



AutoCanada Inc.



# Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

■ For the three and nine month periods ended September 30, 2015

# ■ Table of Contents

Reader Advisories	3	Dividends	29
Our performance	4	Free cash flow	30
Selected Quarterly Financial Information	8	Critical accounting estimates and accounting policy developments	33
Outlook	9	Disclosure controls and internal controls over financial reporting	33
Market	10	Risk factors	33
Results of operations	12	Forward looking statements	34
Growth, acquisitions, relocations and real estate	20	Non-GAAP Measures	37
Liquidity and capital resources	23		
Business Combination Under Common Control	27		
Outstanding shares	29		

## **About us**

AutoCanada is one of Canada's largest multi-location automobile dealership groups, currently operating 52 dealerships, comprised of 60 franchises, (see "GROWTH, ACQUISITIONS, RELOCATIONS AND REAL ESTATE") in British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. In 2014, our dealerships sold approximately 57,000 vehicles and processed approximately 786,000 service and collision repair orders in our 822 service bays.

Our dealerships derive their revenue from the following four inter-related business operations: new vehicle sales; used vehicle sales; parts, service and collision repair; and finance and insurance. While new vehicle sales are the most important source of revenue, they generally result in lower gross profits than used vehicle sales, parts, service and collision repair operations and finance and insurance sales. Overall gross profit margins increase as revenues from higher margin operations increase relative to revenues from lower margin operations.

# 1. READER ADVISORIES

This Management's Discussion & Analysis ("MD&A") was prepared as of November 5, 2015 to assist readers in understanding AutoCanada Inc.'s (the "Company" or "AutoCanada") consolidated financial performance for the three month period and nine month period ended September 30, 2015 and significant trends that may affect AutoCanada's future performance. The following discussion and analysis should be read in conjunction with the unaudited condensed interim consolidated financial statements and accompanying notes (the "Interim Consolidated Financial Statements") of AutoCanada as at and for the three month period and nine month period ended September 30, 2015, the audited annual consolidated financial statements and accompanying notes (the "Consolidated Financial Statements") of AutoCanada as at and for the year ended December 31, 2014, and the MD&A for the year ended December 31, 2014. Results are reported in Canadian dollars. Certain dollar amounts have been rounded to the nearest thousand dollars, unless otherwise stated.

To provide more meaningful information, this MD&A typically refers to the operating results for the three month period and nine month period ended September 30, 2015 of the Company, and compares these to the operating results of the Company for the three month period and nine month period ended September 30, 2014. Until July 11, 2014, the Company had investments in associates comprised of six General Motors dealerships and accounted for the investments

utilizing the equity method, whereby the operating results of these investments were included in one line item on the statement of comprehensive income known as income from investments in associates. As a result, the Company did not incorporate the consolidated results of its investments in associates in its discussion and analysis prior to Q3 2014. On July 11, 2014, the Company completed a business combination under common control, resulting in the accounting consolidation of the results of its investments in associates using the predecessor values method. Management has provided comparative information and discussion of this business combination in "BUSINESS COMBINATION UNDER COMMON CONTROL."

This MD&A contains forward-looking statements. Please see the section "FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS" for a discussion of the risks, uncertainties and assumptions used to develop our forward-looking information. This MD&A also makes reference to certain non-GAAP measures to assist users in assessing AutoCanada's performance. Non-GAAP measures do not have any standard meaning prescribed by GAAP and are therefore unlikely to be comparable to similar measures presented by other issuers. These measures are identified and described under the section "NON-GAAP MEASURES."

Additional information regarding our Company, including our 2014 Annual Information Form, dated March 19, 2015, is available on SEDAR at [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com) and our website [www.autocan.ca](http://www.autocan.ca). Such additional information is not incorporated by reference herein, unless otherwise specified, and should not be deemed to be made part of this MD&A.

## 2. OUR PERFORMANCE

### ***Performance vs. the Third Quarter of Prior Year***

AutoCanada's higher sales and gross profits in the third quarter of 2015 are a direct result of acquisitions made subsequent to the end of the third quarter of 2014. Lower net earnings, same store sales and same store gross profits are a result of reduced economic activity, particularly in Western Canada.

Management considers gross profit to be a key measure of overall corporate performance. Overall revenues can vary significantly year over year as a result of fluctuations in sales mix, as well as fluctuations in lower margin fleet sales and used vehicle wholesale sales. As such, Management believes that gross profit is a key indicator of overall corporate performance.

Overall gross profit increased by 8.7% compared to the same period of 2014, as a result of acquisitions made subsequent to the third quarter of 2014. Same store gross profit decreased by 14.1% in the third quarter of 2015, as compared to the same period of 2014, which is due primarily to gross profit decreases in new vehicle retail and finance and insurance sales offset by increases in used vehicle retail.

New vehicle same store gross profit decreased by 24.6% and gross profit margin declined to 7.4% from 9.0%, as a result of tightening markets and lower achievement of sales volume incentives in certain stores. The Company has historically received a significant amount of incentive rebates from manufacturers based on sales volume. These rebates have been reduced during the current period, on a per unit basis, which has had a significant, negative, impact on gross profit margin. While gross profit margin per unit prior to the receipt of any incentive has increased by 2.0% over the nine month comparative period, the total gross profit margin has decreased due to reduced incentive rebates provided by manufacturers. At this time, Management is unable to predict the level of future incentive rebates that will be provided by manufacturers. Additionally, during the quarter, there has been a reduced supply of light duty half ton trucks from domestic manufacturers. These vehicles generally have a higher gross profit margin and reduced sales of these vehicles has negatively impacted the Company's gross profit margin.

Used vehicle retail same store gross profit has increased by 15.4% while gross profit margin has risen 0.2% compared to the same period of 2014 due to a change in consumer patterns. Due to the difficult economy, consumers who would typically purchase new vehicles are instead buying nearly-new used vehicles which have higher gross margin than the average used vehicle.

Finance and insurance same store gross profit decreased by 19.8% while gross profit margin in this revenue stream decreased to 90.2% from 91.8% in the comparative period. The decline in finance and insurance gross profit, while significant, is less than the percentage decline in new vehicle retail sales and evidences the Company's ability to retain this high margin business despite a challenging retail sales environment. The cause of the decrease in gross profit margin is due to consumers reducing their purchase of "premium F&I products" when buying a vehicle.

Parts, service and collision same store gross profit decreased by 1.0% as a result of a decrease in the number of repair orders completed during the period. Same store gross profit margin was increased by 1.2% over the comparative period due to a slight increase in higher margin repair orders. Management continues to focus on the performance of non-same stores in this area to improve margins throughout the integration period.

