

Children Do Not Make Good Air Bags

(Burnaby, BC) – Over 70 percent of children are not being properly restrained when traveling in a vehicle, according to recent BCAA Traffic Safety Foundation data.

“Children should be secured in a child safety seat when traveling in a vehicle,” stated Marg Deibert, Program Manager for the BCAA Traffic Safety Foundation. “The worst place for a child to be in a vehicle is on the lap of an adult. In a collision the weight of the adult will literally crush the child upon impact with the dash or seat.”

The most serious injuries and deaths surrounding safety seats occur due to human error.

The most common problems are:

- Harnesses are too loose which, in the case of an infant, can result in ejection from the seat.
- Seatbelts are too loose and could result in additional injury.
- Safety seat tether straps are not used and can result in serious head injuries.
- Child is in the wrong safety seat for their size and age – most commonly, children have been moved to the next stage safety seat too early (e.g. infant has been moved to a forward facing toddler seat).

The proper use of child restraints can reduce the risk of injury and death by up to 85 percent. If you have questions about your child’s safety seat call the BCAA Traffic Safety Foundation at 604-298-5107 or visit www.BCAATSF.ca.

- 30 -

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