



Resolution 2001-01

AFTER MARKET WINDOW TINTING

Approved at the 50th Annual General meeting held June 20, 2001

WHEREAS Transport Canada sets new vehicle standards including minimum light transmittance of 70 percent for all windows of passenger vehicles and further have researched the issues of ultraviolet transmission, light transmittance and visibility with regard to safety issues including: diminished visual performance (especially for the elderly), visual cues for pedestrians and other drivers are blocked by dark windows and inability for police to see occupants from outside of the vehicle;

WHEREAS the Canadian provinces of Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia along with the Northwest Territories do not permit glazing material application on the windshield and frontside windows;

WHEREAS the National Institute of Optics (INO) reports in their study that a light transmittance below the 70 percent level increases accident risks in poor light conditions since it reduces the visibility of low contrast objects at a distance, increases the time needed to react, and hinders communication between road users;

WHEREAS several other agencies and community groups interested in traffic safety support the "no after market tint position" including, the Ontario Traffic Conference, Canadian Automobile Association, North York Committee on Community, Race and Ethnic Relations;

WHEREAS the 1999 inquest into the death of Faraz Suleman in York Region recommended that, 'A review take place of the tinting and coating of vehicle windows under the Highway Traffic Act';

WHEREAS the International Window Film Association contends that a total light transmittance of 35 percent is acceptable and is actively lobbying on behalf of the window tinting industry to improve their position and encourage increased use of window tint and glazing materials; and

WHEREAS the current legislation is non-specific and difficult to enforce.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police urge the Provincial Government of Ontario to amend the Highway Traffic Act prohibiting after market window tint on windshields and front driver and passenger side windows in the continuing effort to increase traffic safety for both police officers and the public.