### ***Performance vs. the Canadian New Vehicle Market***

New light vehicle sales in Canada in the three month period ended September 30, 2015 were up 2.2% when compared to the same period in 2014. Sales of new vehicles in Alberta and British Columbia, our primary markets, were down by 13.6% and up by 6.4% during the three month period ended September 30, 2015, respectively. The Company's same store unit sales of new retail vehicles decreased by 16.2% during the three month period ended September 30, 2015. The Company's same store total revenue for the three month period ended September 30, 2015 in Alberta decreased by 17.2%, while British Columbia increased by 1.1%.

Similarly, new light vehicle sales in Canada in the nine month period ended September 30, 2015 were up 2.6% when compared to the same period in 2014. Sales of new vehicles in Alberta and British Columbia were down by 10.3% and up by 7.7%, respectively. The Company's same store unit sales of new retail vehicles decreased by 13.9% during the nine month period ended September 30, 2015. The Company's same store total revenue for the nine month period ended September 30, 2015 in Alberta decreased by 15.9%, while British Columbia increased by 3.8%.

The third quarter of 2015 continued to be a challenging retail environment for the Alberta market as well as the Company. Our concentration of Alberta dealerships hindered the Company's new vehicle sales performance relative to the Canadian average change in light vehicle sales as reported by DesRosiers Automotive Consultants. Management, continues to work closely with its dealerships to ensure that they are adjusting their processes to best capitalize on all sales opportunities and is confident that progress is being made.

The following table summarizes Canadian new light vehicle sales for the nine month periods ended September 30, 2015 and September 30, 2014 by Province:

### September Year to Date Canadian New Vehicle Sales by Province<sup>1,2</sup>

	September Year to Date		Percent Change	Unit Change
	2015	2014		
British Columbia	157,872	146,647	7.7%	11,225
Alberta	183,285	204,339	(10.3)%	(21,054)
Saskatchewan	41,340	43,281	(4.5)%	(1,941)
Manitoba	42,146	43,230	(2.5)%	(1,084)
Ontario	580,837	551,509	5.3%	29,328
Quebec	345,748	327,344	5.6%	18,404
New Brunswick	33,824	32,935	2.7%	889
PEI	6,087	5,810	4.8%	277
Nova Scotia	42,547	41,774	1.9%	773
Newfoundland	27,446	27,699	(0.9)%	(253)
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,461,132</b>	<b>1,424,568</b>	<b>2.6%</b>	<b>36,564</b>

1 DesRosiers Automotive Consultants Inc.

2 Readers are cautioned that the above table includes sales channels that the Company does not fully participate in such as daily rentals.

The following table summarizes the number of same stores for the nine months period ended September 30, 2015 by Province:

### Number of Same Stores<sup>1</sup> by Province

	British Columbia	Alberta	Manitoba	Ontario	Atlantic	Total
Chrysler/FIAT	3	4			2	9
Hyundai	2	2		2		6
Volkswagen	3	1	1			5
Nissan/Infiniti	1	1		1		3
Audi			1			1
Mitsubishi		1				1
Subaru		1				1
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>26</b>

1 Same store means the franchised automobile dealership has been owned for at least 2 full years since acquisition. The dealership is then included in the quarter thereafter, for same store analysis.

### Same Store Revenue and Vehicles Sold

Revenue Source (in thousands of dollars)	For the Three Months Ended			For the Nine Months Ended		
	September 30, 2015	September 30, 2014	% Change	September 30, 2015	September 30, 2014	% Change
New vehicles – Retail	184,497	213,010	(13.4)%	510,239	583,561	(12.6)%
New vehicles – Fleet	43,039	37,582	14.5%	124,201	111,815	11.1%
<b>Total New vehicles</b>	<b>227,536</b>	<b>250,592</b>	<b>(9.2)%</b>	<b>634,440</b>	<b>695,376</b>	<b>(8.8)%</b>
Used vehicles – Retail	69,075	61,125	13.0%	201,573	182,478	10.5%
Used vehicles – Wholesale	24,341	31,611	(23.0)%	75,992	76,445	(0.6)%
<b>Total Used vehicles</b>	<b>93,416</b>	<b>92,736</b>	<b>0.7%</b>	<b>277,565</b>	<b>258,923</b>	<b>7.2%</b>
Finance, insurance and other	18,946	23,200	(18.3)%	57,079	65,619	(13.0)%
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>339,898</b>	<b>366,528</b>	<b>(7.3)%</b>	<b>969,084</b>	<b>1,019,918</b>	<b>(5.0)%</b>
Parts, service and collision repair	35,659	36,795	(3.1)%	112,086	108,707	3.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>375,557</b>	<b>403,323</b>	<b>(6.9)%</b>	<b>1,081,170</b>	<b>1,128,625</b>	<b>(4.2)%</b>
New retail vehicles sold	4,776	5,699	(16.2)%	13,457	15,625	(13.9)%
New fleet vehicles sold	1,430	1,220	17.2%	3,832	3,418	12.1%
Used retail vehicles sold	2,430	2,627	(7.5)%	7,599	7,854	(3.2)%
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,636</b>	<b>9,546</b>	<b>(9.5)%</b>	<b>24,888</b>	<b>26,897</b>	<b>(7.5)%</b>
Total vehicles retained	7,206	8,326	(13.5)%	21,056	23,479	(10.3)%

### Same Store Gross Profit and Gross Profit Percentage

Revenue Source (in thousands of dollars)	For the Three Months Ended			Gross Profit %		
	September 30, 2015	September 30, 2014	% Change	September 30, 2015	September 30, 2014	Change
New vehicles – Retail	16,679	22,076	(24.4)%	9.0%	10.4%	(1.4)%
New vehicles – Fleet	226	356	(36.5)%	0.5%	0.9%	(0.4)%
<b>Total New vehicles</b>	<b>16,905</b>	<b>22,432</b>	<b>(24.6)%</b>	<b>7.4%</b>	<b>9.0%</b>	<b>(1.6)%</b>
Used vehicles – Retail	4,761	4,125	15.4%	6.9%	6.7%	0.2%
Used vehicles – Wholesale	170	517	(67.1)%	0.7%	1.6%	(0.9)%
<b>Total Used vehicles</b>	<b>4,931</b>	<b>4,642</b>	<b>6.2%</b>	<b>5.3%</b>	<b>5.0%</b>	<b>0.3%</b>
Finance, insurance and other	17,091	21,302	(19.8)%	90.2%	91.8%	(1.6)%
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>38,927</b>	<b>48,376</b>	<b>(19.5)%</b>	<b>11.5%</b>	<b>13.2%</b>	<b>(1.7)%</b>
Parts, service and collision repair	19,786	19,991	(1.0)%	55.5%	54.3%	1.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>58,713</b>	<b>68,367</b>	<b>(14.1)%</b>	<b>15.6%</b>	<b>17.0%</b>	<b>(1.4)%</b>

