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AUTO THEFT CANADA.COM

Newsletter Summer 2002

Smart Search

NOW, FOR THE FIRST TIME IN NORTH AMERICA...

Canadian vehicles history can be validated using the LienQuest "Smart Search" Product that includes a Cross Canada Lien Check, Cross Canada Brand Check (including stolen) and a Vehicle Registration Verification to address clones all in one package at \$ 24.95 CDN (\$ 17.00 U.S.). This would protect exporters, importers, auctions, dealers and most important, consumers in both countries. The process is an instantaneous electronic inquiry to all 13 jurisdictions in Canada.



Don't sign that cheque until you've done a Smart Search.

News from B.C.

ICBC's Auto Crime and Fraud section, located at www.icbc.com, is most informative and probably one of the best sources of information on the subject of auto theft. You will soon be able to view a map of auto theft hotspots campaign presently underway. The ICBC are using targeted letters and mail-outs to clients in order to warn them of the high risk for theft of the Ford F250 and the F350 due to the absence of anti-theft devices in those vehicles. The first four months of 2002, auto theft was up 9% and theft from auto up 17%.

Barry Ward of MPI (*Manitoba Public Insurance*) and Executive Director of Project 6116 announced a successful week-long CCATA course on auto theft, with law enforcement from the west. Contact Barry Ward at bward@mpi.mb.ca.

Just in, report that Regina, which ranks as the #1 city (ratio of auto theft to population) in North America has taken a positive step with results showing 32% drop in auto theft and Manitoba, which ranks # 1 in auto theft to population, a 14% drop in Winnipeg. It is believed initiatives directed to core group of young offenders is paying off.

89,000 Reasons to be Vigilant Regarding Odometer Readings

89,000 odometer-tampered vehicles infect the Canadian marketplace every year in Canada according to numbers put together by a U.S. based company called CarFax. CarFax estimates that odometer fraud in Canada costs Canadians approximately \$ 3.56 million per year.

B.C. plans to introduce mandatory odometer declaration at time of renewal.

Carfax & Law Enforcement

Carfax has expanded its Canadian database and reminds all law enforcement that they will provide free access to any member of law enforcement in Canada or the U.S. Fax your business card, on department letterhead, to **Faisal Hasan @ 1-703-218-2853** to receive an application form.

AAMVA 69th Annual International Conference

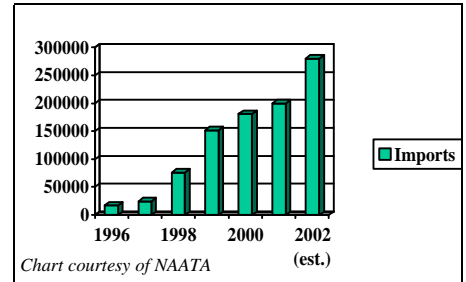
A Canadian, **Alan Cockman**, is Chair of AAMVA this year and, as a result, the 69th Annual International Conference will be held in Saskatoon, August 18th-22nd, 2002. Alan Cockman had barely gotten into his new position when September 11th and all its ramifications, especially relating to the integrity of driver's licenses and identification leapt to the forefront.

President of AAMVA Linda Lewis along with Alan determined they were the lead administration and immediately formed a task force, held a leadership summit on Identification Security in February and relegated responsibility to a number of task forces which included CCMTA and Canadians from provincial jurisdictions who fast-tracked a large number of issues with tight timelines. Alan mentioned it was one of his most interesting and busy years. Over 500 people registered for the International Conference. Betty Serian of Pennsylvania was elected Chair of the AAMVA Board.

AAMVA's (*American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators*) web site is www.aamva.org.

A very comprehensive view of Australia National Motor Vehicle Theft Reduction Council can be viewed at www.carsafe.com.au

Imported to U.S. from Canada



One of the best articles on vehicles being imported from Canada to the U.S. "What you need to know about Canadian cars in the U.S". by Tara Baukus Mello at www.edmunds.com/advice/specialreports/articles and click on **Gray Area** link.

Mr. Ron Giblin is Chair of the Canada Customs Steering Committee with regards to the reporting of exported goods regulations. You can e-mail Ron at rgiblin@lienquest.com.

Project 6116

At the June meeting of Project 6116 in Toronto, studies of organized crime, car jacking and young offender profiles were reviewed. As well, immobilizers were also discussed. **Costa Koskavaltyis** of VICC tells us that a good percentage of new vehicles sold in Canada, starting with 2003 models, will be equipped with immobilizers. More info at www.project6116.com.

Whatever Happened to Ontario Crime Control Commission?

After holding hearings for a year on auto theft, a symposium was held in London, Ontario, September 2000 with guest presenters Texas Auto Theft Prevention Authority.

The attendees to the conference left thinking that was the model Ontario would adopt to fight auto theft. So far, nothing has happened except for the increase in auto theft.

