WHEELS

Nissan unveils some dramatic entries at N.Y. show

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Nissan Canada will offer the 2016 Maxima in four trim levels (dropping the base S trim available in the U.S.) including the SV (\$35,900), SL (\$38,950), SR (\$41,100) and Platinum (\$43,300). Not to be outdone, Infiniti, Nissan's premier vehicle division revealed two new models - the North American debut of the QX30 compact coupe crossover concept and the new 2016 QX50 CUV.

Infiniti QX30 Concept

The QX30 concept, one of the most dramatic entries at the show, is destined to debut as a 2017 production model by next year. It is aimed squarely at a new generation of buyers and if it can carryover the bold and sharp-edged "dual wave" styling of the concept (as designer Alfonso Albaisa assured me it will), it should prove an instant success both in North America and in Europe (it's primary focus).

The QX30 is a raised crossover version of the new O30 sedan. curi-



The new 2016 QX50, seen here at the New York International Auto Show, features a wheelbase stretch of 80 mm (3.2 inches) for more interior passenger room, a new exterior treatment, new LED lighting, an across-the-board increase in content and a standard moonroof for all trim levels, along with other improvements for the upcoming 2016 model year.

ously based on the Mercedes-Benz GLA and will even be powered by a shared 2.0-litre turbocharged direct injection powerplant with a seven-speed automatic. Expect a 2017 production model of this "urban explorer" by next year. Pricing will be released later when the 2017 OX30 comes to market.

2016 Infiniti QX50

Infiniti's second debut, a revamped 2016 QX50 (formerly the EX35 model) features new dimensions - a longer wheelbase, stretched by 80 mm (3.2") for more interior passenger room, especially in the second row. Exterior changes with new front and rear treatments mirror the latest Q50 sport sedan styling treatment. The QX50 also features LED lighting, new wheel options, new side mirrors with integrated LED signals, an across-theboard increase in content, a standard moonroof for all trim levels and a new shade of Hagane Blue added to the colour palette. Prices will be released later.