Revenue Source (in thousands of dollars)	For the Nine Months Ended					
	Gross Profit			Gross Profit %		
	September 30, 2015	September 30, 2014	% Change	September 30, 2015	September 30, 2014	Change
New vehicles – Retail	46,633	58,776	(20.7)%	9.1%	10.1%	(1.0)%
New vehicles – Fleet	591	605	(2.3)%	0.5%	0.5%	–%
<b>Total New vehicles</b>	47,224	59,381	(20.5)%	7.4%	8.5%	(1.1)%
Used vehicles – Retail	14,249	13,272	7.4%	7.1%	7.3%	(0.2)%
Used vehicles – Wholesale	215	2,373	(90.9)%	0.3%	3.1%	(2.8)%
<b>Total Used vehicles</b>	14,464	15,645	(7.5)%	5.2%	6.0%	(0.8)%
Finance, insurance and other	51,508	60,177	(14.4)%	90.2%	91.7%	(1.5)%
<b>Subtotal</b>	113,196	135,203	(16.3)%	11.7%	13.3%	(1.6)%
Parts, service and collision repair	58,739	57,131	2.8%	52.4%	52.6%	(0.2)%
<b>Total</b>	171,935	192,334	(10.6)%	15.9%	17.0%	(1.1)%

The following table summarizes same store total revenue for the three and nine months ended September 30 by Province:

Jurisdiction (in thousands of dollars)	For the Three Months Ended			For the Nine Months Ended		
	September 30, 2015	September 30, 2014	% Change	September 30, 2015	September 30, 2014	% Change
British Columbia	134,791	133,298	1.1%	389,835	375,387	3.8%
Alberta	146,965	177,494	(17.2)%	428,426	509,568	(15.9)%
Manitoba	16,691	15,697	6.3%	46,788	43,836	6.7%
Ontario	30,894	27,497	12.4%	86,490	78,047	10.8%
Atlantic	46,216	49,336	(6.3)%	129,632	121,787	6.4%
<b>Total</b>	375,557	403,323	(6.9)%	1,081,170	1,128,625	(4.2)%

The following table summarizes same store gross profit for the three and nine months ended September 30 by Province:

Jurisdiction (in thousands of dollars)	For the Three Months Ended			For the Nine Months Ended		
	September 30, 2015	September 30, 2014	% Change	September 30, 2015	September 30, 2014	% Change
British Columbia	20,247	22,870	(11.5)%	59,657	64,422	(7.4)%
Alberta	24,853	31,975	(22.3)%	73,282	91,562	(20.0)%
Manitoba	3,181	2,688	18.3%	9,354	7,976	17.3%
Ontario	4,050	3,763	7.6%	11,229	10,637	5.6%
Atlantic	6,382	7,070	(9.7)%	18,413	17,737	3.8%
<b>Total</b>	58,713	68,367	(14.1)%	171,935	192,334	(10.6)%

### 3. SELECTED QUARTERLY FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The following table shows the unaudited results of the Company for each of the eight most recently completed quarters. The results of operations for these periods are not necessarily indicative of the results of operations to be expected in any given comparable period.

(in thousands of dollars, except Gross Profit %, Earnings per share, and Operating Data)	Q3 2015 <sup>(1)</sup>	Q2 2015 <sup>(1)</sup>	Q1 2015 <sup>(1)</sup>	Q4 2014 <sup>(1,7)</sup>	Q3 2014 <sup>(1)</sup>	Q2 2014	Q1 2014	Q4 2013
<b>Income Statement Data</b>								
New vehicles	471,018	483,435	345,542	379,094	456,810	289,918	216,524	197,097
Used vehicles	179,270	194,956	163,243	148,579	158,779	102,025	85,969	75,137
Parts, service and collision repair	93,139	99,304	92,951	91,225	77,680	46,078	40,724	41,268
Finance, insurance and other	37,778	39,182	31,671	36,355	37,267	27,038	20,713	20,271
<b>Revenue</b>	<b>781,205</b>	<b>816,877</b>	<b>633,407</b>	<b>655,253</b>	<b>730,536</b>	<b>465,059</b>	<b>363,930</b>	<b>333,773</b>
New vehicles	34,300	34,861	25,765	29,325	35,086	23,792	17,799	18,326
Used vehicles	10,949	11,000	8,354	7,808	9,637	6,505	5,551	4,450
Parts, service and collision repair	48,336	49,859	43,913	49,886	38,913	23,373	20,593	20,822
Finance, insurance and other	35,088	33,955	27,407	26,910	34,714	24,077	19,180	18,734
<b>Gross profit</b>	<b>128,673</b>	<b>129,675</b>	<b>105,439</b>	<b>113,929</b>	<b>118,350</b>	<b>77,747</b>	<b>63,123</b>	<b>62,332</b>
Gross Profit %	16.5%	15.9%	16.6%	17.4%	16.2%	16.7%	17.3%	18.7%
Operating expenses	100,824	100,568	93,175	90,283	90,695	59,227	50,699	48,447
Operating expenses as a % of gross profit	78.4%	77.6%	88.4%	79.2%	76.6%	76.2%	80.3%	77.7%
Income from investments in associates	—	—	—	—	359	2,238	893	837
Net earnings attributable to AutoCanada shareholders <sup>(6)</sup>	11,690	13,523	4,969	14,240	17,765	12,831	8,296	9,553
EBITDA attributable to AutoCanada shareholders <sup>(2,6)</sup>	26,379	27,397	12,687	24,605	28,674	21,702	14,453	14,754
Basic earnings per share	0.48	0.56	0.20	0.60	0.74	0.59	0.38	0.44
Diluted earnings per share	0.47	0.56	0.20	0.59	0.74	0.59	0.38	0.44
<b>Operating Data</b>								
Vehicles (new and used) sold excluding GM	13,092	14,723	11,343	12,774	14,966	9,887	8,766	8,046
Vehicles (new and used) sold including GM <sup>(3)</sup>	17,086	17,739	13,824	15,415	18,079	12,414	9,945	9,209
New vehicles sold including GM <sup>(3)</sup>	12,018	12,296	8,933	10,570	12,821	8,658	6,570	6,090
New retail vehicles sold	9,985	9,929	7,393	8,907	10,686	5,980	4,773	4,932
New fleet vehicles sold	2,033	2,367	1,540	1,663	2,135	1,146	1,132	552
Used retail vehicles sold	5,068	5,443	4,891	4,845	5,258	2,761	2,861	2,562
# of service & collision repair orders completed <sup>(4)</sup>	202,692	215,142	199,096	216,427	198,612	97,559	91,999	95,958
Absorption rate <sup>(2)</sup>	91%	94%	85%	85%	93%	92%	85%	90%
# of dealerships at period end <sup>(4)</sup>	50	49	48	48	45	34	28	28
# of same store dealerships	26	24	23	23	23	23	23	21
# of service bays at period end <sup>(4)</sup>	862	842	822	822	734	516	406	406
Same store revenue growth <sup>(5)</sup>	(6.9)%	(2.8)%	(3.5)%	10.9%	8.9%	4.1%	13.0%	8.9%
Same store gross profit growth <sup>(5)</sup>	(14.1)%	(11.0)%	(8.5)%	5.7%	11.4%	5.4%	8.1%	9.2%
<b>Balance Sheet Data</b>								
Cash and cash equivalents	77,071	77,676	66,351	72,462	64,559	91,622	41,541	35,113
Trade receivables	118,853	124,683	104,753	92,138	115,074	85,837	69,747	57,771
Inventories	581,258	620,837	625,779	563,277	471,664	324,077	261,764	278,091
Revolving floorplan facilities	550,857	607,694	601,432	527,780	437,935	313,752	261,263	264,178

