

Vehicle Sales Authority of British Columbia

## Strategic Business Plan

For Fiscal Years 2014-15 to 2016-17





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## Message to the Minister from the Chair and President

February 21, 2014

Honourable Suzanne Anton, Q.C. Attorney General and Minister of Justice

On behalf of the Board of Directors, the Registrar, the management and staff of the Vehicle Sales Authority of British Columbia (VSA), it is a privilege to present our Strategic Business Plan for the fiscal years 2014-15 to 2016-17.

Originally established as the Motor Dealer Council of British Columbia, the VSA was formed in 2004 as a delegated administrative authority to legislatively and administratively regulate the motor dealer industry by delivering public services for consumers and administering the *Motor Dealer Act* and the *Business Practices and Consumer Protection Act*, as it relates to the retail sale of motor vehicles.

This three year plan supports our mission to build confidence in the motor vehicle sales marketplace through consumer and industry education, meaningful stakeholder engagement and compliance with the Acts. The plan also reinforces our ongoing commitment to accountability and fairness in all our operations, including financial performance.

Past performance, the current operating environment and significant future risks have been considered in the development of this plan and the performance targets have been set based on a realistic assessment of our financial and human resource capacity.

Sincerely yours,

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Graeme Roberts Chair

Jay Chambers President

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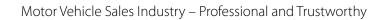
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# 1. Corporate Overview

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The Vehicle Sales Authority of British Columbia (VSA) is a regulatory agency authorized by the provincial government to administer and enforce the *Motor Dealer Act* and portions of the *Business Practices and Consumer Protection Act*, as it relates to the sale of personal-use motor vehicles.

As a not-for-profit organization, the VSA is led by an eleven-member Board of Directors of vehicle sales industry representatives, government appointees and members of the general public. Incorporated under the Society Act of B.C. in July 2003 as the Motor Dealer Council of British Columbia, the agency operates under a delegation agreement with the provincial government.

### Vision

A professional motor vehicle sales industry serving responsible consumers

### Mission

Continuing to build a successful motor vehicle sales marketplace through education and compliance

### Values

INTEGRITY

RESPECT

TEAMWORK

EXEMPLARY SERVICE

ACCOUNTABILITY

## **Government Expectations**

#### **Responsibility for Consumer Protection**

The primary responsibility of the VSA is to maintain and enhance consumer protection and public confidence in the motor vehicle sales industry.

#### **Core Business Functions**

The VSA's administrative functions are as follows:

- Registration and licensing of dealers and salespeople in the motor vehicle sales industry by a Registrar of Motor Dealers
- Inspection and investigation of Motor Dealers for compliance with the *Motor Dealer Act* and its regulations, and other consumer protection statutes on behalf of the Registrar
- Provision of information and assistance, including the voluntary and impartial mediation of disputes, to consumers and Motor Dealers regarding their rights and responsibilities under the Act and any other applicable consumer protection statutes
- Consumer education initiatives that provide information verbally, in printed materials, and via the internet, to raise consumer awareness of their rights and responsibilities when purchasing or leasing vehicles
- Motor vehicle sales industry education initiatives that provide information to help ensure a fair marketplace and to inform licensees and applicants about the requirements of licensees
- Administration of the Motor Dealer Customer Compensation Fund pursuant to the Act.

