



## Media Release

June 9, 2008

### Government of British Columbia Proclaims June Child Passenger Safety Month

(Burnaby, BC) – The BCAA Traffic Safety Foundation is extremely pleased that the Government of British Columbia has proclaimed June 2008, “Child Passenger Safety Month”.

“This proclamation speaks volumes about the government’s commitment to child passenger safety in this province,” stated David Dunne, director of provincial programs for the BCAA Traffic Safety Foundation. The foundation has been working very closely with the B.C. government to ensure that all children travel safely when in vehicles.

On July 1<sup>st</sup>, new child passenger safety laws come into effect that will require all drivers to transport all children in an age and weight appropriate child car seat or booster seat until their 9<sup>th</sup> birthday.

In recognition of the effort that the BCAA Traffic Safety Foundation has made to make parents and caregivers aware of the seriousness of this issue, the Office of the Superintendent of Motor Vehicles is showing their support with a contribution of \$32,000.00 to go toward continued public education and child passenger safety programs.

“This issue continues to gain momentum, and with good reason,” said Port Moody-Westwood MLA Iain Black. “The fact is children who are not properly secured in booster seats face a higher risk of injury or death when they are involved in a motor vehicle accident.” Black successfully led an 8 city campaign across B.C. to bring awareness and change to child seatbelt regulations.

Each year in British Columbia over 1,300 children under 9 years of age are injured or killed in motor vehicle collisions (roughly equivalent of 5 elementary schools). Most of injuries and fatalities are preventable when children are properly restrained in an age and weight appropriate child seat.

For more information about child passenger safety visit [www.ChildSeatInfo.ca](http://www.ChildSeatInfo.ca) or call 1-877-247-5551 to speak to a Child Passenger Safety Educator.

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#### Available for Interview:

David Dunne, Director of Provincial Programs, BCAA Traffic Safety Foundation

Marg Deibert, Senior Child Passenger Safety Instructor, BCAA Traffic Safety Foundation

**About BCAA Traffic Safety Foundation**

The BCAA Traffic Safety Foundation is a non-profit registered charity working with families, communities and business partners to reduce the number and severity of traffic crashes and injuries in B.C. For more information visit [www.BCAATSF.ca](http://www.BCAATSF.ca) or call 604-298-5107.

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**URL for this media release is:** <http://www.tsfbcaa.com/content/custompages/news.aspx>

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