- <sup>1</sup> In conjunction with the business combination under common control completed on July 11, 2014, the Selected Quarterly Financial Information for Q3 2014, Q4 2014, Q1 2015, Q2 2015, and Q3 2015 includes the consolidated results of the Company's GM stores from July 11, 2014. All Q3 2014, Q4 2014, Q1 2015, Q2 2015, and Q3 2015 financial information includes 100% of the results of the GM stores, except for Net earnings, EBITDA, and EPS amounts, which are presented net of non-controlling interests.
- <sup>2</sup> EBITDA and absorption rate have been calculated as described under "NON-GAAP MEASURES."
- <sup>3</sup> Until July 10, 2014, the Company had investments in General Motors dealerships that were not consolidated. In Q3 2014, these GM dealerships were consolidated. This number includes 100% of vehicles sold by these dealerships in which we have less than 100% investment.
- <sup>4</sup> The results presented for all quarters prior to Q3 2014 do not include the GM stores and their associated service bays or repair orders.
- <sup>5</sup> Same store revenue growth and same store gross profit growth is calculated using franchised automobile dealerships that we have owned for at least 2 full years, excluding the GM stores, as these stores have been treated as acquisitions as at July 11, 2014.
- <sup>6</sup> The results from operations have been lower in the first and fourth quarters of each year, largely due to consumer purchasing patterns during the holiday season, inclement weather and the reduced number of business days during the holiday season. As a result, our financial performance is generally not as strong during the first and fourth quarters than during the other quarters of each fiscal year. The timing of acquisitions may have also caused significant fluctuations in operating results from quarter to quarter.
- <sup>7</sup> Data presented for Q4, 2014 has been amended subsequent to initial presentation to correct an immaterial clerical error which impacted the computation of Q4, 2014. The annual 2014 results are unchanged as previously presented.



## 4. OUTLOOK

The outlook regarding new retail vehicle sales in Canada is difficult to predict as manufacturers do not publicly disclose fleet and rental sales separately. Total Canadian new light vehicle unit sales of all types are currently forecasted to increase by 1.0% in 2015 as compared to the prior year as follows:

### New Vehicle Sales Outlook by Province \*

	1994 - 2005 (Average)	2006 - 2012 (Average)	2013	2014	2015F
<b>Canada</b>	<b>1,446</b>	<b>1,600</b>	<b>1,745</b>	<b>1,851</b>	<b>1,870</b>
<b>Atlantic</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>137</b>
<b>Central</b>	<b>936</b>	<b>994</b>	<b>1,061</b>	<b>1,139</b>	<b>1,170</b>
Quebec	366	409	415	420	433
Ontario	570	585	646	719	737
<b>West</b>	<b>408</b>	<b>486</b>	<b>549</b>	<b>575</b>	<b>563</b>
Manitoba	42	45	54	56	56
Saskatchewan	36	46	58	56	54
Alberta	166	223	257	269	250
British Columbia	164	172	180	194	203

\* Includes cars and light trucks (units presented above are in thousands.) Source: Scotia Economics—Global Auto Report, October 16, 2015.

The Canadian economy remains flat overall, with continued downward pressure on the Alberta economy, mitigated by modest growth in each of British Columbia and Ontario. With consumer credit access remaining strong, the Company's outlook for vehicle sales is primarily driven by employment and consumer confidence in its primary markets. Although employment levels have improved in some of the Company's markets, employment levels in Alberta have yet to rebound; additionally, ongoing concerns regarding crude oil prices continues to negatively impact consumer confidence in Alberta. Management is unsure of when the Alberta economy will improve and the outlook for the retail automotive industry in Alberta remains challenging.

Management is cautiously optimistic that it will be able to manage the impact of the current Alberta economic challenges by more effectively marketing its vehicles with a greater emphasis on cost effective digital strategies, and by focusing on gross margins where volumes are constrained.

In order to mitigate the impact of the declining Alberta economy, the Company is directing its acquisition efforts to Eastern Canada, in particular Ontario, in an effort to further diversify. Management believes Ontario offers attractive returns in a growing market, and is currently engaged in discussions with potential acquisition targets. As part of this strategy, the Company has recently completed the purchase of Hunt Club

Nissan in Ottawa, Ontario, along with an Ottawa Nissan Open Point dealership. Management is confident that it will meet its prior guidance to acquire six to eight dealerships by May 2016, three of which have closed to date. Management continues to engage those manufacturers which currently do not accept public ownership and believes that it is making progress.

Additionally, to provide the Company with increased flexibility to execute on its acquisition strategy and capital expenditure requirements, while maintaining appropriate operating liquidity, the Company is in advanced stages of negotiations towards expanding its revolving credit facility. As part of this process, the Company has amended its banking covenants to align with current industry lending practices. Together with the Company's free cash flow from operations, the expanded revolving credit facility will provide the Company with the necessary flexibility to meet its capital requirements.

Regarding Volkswagen's recent recall issues, Management has assessed the matter and does not expect it to have a significant impact on its operations, as sales of the affected vehicles do not represent a significant amount of the Company's new and used vehicle sales. Additionally, the Company is pleased with the measures taken by Volkswagen Canada and is confident that Volkswagen Canada shall continue to take the steps appropriate to ensure the continued success of the brand and its dealerships, as well as the continued satisfaction of Volkswagen vehicle owners.

