993, high-polluting vehicles for cleaner kinds of transportation with lower emissions.

The Scrap-It program was previously available only in the Lower Mainland. Today’s investment means the program will be expanded across the province and redesigned to put a greater emphasis on reducing CO2 from older vehicles.

The \$15 million in additional funding will go towards doubling the largest incentives to \$2,000, which would apply to the choices with the largest GHG reduction, such as a hybrid car or transit passes. A base incentive of \$500 would apply to choices with low GHG-reduction benefits, and a new middle level incentive of \$1,000 will be created. To qualify for the program, the vehicle to be “scrapped” must be a 1993 or older model, have been insured for the past year, and be driven to the collection point under its own power.

It’s expected the program will “scrap” between 10,000-20,000 older vehicles over the next three years. If an average of three tonnes a year of CO2 is secured from 15,000 “scrapped” vehicles for a three-year remaining life, it would reduce CO2 emissions in B.C. by an estimated 135,000 tonnes.

“We’re making major strides in reducing transportation-related emissions here in British Columbia,” said Environment Minister Barry Penner. “We’re launching the world’s first hydrogen-powered bus fleet, investing \$14 billion in expanded transit, requiring all new cars purchased or leased by the Province to be hybrids, and expanding provincial sales tax exemptions to cover a range of fuel-efficient vehicles.”

Since its inception, the Scrap-It program has taken 6,510 vehicles off the road, and 5,951 incentives have been claimed. Of the incentives chosen, 2,920 have been transit passes, 2,060 have been claimed for the new vehicle incentive, and 641 have been claims for the used vehicle incentive. The remaining 330 claims split the bicycle, West Coast Express, car sharing and van pooling incentives.

Vehicles taken off the road through Scrap-It will be recycled with minimal environmental impact by recognized auto-recyclers.

Program partners include the New Car Dealers Association of BC, the Ministry of Environment, Environment Canada, and participating new car dealers.

For more information, please visit [www.scrapit.ca](http://www.scrapit.ca).

Media contact: Doug Brown  
Office of the Premier  
250 387-1398

Dan Gilmore  
Communications Manager  
Ministry of Environment  
250 356-0202

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