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By Henry Bury

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The president of Hyundai Canada says the Belleville Hyundai dealership is what all his existing and new dealerships should and will look like.

"What you see here represents the future of our company ... there is no doubt that this new facility is one of the most impressive in Canada," Steve Kelleher told dignitaries and invited guests attending Tuesday's official opening of the Belleville Hyundai dealership on Town Centre Drive off Highway 62.

Kelleher, whose parents were born and raised in Belleville and considers this city his second hometown, praised owner Randy Knight and business partner Art Carr for creating a model for others to follow.

"This dealership has been transformed into the new standard for Hyundai dealers nationwide," he said.

Kelleher told the audience that the 10,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art Belleville facility will serve as the flagship model for the 70 new dealerships that will be opening in Canada this year as well as for the complete overhaul of 163 existing dealerships over the next three years.

"This brand new look does more than reflect the confidence we have in our products and people," Kelleher said. "It prepares Belleville Hyundai for the unprecedented period of growth that our company will soon experience."

Starting this year, Hyundai will launch 10 new products into the market over a four-year period. These will include a crossover vehicle, a larger SUV, a minivan and, later this summer, the all-new small SUV, the Tucson.

The national president and CEO said the Belleville operation and the Korean automobile manufacturer are on the move with