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Trucking sector first to agree to reduce greenhouse gas emissions

Agreement is an important piece of Alberta's climate change plan

Edmonton... Truckers in Alberta have become the first provincial sector to enter into an agreement with the Alberta government to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions.

The Alberta Motor Transport Association (AMTA) and the Alberta government have signed a memorandum of understanding regarding greenhouse gas emissions. The agreement outlines how the trucking industry can capitalize on opportunities to improve fuel efficiency and reduce their greenhouse gas emissions with such measures as driver training and education/awareness programs and alternative fuel usage. These emissions reductions will contribute to Alberta's Climate Change Action Plan target.

"As we all work together to reduce Alberta's greenhouse gas emissions, we hope this will encourage other members of Alberta's transportation industry to sign similar agreements with the government," said Dr. Lyle Oberg, Minister of Infrastructure and Transportation.

"Alberta's truckers are leading the way with this agreement to work on cutting greenhouse gas emissions through enhanced fuel efficiencies," said Guy Boutilier, Minister of Environment. "This agreement will bring benefits for our environment and our vibrant economy. It makes sense and cents."

Alberta's transportation sector accounts for 14 per cent of greenhouse gas emissions in the province. Approximately 21 per cent of Alberta's transportation-related greenhouse gas emissions are generated from on-road transport trucks.

"The commercial vehicle manufacturers and the transport industries have already expended significant effort to ensure progress on the environmental issues outlined in the memorandum of understanding. With the signing of the agreement, the AMTA, on behalf of our industry, is committed to continue to work with the government wherever possible," said Jim Davis, AMTA president.

A coordinating committee made up of representatives from Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation, Alberta Environment, the trucking association and Climate Change Central will oversee the implementation of this agreement. Within the first year, the coordinating committee will establish a two to three-year work plan based on prioritized initiatives and delivery timelines.

Negotiations between the provincial government and other industry sectors on greenhouse gas emission agreements will continue over the upcoming months.

To view a copy of the MOU report.

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Alberta Government Home | Ministries Listing | News Releases Top of Page

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Return to Government Home Page

Return to Government Home Page

Return to Government Home Page