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For immediate release.

## **NATIONAL AUTO THEFT SUMMIT REPRESENTS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR COLLECTIVE ACTION**

**TORONTO (January 22, 2024)** – In response to yesterday’s announcement by Canada’s Public Safety Minister, the Hon. Dominic LeBlanc, the Global Automakers of Canada acknowledged and thanked the federal government for responding to not only industry and law enforcement authorities, but also to Canadian citizens calling for an end to the epidemic levels of intrusive auto thefts that leave all victims feeling violated.

“During the last two years, participating member companies have been working tirelessly with other private and public entities to gather information, share intelligence and develop a societal strategy for reducing auto theft. Over that same period of time, we have witnessed an increased level of both car jackings and home invasions that have transitioned auto theft from being a property crime issue to a significant public safety issue,” said David Adams, President and CEO

“From our perspective this is unacceptable, and we are pleased that the federal government has come to the table to establish this important national Auto Theft Summit on February 8<sup>th</sup>,” added Adams. “The litmus test of the Summit’s success however will not be dialogue or reports but concrete actions that can be implemented now to send a message to organized crime that Canada is serious about stemming auto theft and is prepared to deal with those perpetrating the crimes to the full extent of the law.”

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## ABOUT GLOBAL AUTOMAKERS OF CANADA

Global Automakers of Canada (GAC) is the national trade association representing the Canadian interests of 15 of the world's most respected automakers. Our members include: BMW Canada Inc, Honda Canada Inc., Hyundai Auto Canada Corp., Jaguar Land Rover Canada ULC, Kia Canada Inc., Maserati Canada Inc., Mazda Canada Inc., Mercedes-Benz Canada Inc., Mitsubishi Motor Sales of Canada, Inc., Nissan Canada Inc., Porsche Cars Canada Ltd., Subaru Canada, Inc., Toyota Canada Inc., Volkswagen Group Canada Inc., and Volvo Car Canada Ltd. Together our members represent more than 25 brands in the Canadian automotive market.

In 2022, the member companies of the GAC sold 851,138 vehicles representing 56% of the Canadian automotive market. Further our members produced 55% of the vehicles built in Canada at Ontario plants in Alliston, Cambridge and Woodstock, and fully 55% of the vehicles sold by member companies in Canada were built in the CUSMA region, demonstrating a commitment to « building where they sell ». In 2022, Toyota assembled the most vehicles of any manufacturer in Canada (building more vehicles than the Ford and General Motors combined) and Honda was the third largest producer out of the five Canadian vehicle manufacturers. In 2023, Volkswagen announced a \$7B investment in St. Thomas, Ontario representing Canada's largest automotive investment ever, in VW's first battery plant outside of Europe.