



COALITION AGAINST NO-FAULT IN BC

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NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

COALITION BACKS PROPOSED CHANGES

Road-Safety Measures Pick Up on CANF's *Premier Option* (1997)

(Vancouver) – The Coalition Against No-Fault (CANF) supports the proposed vehicle-licensing measures announced this month by Minister Rich Coleman, as well as the planned changes to impaired-driving laws, as announced jointly by Minister Coleman and Attorney General Geoff Plant.

“The new measures represent a strong commitment to road safety, something our coalition has advocated since 1997,” said CANF spokesman Peter Maarsman. “Lengthening the learner and novice stages helps develop sound driving habits,” Maarsman explained. “Restricting the number of passengers in the cars of unsupervised novice drivers promotes safety on BC roads. Moreover, a toughening up of drunk-driving laws is welcomed news indeed.”

Six years ago, CANF outlined several ways in which the government could save both lives and money by implementing key measures aimed at, among other things, accident prevention. These principles were formalized in *The Premier Option*, a document CANF produced in May 1997. In addition to the sensible measures of graduated licensing, *The Premier Option* also supported the need for enhanced public education for all citizens, as well as specific programming for use in BC schools.

“We hope to see other road-safety measures considered for implementation in the very near future,” Maarsman said. “Our coalition members are eager to see the government move ahead with accident prevention as its primary aim. Road safety gets at the root cause of collisions and the cost of claims. It does not try to solve the accident problem through use of a no-fault system, which has proven not to work for accident victims or insurance companies no matter where it's been tried.”

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