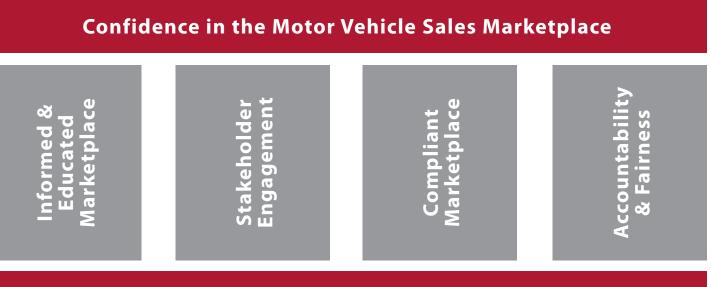


# 2. Risk Management

|  | RISK FACTORS AND SENSITIVITIES   | ] | MITIGATION STRATEGIES  |
|--|--|---|--|
| ECONOMY  | The motor vehicle sales industry is sensitive<br>to broad economic forces and consumer<br>spending. As a results, licensing and course<br>revenue can see both positive and negative<br>impacts.                           |   | In order to weather economic conditions that can<br>reduce revenues, the VSA operates with a lean<br>permanent staff contingent, filling short term work-<br>load needs with temporary workers. In addition, all<br>licensing fees are recognized over 12 to 24 months<br>to moderate any economic impacts on revenue. |
| INFORMATION                                    | As data and electronic systems drive nearly<br>100% of all operational activities, stable,<br>secure and restorable systems are a<br>necessity.  |   | Risk reduction strategies include staff cross-<br>training and distributed information technology<br>skills as well as offsite data storage and system<br>back-ups.  |
| TECHNOLOGY                                     | The growth of internet-based business<br>models, including virtual dealerships,<br>challenge traditional compliance boundaries<br>and regulatory effectiveness.  |   | To meet this challenge, the VSA continues to add web-based monitoring and investigation practices.   |
| RECRUITING<br>AND<br>RETENTION<br>OF EMPLOYEES | As a small, but legislatively complex agency,<br>the VSA has limited resources for employee<br>development and opportunities for<br>advancement. Employee retention is critical<br>to manage costs and quality of service. |   | Succession planning for key roles and cross-training<br>at all levels remain an ongoing commitment to<br>reduce vulnerability in this area.  |



## 3. Goals, Strategies and Performance Measures



### Stakeholders

| Informed &<br>Educated<br>Marketplace  | Stakeholder<br>Engagement                                     | Compliant<br>Marketplace  | Accountability &<br>Fairness  | Confidence in the<br>Marketplace   |
|--|---|---|---|--|
| A marketplace<br>where both the<br>public and motor<br>vehicle industry<br>are informed of<br>their rights and<br>obligations during<br>the purchase and<br>sale of a motor<br>vehicle | Maintain<br>confidence in<br>the VSA with all<br>stakeholders | A marketplace<br>where motor<br>vehicle transactions<br>are completed<br>in an open and<br>transparent manner | Operate the VSA<br>in a fair and fiscally<br>responsible way<br>while fulfilling our<br>mandate | A marketplace<br>where the public<br>overwhelmingly<br>chooses licensed<br>motor dealers rather<br>than other sources for<br>vehicle purchases |



| Goal 1: Informed & Educated Marketplace   |  |  |   |     |  |  |
|---|--|--|---|-----|--|--|
| A marketplace where both the public and motor vehicle industry are informed of their rights and obligations during the purchase and sale of a motor vehicle |  |  |   |     |  |  |
| Enhance existing strategies for public awareness consumer agencies  | s, including partner   | ships with industry                      | / and other                             |     |  |  |
| • Increased visibility of the VSA in the marketplace  | 2  |  |   |     |  |  |
| Continue existing licensee certification and con  | tinuing education p  | programs                                 |   |     |  |  |
| Performance Measures  | 2016-2017<br>Targets   |  |   |     |  |  |
| 1. Enhanced communications strategies   | Enhanced<br>industry tools,<br>including 20<br>Bulletins             | Public and<br>consumer tools<br>enhanced | Overall<br>enhanced effort<br>sustained | TBD |  |  |
| 2. VSA dealer decal licence with logo   | 2. VSA dealer decal licence with logo Established Implement Maintain |  |   |     |  |  |
| 3. Website unique views and visitors:   |  |  |   |     |  |  |
| Industry<br>Consumer  | +5%<br>+5%   |  |   |     |  |  |
| 4. Favourable participant satisfaction ratings of learning offerings  | 90%<br>or above  |  |   |     |  |  |

### **Performance Measure Descriptions**

1. Enhance the current communications strategies as measured by:

- Year 1: A sustained level of effective external consumer activities, interactive online assistance and consumeroriented communication partnerships
- Year 2: The evaluation, modification and continuation of all effective industry and consumer communication activities
- 2. Develop and implement a plan for the use of the VSA logo by licensed dealers
- 3. Increase website traffic by consumers and industry through quality permanent content and weekly updates for both audiences
- 4. Maintain quality certification and professional development programs with favourable participant evaluations of 90% or higher

