

## **Regular vehicle maintenance can keep money in your wallet**

The Automotive Industries Association (AIA) of Canada's *2012 Outlook Study* indicates that 54 percent of vehicles on Canadian roads are over eight years of age and that this number is growing, making vehicle maintenance more important than ever before.

Older vehicles require more TLC to keep them running efficiently and safely. Staying on top of your vehicle's maintenance schedule means that it will emit fewer greenhouse gases and will be less likely to run into problems that can lead to expensive repairs and potentially dangerous breakdowns.

"A lot of drivers are opting to pay off their vehicles, and are enjoying not having a monthly car payment," said Marc Brazeau, president and CEO, AIA Canada. "This is a great situation to be in, but it's important to remember that you still need to invest in regular maintenance. Not doing so – especially for an older vehicle – means that you are reducing your car's lifespan and are likely to have to pay for expensive repairs down the road."

*Bottom-line benefits of regular vehicle maintenance include:*

- 1. More Mileage:** A well-serviced vehicle has an increased fuel economy of ten percent and will cost you significantly less at the pump.
- 2. Less Costly Repairs:** Simple things like having your oil changed regularly can correct small problems that, if left unchecked, can lead to costly repairs down the road.
- 3. Less Accident-Related Expenses:** Regular vehicle maintenance may cost you a few dollars today, but taking care of your car keeps you safe on the road and helps you prevent accidents, which typically cause your insurance premiums to soar and your monthly payments to increase dramatically.
- 4. Higher Resale Value:** A vehicle that has been serviced as per its manufacturer recommended service guide, with proper records, is likely to have a higher resale value than one that hasn't.
- 5. Longer Life for Your Car:** Regular maintenance will prolong the life span of your vehicle, therefore postponing the need for a new car. This will allow you to save more money for your next vehicle down payment, or pay off other debts.

For more vehicle maintenance and safety tips, please visit [www.becarcareaware.ca](http://www.becarcareaware.ca).