

ADVERTISING FEATURE

WHEELS

CAJAD upset at import tariffs

The Canadian Association of Japanese Automobile Dealers (CAJAD) says it denounces the federal government's decision to maintain its current 6.7 per cent tariff on selected imported vehicles.

"Maintaining the tariff is a huge disservice to Canadian consumers," said Brian Caldwell, executive director of CAJAD.

"We're extremely disappointed. It means consumers will continue to be penalized hundreds of millions of dollars every year. Consumer debt is very high, and vehicle affordability is a major issue. The market needs cost reductions, not hidden taxes."

He said CAJAD has long supported the elimination of the tariff; it is an unfair hidden tax, which skews consumer choice and discriminates against dealers of non-auto pact products.

Tariffs are applied to all vehicles imported into Canada from outside North America unless they're imported by Auto Pact members (Ford, GM, Chrysler and Volvo).

"Tariffs, especially when applied selectively, are not what the public needs, or what it thinks is fair," said Caldwell.

"CAJAD will continue to press for

equal treatment of all auto products, dealers and consumers.

"We just cannot accept a made-in-Detroit auto trade policy any longer."

GM cuts costs of airbags

General Motors of Canada's Service Parts Operations (SPO-Canada) is reducing prices on its complete line of replacement airbag modules.

The prices of almost 600 airbag modules are being reduced, some by up to 50 per cent, effective immediately. SPO-Canada general director, Tom Murphy said, "GM of Canada is committed to helping reduce the cost of automobile collision repairs and replacement airbag modules are often major contributors to those repair costs."

As an example, Murphy said the cost of replacing the two airbags in a Chevrolet Cavalier will be reduced by almost \$1,200.

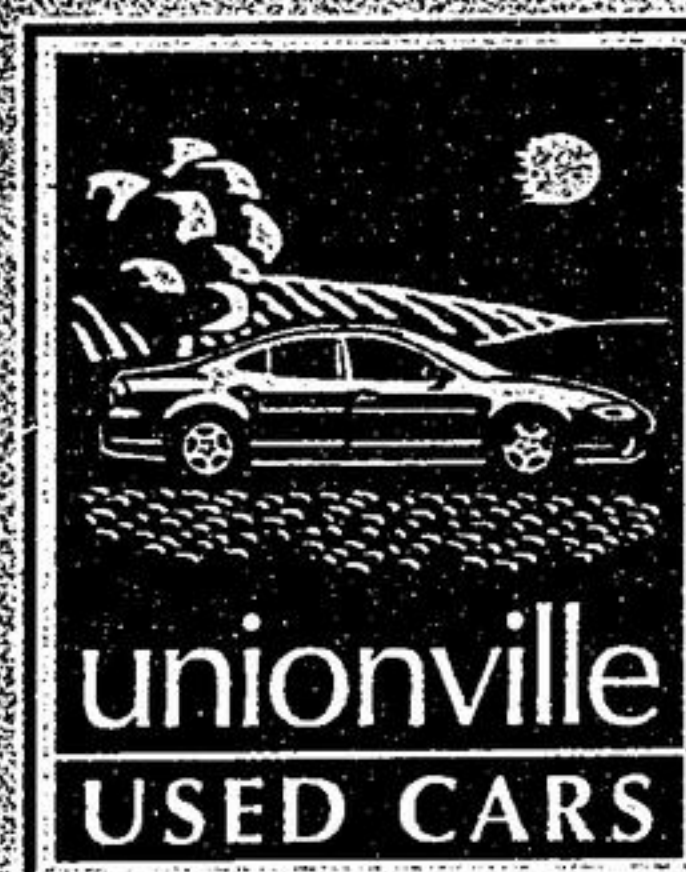


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