

Launch of Electric Vehicle Conversion Course Project Thanks to \$65,000 OTF Grant

Ottawa – The Electric Vehicle Council of Ottawa (EVCO) is proud to launch today its Electric Vehicle Conversion Course Project. Supported by a \$65,000 grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF), EVCO will now be able to give people the knowledge and practical experience required to convert a gas vehicle to electric. OTF representative Frank Dyson was on hand to congratulate the Council during its annual Electric Vehicle Expo at the Canada Science and Technology Museum.

Premier Dalton McGuinty, MPP for Ottawa South, was unable to attend the event and sent his best wishes. "Congratulations to the Electric Vehicle Council of Ottawa and thank you for your work in promoting innovation, creating opportunities and protecting our environment," said Premier McGuinty. "By working and building together, we can continue to inspire young people to build on your work and lead us into an even greener future."

"With high gas prices in the media regularly, and public concern over fossil fuel use and local air quality, electric vehicles offer a compelling alternative to gas cars", says EVCO Member Ron Rancourt. "Most people don't realize that an electric vehicle can meet most of their driving needs."

The three-year grant covers the development of an electric vehicle conversion course, vehicle components and related materials. EVCO is currently seeking a corporate sponsor for the project, with the first course scheduled to begin in spring 2009.

"This material deserves a place in the regular curriculum for high schools and colleges, to recognize the direction of the industry," says retired Electrical Technology Teacher and EV Veteran Renton Patterson.

EVCO is a non-profit, incorporated organization dedicated to promoting the use of electric vehicles in applications where they are appropriate. EVCO's mandate is to promote the use of electric vehicles as a viable transportation alternative that is ecological, economical, practical and available using today's technologies. EVCO's annual EV Expo is a display of electrically powered vehicles. Please visit www.evco.ca for more information.

The Ontario Trillium Foundation is an agency of the Government of Ontario. For over 25 years, the Foundation has supported the growth and vitality of communities across the province. It continues to strengthen the capacity of the volunteer sector through investments in community-based initiatives. For more information, please visit www.trilliumfoundation.org.

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