## 5. MARKET

The Company's geographical profile is illustrated below by number of dealerships and revenues by province for the three month periods ended September 30, 2015 and September 30, 2014.

Location of Dealerships	September 30, 2015				September 30, 2014 <sup>1</sup>			
	Number of Franchises	Number of Dealerships	Revenue	% of Total	Number of Franchises	Number of Dealerships	Revenue	% of Total
British Columbia	13	11	149,698	19%	12	10	144,966	20%
Alberta	26	23	336,625	43%	25	22	360,872	49%
Saskatchewan	4	4	70,877	9%	3	3	61,884	8%
Manitoba	4	4	49,809	7%	4	4	51,221	7%
Ontario	5	4	39,422	5%	4	3	27,262	4%
Quebec	4	2	88,741	11%	2	1	35,417	5%
Atlantic	2	2	46,033	6%	2	2	48,914	7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>781,205</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>730,536</b>	<b>100%</b>

1 The results of six GM stores operated by the Company during Q3 2014 were not consolidated until July 11, 2014 as the stores were accounted for as investments in associates. Commencing July 11, 2014, General Motors dealerships have been consolidated for accounting purposes and have been included in the total number of dealerships at Q3 2014.

2 "Dealerships" refers to each physical storefront while "Franchises" refers to each separate franchise agreement.

The following table sets forth the dealerships that we currently own and operate and the date opened or acquired by the Company or its predecessors, organized by location.

Location	Operating Name	Franchise	Year Opened or Acquired	Same Store <sup>3</sup>
<b>Wholly-Owned Dealerships:</b>				
Abbotsford, British Columbia	Abbotsford Volkswagen	Volkswagen	2011	Y
Chilliwack, British Columbia	Chilliwack Volkswagen	Volkswagen	2011	Y
Kelowna, British Columbia	Okanagan Chrysler Jeep Dodge			
	FIAT	FIAT / Chrysler	2003	Y
Maple Ridge, British Columbia	Maple Ridge Chrysler Jeep Dodge			
	FIAT	FIAT / Chrysler	2005	Y
Maple Ridge, British Columbia	Maple Ridge Volkswagen	Volkswagen	2008	Y
Prince George, British Columbia	Northland Chrysler Jeep Dodge	Chrysler	2002	Y
Prince George, British Columbia	Northland Hyundai	Hyundai	2005	Y
Prince George, British Columbia	Northland Nissan	Nissan	2007	Y
Victoria, British Columbia	Victoria Hyundai	Hyundai	2006	Y
Airdrie, Alberta	Airdrie Chrysler Jeep Dodge Ram	Chrysler	2015	Q3 2017
Calgary, Alberta	Courtesy Chrysler Dodge	Chrysler	2013	Q4 2015
Calgary, Alberta	Calgary Hyundai	Hyundai	2014	Q3 2016
Calgary, Alberta	Crowfoot Hyundai	Hyundai	2014	Q3 2016
Calgary, Alberta	Hyatt Mitsubishi	Mitsubishi	2014	Q3 2016
Calgary, Alberta	Northland Volkswagen	Volkswagen	2014	Q3 2016
Calgary, Alberta	Fish Creek Nissan	Nissan	2014	Q4 2016
Calgary, Alberta	Hyatt Infiniti	Infiniti	2014	Q4 2016
Calgary, Alberta	Tower Chrysler Jeep Dodge Ram	Chrysler	2014	Q4 2016
Edmonton, Alberta	Crosstown Chrysler Jeep Dodge			
	FIAT	FIAT / Chrysler	1994	Y
Edmonton, Alberta	Capital Chrysler Jeep Dodge FIAT	FIAT / Chrysler	2003	Y
Edmonton, Alberta	North Edmonton Kia	Kia	2014	Q4 2016
Grande Prairie, Alberta	Grande Prairie Chrysler Jeep Dodge			
	FIAT	FIAT / Chrysler	1998	Y
Grande Prairie, Alberta	Grande Prairie Hyundai	Hyundai	2005	Y
Grande Prairie, Alberta	Grande Prairie Subaru	Subaru	1998	Y

Location	Operating Name	Franchise	Year Opened or Acquired	Same Store <sup>3</sup>
Grande Prairie, Alberta	Grande Prairie Mitsubishi	Mitsubishi	2007	Y
Grande Prairie, Alberta	Grande Prairie Nissan	Nissan	2007	Y
Grande Prairie, Alberta	Grande Prairie Volkswagen	Volkswagen	2013	Y
Ponoka, Alberta	Ponoka Chrysler Jeep Dodge	Chrysler	1998	Y
Sherwood Park, Alberta	Sherwood Park Hyundai	Hyundai	2006	Y
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan	Dodge City Chrysler Jeep Dodge Ram	Chrysler	2014	Q3 2016
Winnipeg, Manitoba	St. James Audi	Audi	2013	Y
Winnipeg, Manitoba	St. James Volkswagen	Volkswagen	2013	Y
Winnipeg, Manitoba	Eastern Chrysler Jeep Dodge	Chrysler	2014	Q4 2015
Cambridge, Ontario	Cambridge Hyundai	Hyundai	2008	Y
Mississauga, Ontario	401 Dixie Hyundai	Hyundai	2008	Y
Newmarket, Ontario	Newmarket Infiniti Nissan	Nissan / Infiniti	2008	Y
Ottawa, Ontario	Hunt Club Nissan <sup>2</sup>	Nissan	2015	Q1 2018
Toronto, Ontario	Toronto Chrysler Jeep Dodge Ram	Chrysler	2014	Q1 2017
Moncton, New Brunswick	Moncton Chrysler Jeep Dodge	Chrysler	2001	Y
Dartmouth, Nova Scotia	Dartmouth Chrysler Jeep Dodge	Chrysler	2006	Y
<b>Dealership Investments:</b>				
Duncan, British Columbia	Island Chevrolet Buick GMC	General Motors	2013	Q4 2016
Kelowna, British Columbia	Don Folk Chevrolet	General Motors	2015	Q4 2017
Edmonton, Alberta	Lakewood Chevrolet	General Motors	2014	Q4 2016
Sherwood Park, Alberta	Sherwood Park Chevrolet	General Motors	2012	Q4 2016
Sherwood Park, Alberta	Sherwood Buick GMC	General Motors	2012	Q4 2016
Spruce Grove, Alberta	Grove Dodge Chrysler Jeep <sup>1</sup>	Chrysler	2015	Q1 2018
North Battleford, Saskatchewan	Bridges Chevrolet Buick GMC	General Motors	2014	Q1 2017
Prince Albert, Saskatchewan	Mann-Northway Auto Source	General Motors	2014	Q4 2016
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan	Saskatoon Motor Products	General Motors	2014	Q4 2016
Winnipeg, Manitoba	McNaught Cadillac Buick GMC	General Motors	2014	Q4 2016
Laval, Quebec	BMW Laval and MINI Laval	BMW / MINI	2014	Q1 2017
Montreal, Quebec	BMW Canbec and MINI Mont Royal	BMW / MINI	2014	Q3 2016

<sup>1</sup> On October 5, 2015, the Company acquired Grove Dodge Chrysler Jeep, in Spruce Grove, Alberta.

