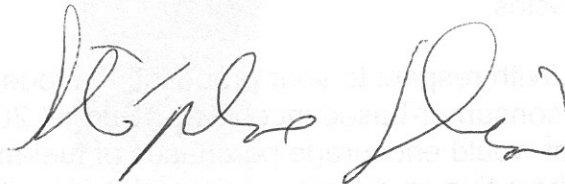


Environment Canada and the federal government also have a role in encouraging Canadians to make environmentally informed decisions about their vehicle usage. For example, public outreach and education programs like the One-Tonne Challenge ([www.climatechange.gc.ca](http://www.climatechange.gc.ca)) play an important role in influencing consumer choice. In turn, as consumer demand for alternative vehicles increases, the automotive industry will invest more heavily in alternative technologies.

Indeed, this is starting to take place. Auto manufacturers are beginning to offer products such as hybrid electric vehicles, which meet all the requirements of consumers. Despite the higher purchase prices, demand is exceeding supply, and more manufacturers are offering hybrid choices. Manufacturers are also investing substantially in fuel cell technology, which will almost certainly rely heavily on electric vehicle technology. The Government of Canada, while providing a foundation for the advancement of alternative technologies, believes that the market is in the best position to deliver the technologies that will power vehicles.

I appreciate being advised of your views on this issue, and wish you success in your endeavours for the environment.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stéphane Dion', written in a cursive style.

Stéphane Dion

c.c.: The Honourable Ralph Goodale, P.C., M.P.