### **Goal 2: Stakeholder Engagement**

Maintain confidence in the VSA with all stakeholders

• Engage in projects and initiatives that advance stakeholder confidence in the VSA

| Performance Measures                            | 2013-2014 | 2014-2015 | 2015-2016<br>Targets | 2016-2017<br>Targets |
|---|-----------|-----------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Industry Stakeholder Satisfaction: Salesperson* | 57%       |           | TBD                  |                      |
| Dealer*   | 48%       |           | TBD                  |                      |
| Public Enquiry and Complainant Satisfaction     |           | Baseline  |                      | TBD                  |

\*Top 3 Box rating of 8, 9 or 10 on a ten point scale in a 2014 Ipsos Reid Customer Satisfaction Survey

### **Performance Measure Description**

- 1. Level of dealer, salesperson and industry association satisfaction and confidence in the VSA
- 2. Level of public, complainant and claimant confidence in the VSA

### **Goal 3: Compliant Marketplace**

A marketplace where motor vehicle transactions are completed in an open and transparent manner

- Continue to have trained and knowledgeable salespeople
- Implement a continuing education program
- Continue to monitor dealers to ensure compliance

| Performance Measures                                     | 2013-2014 | 2014-2015 | 2016-2017 |         |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------|
|  | Targets   | Targets   | Targets   | Targets |
| 1. % new salespeople compliant at 45 days                | 95%       | 100%      | 100%      | 100%    |
| 2. % of participants in continuing education as required | 100%      | 100%      | 100%      | 100%    |
| 3. % of dealers visited every two years                  | 100%      | 100%      | 100%      | 100%    |

### **Performance Measure Description**

- 1. Percentage of new salespeople compliant with education requirements after 45 days of employment in BC
- 2. Percentage of existing salespeople completing required continuing education after five years of being licensed
- 3. Percentage of dealers will be visited every two years to initiate proactive compliance action and strategies, if needed

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### Goal 4: Accountability and Fairness

Operate the VSA in a fair and fiscally responsible way while fulfilling our mandate

- Effectively manage operating expenses
- · Maintain a professional and engaged staff
- Provide exemplary service to licensees and the public

| Performance Measures                              | 2013-2014                 | 2014-2015<br>Targets | 2015-2016<br>Targets | 2016-2017<br>Targets |
|---|---------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Meet the financial objectives set by the board | Forecast to exceed budget | On Budget            | On Budget            | On Budget            |
| 2. Employee engagement                            |                           | Baseline             |                      | TBD                  |
| 3. VSA service Satisfaction                       | (see goal 2)              |                      |                      |                      |

### **Performance Measure Description**

- 1. Meet the financial objectives as set by the board and government, including net income projections as well as all accounting and government audit requirements
- 2. Employee engagement as measured by survey
- 3. Licensee and public satisfaction in VSA service as measured by survey

### Goal 5: Confidence in the Motor Vehicle Sales Marketplace

Increase the confidence of the buying public in the regulated vehicle sales marketplace

- Enhance consumer and licensee education
- Ensure industry compliance

| Performance Measures  | 2013-2014 | 2014-2015<br>Target | 2015-2016<br>Target | 2016-2017<br>Target |
|---|-----------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Survey of public confidence in the motor vehicle sales industry | 67%*      |                     | +5%                 |                     |

\*67% of recent vehicle buyers in BC reported a score of seven or above in a ten point scale in the 2013 lpsos Reid Public Confidence Survey

### **Performance Measure Description**

A marketplace where the public overwhelmingly chooses licensed motor dealers rather than other sources for vehicle purchases due to confidence.