<sup>2</sup> On November 2, 2015, the Company acquired Hunt Club Nissan, in Ottawa, Ontario.

<sup>3</sup> Same store means the franchised automobile dealership has been owned for at least 2 full years since acquisition. The dealership is then included in the quarter thereafter, for same store analysis.

## Seasonality

The results from operations historically have been lower in the first and fourth quarters of each year, largely due to consumer purchasing patterns during the holiday season, inclement weather and the reduced number of business days during the holiday season. As a result, our operating results are generally not as strong during the first and fourth quarters than during the other quarters of each fiscal year. The timing of acquisitions and the common control business combination may have also caused substantial fluctuations in operating results from quarter to quarter.

## 6. RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

The following section outlines specific factors that affected the results of our operations in the third quarter of 2015 and should be read in conjunction with our interim consolidated financial statements for the quarter ended September 30, 2015.

### Third Quarter Operating Results

EBITDA attributable to AutoCanada shareholders for the three month period ended September 30,

2015 decreased by \$2.3 million or 8.0% to \$26.4 million, from \$28.7 million when compared to the results of the Company for the same period in the prior year. The decrease in EBITDA attributable to AutoCanada shareholders for the quarter can be mainly attributed to tightening markets and lower achievement of sales volume incentives in certain stores. Adjusted EBITDA attributable to AutoCanada shareholders for the quarter ended September 30, 2015 decreased by \$0.3 million or 1.1% from \$27.5 million to \$27.2 million when compared to the results of the Company for the same quarter in the prior year.

The following table illustrates EBITDA and adjusted EBITDA attributable to AutoCanada shareholders for the three month period ended September 30, for the last three years of operations:

(in thousands of dollars)	2015	2014	2013
<b>Period from July 1 to September 30</b>			
Net earnings attributable to AutoCanada shareholders	11,690	17,765	10,969
Income taxes	5,456	4,806	3,920
Depreciation of property and equipment	4,814	3,831	1,599
Interest on long-term indebtedness	4,419	2,272	163
<b>EBITDA attributable to AutoCanada shareholders<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>26,379</b>	<b>28,674</b>	<b>16,651</b>
Add back:			
Share-based compensation attributed to changes in share price	(242)	(916)	323
Revaluation of redemption liabilities <sup>2</sup>	1,104	–	–
Unrealized loss on embedded derivative	(81)	(241)	–
<b>Adjusted EBITDA attributable to AutoCanada shareholders<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>27,160</b>	<b>27,517</b>	<b>16,974</b>

<sup>1</sup> This financial measure is identified and defined under the section "NON-GAAP MEASURES."

<sup>2</sup> Redemption liabilities relate to put options held by certain non-controlling interests and are measured at fair value. Adjustments to fair value are recognized as income or expense through profit and loss.

Pre-tax earnings attributable to AutoCanada shareholders decreased by \$5.5 million or 24.3% to \$17.1 million for the three month period ended September 30, 2015 from \$22.6 million in the same period of the prior year. Net earnings attributable to AutoCanada shareholders decreased by \$6.1 million or 34.3% to \$11.7 million in the third

quarter of 2015 from a \$17.8 million when compared to the prior year. Income tax expense attributable to AutoCanada shareholders increased by \$0.7 million to \$5.5 million in the third quarter of 2015 from \$4.8 million in the same period of 2014.

Adjusted net earnings attributable to AutoCanada shareholders decreased by \$4.3 million or 25.6% to \$12.5 million in 2015 from \$16.8 million in the prior year.

The following table reconciles net earnings to adjusted net earnings for the three month period ended September 30:

(in thousands of dollars)	2015	2014	2013
<b>Net earnings attributable to AutoCanada shareholders</b>	11,690	17,765	10,969
Add back:			
Share-based compensation attributed to changes in share price, net of tax	(178)	(679)	239
Revaluation of redemption liabilities <sup>2</sup>	1,104	–	–
Unrealized loss on embedded derivative	(81)	(241)	–
<b>Adjusted net earnings attributable to AutoCanada shareholders<sup>1</sup></b>	12,535	16,845	11,208
Weighted average number of shares - Basic	24,440,080	24,103,670	21,638,882
Weighted average number of shares - Diluted	24,532,409	24,103,670	21,638,882
<b>Adjusted net earnings per share attributable to AutoCanada shareholders - Basic<sup>1</sup></b>	0.51	0.70	0.52
<b>Adjusted net earnings per share attributable to AutoCanada shareholders - Diluted<sup>1</sup></b>	0.51	0.70	0.52

<sup>1</sup> This financial measure is identified and defined under the section "NON-GAAP MEASURES."

<sup>2</sup> Redemption liabilities relate to put options held by certain non-controlling interests and are measured at fair value. Adjustments to fair value are recognized as income or expense through profit and loss.

### Year to Date Operating Results

EBITDA attributable to AutoCanada shareholders for the nine month period ended September 30, 2015 increased by \$1.7 million or 2.6% to \$66.5 million, from \$64.8 million when compared to the results of the Company for the same period in the prior year. The increase in EBITDA attributable to AutoCanada shareholders for the period can be mainly attributed to the acquisitions completed

since the beginning of 2014 as they are fully represented in EBITDA during the current period. Adjusted EBITDA attributable to AutoCanada shareholders for the nine month period ended September 30, 2015 increased by \$3.3 million or 5.1% from \$64.8 million to \$68.1 million when compared to the results of the Company for the same quarter in the prior year.

