SUBJECT:  British Columbia Out of Province Vehicle Inspection Exemption

BACKGROUND

Currently, privately owned vehicles that are imported into British Columbia are subject to a mandatory one-time mechanical vehicle inspection to ensure compliance with mechanical safety standards and Motor Vehicle Act Regulations (MVAR). This inspection requirement is defined in MVAR Division 25.24:

25.24 (1) This Part applies to a motor vehicle that
(a) is registered, titled or licensed, or was previously registered, titled or licensed, at a place outside British Columbia,
(b) is presented to the corporation for registration, and
(c) has a net vehicle weight of not more than 3 500 kg,
but does not include a motor vehicle described in Schedule 2 to this Division.

ISSUE

As part of the New West Partnership (NWP) Agreement, British Columbia, Alberta and Saskatchewan regulators have agreed to a formal exemption to this requirement (NWP item 60) for some privately owned vehicles that may be imported from a NWP jurisdiction under specific conditions.

APPLICATION

Effective April 01, 2015, PURSUANT to MVAR Division 25.24 (3) (a) & (b), the Director of Commercial Vehicle Safety and Enforcement HEREBY EXEMPTS vehicles prescribed in division 25.24 (1) from having to undergo a provincial mechanical safety inspection subject to the following conditions;

1. The vehicle was last registered in either Alberta or Saskatchewan to the person making application for the inspection exemption;
2. The vehicle has a “normal” status (not rebuilt, salvaged or written off) reported through the Inter-provincial Records Exchange (IRE) system; and
3. The vehicle is either:
   a. less than 4 years old from the date of manufacture; or,
   b. has been inspected as part of an NWP government inspection program and has passed the mechanical safety requirements within the previous 90 days.

Vehicles that do not meet the noted conditions remain subject to provincial mechanical safety inspection requirements according to MVAR 25.24 (1) and must be issued a certificate of approval decal prior to provincial registration and licensing.
BC VEHICLE INSPECTION

This exemption does not extend to other vehicle types or classes that may require a provincial vehicle inspection as specified by legislative requirements or as defined otherwise in MVAR Division 25.

Should any further information be required, please contact Brian Kangas, Manager, Vehicle Inspections & Standards at (250) 953 4008 or Geoff Ford, Program Advisor, at (250) 953 4039.

Regards,

Steve Haywood,
Director
Commercial Vehicle Safety and Enforcement Branch
Ministry of Transportation & Infrastructure