

# Specialty Vehicle Association of Ontario



What is the Specialty Vehicle Association of Ontario ?

[www.svao.org](http://www.svao.org)

The SVAO is a provincially based colition of car clubs, individuals and businesses involved in the automotive hobby. Members are actively involved in projects designed to preserve Ontario's heritage and ecosystem while maintaining the safe presence of our vehicles on Ontario's highways.

A specialty vehicle, insofar as our activities are concerned, is defined as a motorized vehicle of personal and / or public interest, historical significance or rarity. It is a collector vehicle (an object of affection) rather than simply an appliance for day to day transportation.

The SVAO was formed in 1995 after a number of the larger car clubs in Ontario became concerned over the appearance of flawed legislation in the USA that was having negative impacts on the hobby in that country and threatened to do the same here. The executives of these same clubs got together to form a provincial wide group to deal with the provincial and municipal governments. The SVAO's executive and members are determined to act in concert with these lawmakers to ensure that the collector car community can continue to exist in a safe and responsible manner.

Since then the SVAO has grown to represent more the eighty Ontario clubs, seventeen businesses and many individuals. The business part of the specialty vehicle hobby is estimated to be a multi-million dollar force generating a very large amount of jobs, exports and tax revenues across Ontario in manufacturing, servicing and tourism.

What has the SVAO done ?

The SVAO has established itself as the major voice of the collector car community in dealings with the provincial government and has represented the hobby at an inquest and in dealings with municipal governments. In particular the SVAO was a major participant in the consultations leading up to the original rules that effect our vehicles under the Ministry of the Environments "Drive Clean" program.

The SVAO has often been involved with the Ministry of Transportation on issue involving licensing, vehicle safety and vehicle modification. The most recent example of this was the rewriting of the initial proposed rules for transportation and use of nitrous oxides in private vehicles.

The SVAO has spoken to and acted with a number of city and town councils to help in the drafting of municipal rules that allow the hobbyist to continue to enjoy the use of their properties for working on and storing their vehicles.

The SVAO also supports and works with the National Association of Antique Automobile Cubs of Canada Corporation (NAAACCC) which is a national body that helps to co-ordinate similar activities across Canada. Further indications of of our activities to date can be readily obtained from our website at [www.svao.org](http://www.svao.org)

How can I support the SVAO ?

First off you can become a member or get your club or business to become a member as the larger our membership, the larger our clout when speaking with governments. If your club is a member, you are automatically a member! Membership costs are \$10 for individuals, \$25 for clubs and \$50 for businesses. All groups of members receive the SVAO's newsletters.

Another way to support the SVAO is to consider helping out in monitoring and dealing with various issues. Many of the SVAO's executive are executives on their own car clubs and would appreciate help in the above areas. Much of the communicating is done by telephone or e-mail so you can be from any area of the province. Please think about this as the more help, the better !

Finally you can help the SVAO by contacting us if you hear of any issues that might affect our hobby. Sometimes this is the first we hear about a potential problem area.

How can I contact the SVAO ?

**Specialty Vehicle Association of Ontario**  
**3007 Kingston Rd., Box 142,**  
**Scarborough, Ontario.**  
**M1M 1P1**

**Chris Whillans (SVAO Chairman)**  
**(905) 649-2664**

**S.V.A.O. The Four Most Important Letters Your Car Will Ever Know**

**We Will Give The Government a Piece of Your Mind.**

**Who is the SVAO and Why You Should Join. Why You Should Care**

**Bad Automotive Legislation is Just Around the Corner. Who Are You Going to Call?**

**Think of Us as Bad Legislation Repellant**

**One of the Few Things Standing Between You and Bad Automotive Legislation**

**Many Powerful People Think Your Car is a Menace. We Know Better.**

**Keeping an Eye on the Politicians, So You Don't Have To.**

**We Watch the Government, Because They are Watching You.**

**Hand's Off My Hobby!**