The following table illustrates EBITDA and adjusted EBITDA attributable to AutoCanada shareholders for the nine month period ended September 30, for the last three years of operations:

(in thousands of dollars)	2015	2014	2013
<b>Period from January 1 to September 30</b>			
Net earnings attributable to AutoCanada shareholders	30,182	38,890	28,614
Income taxes	12,699	12,164	10,205
Depreciation of property and equipment	12,977	8,893	4,278
Interest on long-term indebtedness	10,609	4,880	619
<b>EBITDA attributable to AutoCanada shareholders<sup>1</sup></b>	66,467	64,827	43,716
Add back:			
Share-based compensation attributed to changes in share price	(108)	240	674
Revaluation of redemption liabilities <sup>2</sup>	1,763	–	–
Unrealized loss on embedded derivative	(34)	(241)	–
<b>Adjusted EBITDA attributable to AutoCanada shareholder<sup>1</sup></b>	68,088	64,826	44,390

<sup>1</sup> This financial measure is identified and defined under the section "NON-GAAP MEASURES."

<sup>2</sup> Redemption liabilities relate to put options held by certain non-controlling interests and are measured at fair value. Adjustments to fair value are recognized as income or expense through profit and loss.

For the nine month period ended September 30, 2015, pre-tax earnings attributable to AutoCanada shareholders decreased by \$8.2 million or 16.0% to \$42.9 million from \$51.1 million in the same period of the prior year. Net earnings attributable to AutoCanada shareholders decreased by \$8.7 million or 22.4% to \$30.2 million in the nine month

period ended September 30, 2015 from \$38.9 million when compared to the prior year. Income tax expense attributable to AutoCanada shareholders increased by \$0.5 million to \$12.7 million in the nine month period ended September 30, 2015 from \$12.2 million in the same period of 2014.

Adjusted net earnings attributable to AutoCanada shareholders decreased by \$7.0 million or 18.0% to \$31.8 million in 2015 from \$38.8 million in the prior year.

The following table reconciles net earnings to adjusted net earnings for the nine month period ended September 30:

<b>(in thousands of dollars)</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2013</b>
<b>Net earnings attributable to AutoCanada shareholders</b>	30,182	38,890	28,614
Add back:			
Share-based compensation attributed to changes in share price, net of tax	(79)	178	499
Revaluation of redemption liabilities <sup>2</sup>	1,763	-	-
Unrealized loss on embedded derivative	(34)	(241)	-
<b>Adjusted net earnings attributable to AutoCanada shareholders<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>31,832</b>	<b>38,827</b>	<b>29,113</b>
Weighted average number of shares - Basic	24,424,863	22,549,631	20,606,391
Weighted average number of shares - Diluted	24,526,949	22,549,631	20,606,391
<b>Adjusted net earnings per share attributable to AutoCanada shareholders - Basic<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>1.30</b>	<b>1.72</b>	<b>1.41</b>
<b>Adjusted net earnings per share attributable to AutoCanada shareholders - Diluted<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>1.30</b>	<b>1.72</b>	<b>1.41</b>

<sup>1</sup> This financial measure is identified and defined under the section "NON-GAAP MEASURES."

<sup>2</sup> Redemption liabilities relate to put options held by certain non-controlling interests and are measured at fair value. Adjustments to fair value are recognized as income or expense through profit and loss.

## Revenues

Revenues for the three month period and the nine month period ended September 30, 2015 increased by \$50.7 million and \$672.0 million or 6.9% and 43.1% respectively as compared to the same periods of the prior year. This increase was driven by increases in all four revenue streams as a result of acquisitions since Q3 2014. New vehicle sales increased by \$14.2 million or 3.1% for the three month period ended September 30, 2015 to \$471.0 million from \$456.8 million in the same period of the prior year. New vehicle sales increased by \$336.7 million or 35.0% for the nine month period ended September 30, 2015 to \$1,300.0 million from \$963.3 million in the same period of the prior year. Used vehicle sales increased by \$20.5 million or 12.9% for the three month period ended September 30, 2015. Used vehicle sales for the nine month period ended September 30, 2015 increased by

\$190.7 million or 55.0% when compared to the same period in the prior year. Finance and insurance revenue increased by \$0.5 million or 1.3% and \$23.6 million or 27.8% in the three month period and the nine month period ended September 30, 2015 respectively. This increase is driven by the increase in new and used vehicle sales. Parts, service and collision repair revenue increased by \$15.5 million or 20.0% and \$120.9 million or 73.5% for the three month period and the nine month period ended September 30, 2015 respectively.

### Revenues - Same Store Analysis

Same store revenue decreased by \$27.8 million or 6.9% in the three month period ended, and decreased by \$47.5 million or 4.2% in the nine month period ended September 30, 2015 when



compared to the same period in 2014. New vehicle revenues decreased by \$23.1 million or 9.2% for the third quarter of 2015 over the prior year due to a decrease in new vehicle sales of 713 units or 10.3% offset by an increase in the average revenue per new vehicle sold of \$446 or 1.2%. Same store new vehicle revenues decreased by \$60.9 million or 8.8% for the nine month period ended September 30, 2015 over the same period in the prior year due to a decrease in new vehicle sales of 1,754 units or 9.2% offset by an increase in the average revenue per new vehicle sold of \$180 or 0.5%.

Same store used vehicle revenues increased by \$0.7 million or 0.7% for the three month period ended September 30, 2015 over the same period in the prior year due to an increase in the average revenue per used vehicle sold of \$3,142 or 8.9% offset by a decrease in used vehicle sales of 197 units or 7.5%. For the nine month period ended September 30, 2015, used vehicle revenues increased by \$18.6 million or 7.2% due to an increase in the average revenue per used vehicle sold of \$3,560 or 10.8% offset by a decrease in used vehicle sales of 255 units or 3.2%.

Same store parts, service and collision repair revenue decreased by \$1.1 million or 3.1% for the third quarter of 2015 compared to the prior period and was primarily a result of a decrease in overall repair orders completed of 4,072 offset by a \$5 or 1.3% increase in the average revenue per repair order completed. For the nine month period ended September 30, 2015, parts, service and collision repair revenue increased by \$3.4 million or 3.1%, mainly due to an increase in the number of overall repair orders completed of 1,994 and a \$10 or 2.4% increase in the average revenue per repair order completed.

Same store finance, insurance and other revenue decreased by \$4.3 million or 18.3% for the three month period ended September 30, 2015 over the same period in 2014. This was due to a decrease in the average revenue per unit retailed of \$98 or 3.5% and a decrease in the number of new and used vehicles retailed, that had finance and insurance related products, of 1,278 units. For the nine month period ended September 30, 2015, same store finance, insurance and other revenue decreased by \$8.5 million or 13.0% over the same period in 2014 mainly due to a decrease in the average revenue per unit retailed of \$63 or 2.3%

and a decrease in the number of new and used vehicles retailed, that had finance and insurance related products, of 2,581 units.