# 4. Financial Outlook

|  | <b>2012/2013</b><br>Actual                | <b>2013/2014</b><br>Forecast              | <b>2014/2015</b><br>Budget                | <b>2015/2016</b><br>Target                | <b>2016/2017</b><br>Target                |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|
| LICENSE FEE REVENUE  |   |   |   |   |   |
| Dealer Licensing<br>Salesperson Licensing<br>Total Licensing Revenue                               | 2,251,551<br>1,186,475<br>3,438,026       | 2,207,505<br>1,144,787<br>3,352,291       | 2,185,278<br>1,161,750<br>3,347,028       | 2,185,278<br>1,161,750<br>3,347,028       | 2,185,278<br>1,161,750<br>3,347,028       |
| OTHER REVENUE  |   |   |   |   |   |
| Admin Fees, Recoveries & Interest<br>Course Fees<br><b>Total Other Revenue</b>                     | 303,816<br>861,635<br><b>1,165,452</b>    | 287,100<br>898,179<br><b>1,185,279</b>    | 262,968<br>716,648<br><b>979,616</b>      | 264,000<br>720,000<br><b>984,000</b>      | 264,000<br>760,000<br><b>1,024,000</b>    |
| TOTAL REVENUE  | 4,603,478                                 | 4,537,571                                 | 4,326,644                                 | 4,331,028                                 | 4,371,028                                 |
| EXPENSES   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Salaries and Benefits<br>Operating Expenses  | 2,673,368<br>1,569,953                    | 2,753,712<br>1,395,223                    | 2,700,401<br>1,398,318                    | 2,754,409<br>1,317,454                    | 2,809,497<br>1,318,418                    |
| TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSE  | 4,243,321                                 | 4,148,934                                 | 4,098,719                                 | 4,071,863                                 | 4,127,915                                 |
| OPERATING EXCESS (DEFICIENCY)  | 360,157                                   | 388,636                                   | 227,925                                   | 259,165                                   | 243,113                                   |
| Capital Asset Fund<br>Net Consumer Awareness Fund<br><b>Total Amortization &amp; Fund Activity</b> | (145,381)<br>(57,405)<br><b>(202,787)</b> | (165,346)<br>(53,326)<br><b>(218,672)</b> | (110,181)<br>(62,000)<br><b>(172,181)</b> | (109,087)<br>(55,000)<br><b>(164,087)</b> | (103,616)<br>(55,000)<br><b>(158,616)</b> |
| TOTAL EXCESS (DEFICIENCY)  | 157,371                                   | 169,964                                   | 55,743                                    | 95,078                                    | 84,497                                    |

## 5. Contact Information

Vehicle Sales Authority of BC # 208 - 5455 152 Street Surrey, British Columbia V3S 5A5

Phone: 604-574-5050 Fax: 604-574-5883

Consumer enquiries consumer.services@mvsabc.com Phone: 604-575-7255 or toll free 1-877-294-9889

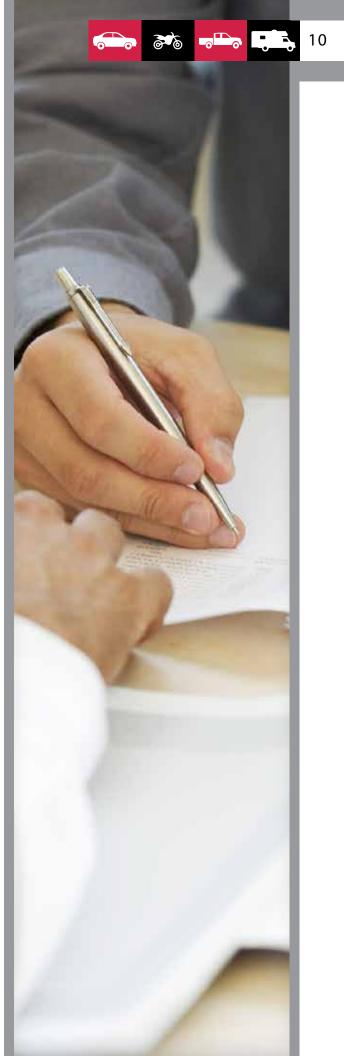
Motor dealer enquiries licensing@mvsabc.com Phone: 604-575-7253 or toll free 1-866-400-3529

Salesperson enquiries salespersonlicensing@mvsabc.com Phone: 604-575-7256 or toll free 1-866-400-3529

Certification and professional development courses training@mvsabc.com Phone: 604-575-7254 or toll free 1-866-400-3529

Motor Dealer Customer Compensation Fund compensationfund@mvsabc.com Phone: 604-575-7255 or toll free 1-877-294-9889

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