Priorswood Joy Riding Task Force report on joy riding located at www.dublincity.ie/services/joyriding.htm

IAATI (*International Association of Auto Theft Investigators*) 50th Golden Anniversary Annual Seminar will be held in Albuquerque, New Mexico, August 4th-9th. www.iaati.org



Vehicle Projects

Larry Greenberg, Executive Vice President, AAMVA
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National Motor Vehicle Title Information System (NMVTIS)

- To develop and operate an information system as required by the Anti-Car Theft Act of 1992
- Develop a bridge between the system and the Canadian IRE
- Reduce vehicle theft
- Reduce title fraud
- Reduce odometer fraud
- Protect consumer

Status of Activities

- Pilot Evaluation published in September 2000
- ⇒ NMVTIS meets all requirements of the Anti Car Theft Act of 1992
- ⇒ NMVTIS is technically feasible - performance requirement is 7 seconds, 95% of the time
- ⇒ NMVTIS reduces titling of stolen vehicles
- U.S. DOJ completed "NMVTIS Cost-Benefit Analysis" in June 2001
- ⇒ NMVTIS can achieve benefits in the range of \$4 billion to \$11.3 billion annually if fully implemented in all 50 states and DC.

NMVTIS & Canada

Planned Enhancements

- Bridge with Canadian Inter-Provincial Record Exchange
- Working Group meetings held in 1999 and 2000
- Concept of "pilot" approach established - October 2000
- Drafted Conceptual Design for pilot (using existing IRE/AAMVA net bridge) - May 2001
- Letter to CCMTA soliciting design feedback - April 2002
- Further Working Group meeting to revisit pilot approach considering CCMTA comments.

Canada - contact **Ms. Vivienne Cameron** @ vivienne.cameron@mto.gov.on.ca

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Do Immobilizers Make a difference?

A province recently completed a three year study. 2001 figures are used.

Registration by Manufacturer	Number stolen
Ford 23%	9%
GM 41%	40%
Chrysler 18%	44%

(source-Barry Ward, MPI)

A clear indication of which manufacturers have most models fitted with anti-theft devices. On the transfer of a used vehicle in Australia, it is legislated it must be fitted with an anti-theft device.

North American Exports Committee

A good turnout in Halifax for NAEC. It seemed to be an appropriate location as the federal government announced \$ 3.6 million in federal funding would be spent on equipment to check shipping containers for explosives and dangerous contraband as part of 110 million package designed to improve security at ports and border crossings.

Mike Kelso spoke on his favorite subject - vehicle cloning - which appears to be a growing phenomenon. Other interesting speakers including Alain Barbier of Interpol. www.naexportcommittee.org

Canadian Senate Committee

A senate committee on organized crime has been headed up by Senators Colin Kenny and Michael Meighan. They reached the conclusion that gangs dealing with drugs, stolen cars, contraband, tobacco, alcohol and container thefts were active at our Ports. One wonders how many studies have to be done. The 1998 RCMP report "Sparkplug" stated that organized crime "operated almost with impunity." The cross-over between auto theft into other criminal activity is stated. The ease with which organized crime operates is the same avenue which exists to make the terrorists move around so easily. Visit www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/crim_int/sparkplugeng.html to view the report.

CCMTA - Anti-Auto theft Working Group Update

Summary of Activities

A *Special Session: Improving the Vehicle Registration Process to Combat Auto-Theft* was held by CCMTA on October 29th, 2001 in Ottawa, Ontario. The purpose of the session was to address the issue of stolen vehicles and the role provincial/territorial motor vehicle registrars can play in reducing vehicle theft by improving vehicle registration processes. The working group met by conference call and developed a survey to assess the 17 priority items. The working group met for two days in April to evaluate the survey responses and to determine recommendations for where future work can take place.

Key Focus Areas: *Enhancing Partnerships & Cooperation, Selection & Training of Front-Line Issuers, Enhancing Process Controls, Effective Use of Electronic Exchange, Vehicle & Document Authenticity*

Auto Theft Statistics

Just released, Stats Can show a 5% increase in auto theft totalling 170,213, 10,000 more vehicles stolen than previous year. 25% of increase - 2,374 units were reported from Alberta. Major Canadian city auto theft reports:

			R.V.	U.V.
Montreal	27,250	- 3.2	40%	60%
Vancouver	23,882	+ 9.1	90%	10%
Toronto	18,078	+ 1.6	70%	30%
Winnipeg	10,828	+ 11.1	93%	7%
Edmonton	7,208	+ 39.3	90%	10%
Calgary	5,623	- 0.8	87%	13%
Ottawa	4,125	- 11.9	75%	25%
Quebec	2,008	+ 26.4	60%	40%

* First % column indicates **Recovered Vehicles**

* Second % column indicates **Unrecovered Vehicles**

Low recovery - new & current model theft indication of organized crime.

High recovery - 1980-95 models; commission of crime, ie. B&E & Dial-a-Dope.

Import Parts Registry

Importing of Salvage into Canada

- Implemented on March 1, 2002
- U.S. certified vehicles less than 15 years old or Buses manufactured on/after January 1, 1971.
- Vehicle intended end use - Rebuilt or Parts Only
- Have Identifiable Vehicle Identification #.

Additional information available from Gary Moriarty, Registrar of Imported Vehicles, @ gmoriarty@adminserv.ca.