### **Gross Profit**

Gross profit increased by \$10.3 million and \$104.6 million, or 8.7% and 40.4% respectively, for the three month period and the nine month period ended September 30, 2015 when compared to the same periods in the prior year. Gross profit on the sale of new vehicles decreased by \$0.8 million and increased by \$18.2 million, or 2.3% and 23.7% respectively, for the three month period and the nine month period ended September 30, 2015. The decrease in new vehicle gross profit for the three month period ended September 30, 2015 can be attributed to a decrease in the number of new vehicles sold of 803 or 6.3% offset by an increase in the average gross profit per new vehicle sold of \$119 or 4.3%. The increase in new vehicle gross profit for the nine month period ended September 30, 2015 can be attributed to an increase in number of vehicles sold of 5,198 or 18.5% offset by a decrease in the average gross profit per new vehicle sold of \$111 or 3.7%. Used vehicle gross profit increased by \$1.3 million or 13.5% for the three month period ended September 30, 2015. Used vehicle gross profit for the nine month period ended September 30, 2015 increased by \$8.6 million or 39.6% when compared to the same period in the prior year. Parts, service and collision repair gross profit increased by \$9.4 million or 24.2% in the third quarter of 2015. The Company's finance and insurance gross profit increased by \$0.4 million or 1.0% during the third quarter of 2015 which can be attributed to an increase in the average gross profit per vehicles retailed of \$177 or 8.1% offset by a decrease in the total number of vehicles retailed of 1,049.

Finance and insurance gross profit increased by \$18.5 million or 23.7% during the nine month period ended September 30, 2015. This can be attributed to an increase in the total number of vehicles retailed of 10,232 offset by a decrease in the average gross profit per vehicles retailed of \$146 or 6.1%.

Parts, service and collision repair gross profit increased by \$9.4 million or 24.2% in the third quarter of 2015. Parts, service and collision repair gross profit increased by \$59.2 million or 71.4% during the nine month period ended September 30, 2015.

### *Gross Profit - Same Store Analysis*

Same store gross profit decreased by \$9.7 million or 14.1% and \$20.4 million or 10.6% for the three month period and the nine month period ended September 30, 2015 respectively when compared to the same period in the prior year. New vehicle gross profit decreased by \$5.5 million or 24.6% in the three month period ended September 30, 2015 when compared to 2014 as a result of a decrease in new vehicle sales of 713 units or 10.3% and a decrease in the average gross profit per new vehicle sold of \$518 or 16.0%. For the nine month period ended September 30, 2015, new vehicle gross profit decreased by \$12.2 million or 20.5% which can be mainly attributed to a decrease in new vehicle sales of 1,754 units or 9.2% and decrease in the average gross profit per new vehicle sold of \$387 or 12.4%.

Used vehicle gross profit increased by \$0.3 million or 6.2% in the three month period ended September 30, 2015 over the prior year. This was due to an increase in the average gross profit per used vehicle retailed of \$262 or 14.8% offset by a decrease in the number of used vehicles sold of 197 units. For the nine month period ended September 30, 2015, same store used vehicle gross profits decreased by \$1.2 million or 7.5% which was mainly due to a decrease in the average gross profit per vehicle retailed of \$89 or 4.5% and a decrease in the number of vehicles retailed of 255 units.

Parts, service and collision repair gross profit decreased by \$0.2 million or 1.0% in the three month period ended September 30, 2015 when compared to the same period in the prior year as a result of a decrease in the number of repair orders completed of 4,072 offset by an increase in the average gross profit per repair order completed of \$7 or 3.7%. For the nine month period ended September 30, 2015, parts, service and collision

repair gross profit increased by \$1.6 million or 2.8% which can be mainly attributed to an increase in the number of repair orders completed of 1,994 and an increase in the average gross profit per repair order completed of \$4 or 1.9%.

Finance and insurance gross profit decreased by \$4.2 million or 19.8% in the three month period ended September 30, 2015 when compared to the prior year as a result of a decrease in the average gross profit per unit sold of \$134 and a decrease in units retailed that had finance and insurance related products of 1,278. For the nine month period ended September 30, 2015, finance and insurance gross profit decreased by \$8.7 million or 14.4% and can be attributed to a decrease in the average gross profit per unit sold of \$98 and a decrease in units retailed of 2,581.

### **Operating expenses**

Operating expenses consist of four major categories: employee costs, administrative costs, facility lease costs and depreciation of property and equipment. A significant portion of the Company's operating costs are employee costs which are largely variable in nature. There is a balance between reducing staffing levels as a result of business contraction, and maintaining high-performing staff. Due to the competitive nature of the retail automotive industry, additional measures are employed to ensure that the high-performing staff are maintained during downtimes, as a result any decrease in gross profit may not be met with a matched decrease in operating expenses. The Company operates a centralized marketing department and information technology department both of which provide services to the dealerships in order to leverage the size of the group as a means to lower the operating costs of the dealerships.



The following tables summarize operating expenses as a percentage of gross profit. When evaluated, operating expenses are broken into its fixed and variable components. Fixed expenses are costs that do not fluctuate with changes in sales volume while variable expenses are costs that vary depending on sales volume.

	Three month period ended September 30, 2015	Three month period ended September 30, 2014	Change
Employee costs	48.7%	48.9%	(0.2)%
Administrative costs – Variable	16.8%	16.6%	0.2%
<b>Total variable expenses</b>	65.5%	65.5%	0.0%
Administrative costs – Fixed	4.8%	3.4%	1.4%
Facility lease costs	4.2%	4.1%	0.1%
Depreciation of property and equipment	3.9%	3.6%	0.3%
<b>Total fixed expenses</b>	12.9%	11.1%	1.8%
<b>Total operating expenses</b>	78.4%	76.6%	1.8%

	Nine month period ended September 30, 2015	Nine month period ended September 30, 2014	Change
Employee costs	50.7%	50.4%	0.3%
Administrative costs – Variable	17.6%	16.3%	1.3%
<b>Total variable expenses</b>	68.3%	66.7%	1.6%
Administrative costs – Fixed	4.6%	3.0%	1.6%
Facility lease costs	4.3%	3.9%	0.4%
Depreciation of property and equipment	3.8%	3.8%	0.0%
<b>Total fixed expenses</b>	12.7%	10.7%	2.0%
<b>Total operating expenses</b>	81.0%	77.4%	3.6%

Operating expenses increased by 11.1% or \$10.1 million during the three month period ended September 30, 2015, as compared to the same period in the prior year. Since many operating expenses are variable in nature, Management considers operating expenses as a percentage of gross profit to be a good indicator of expense control. Operating expenses as a percentage of gross profit increased to 78.4% in the third quarter of 2015, from 76.6% in the same period of the prior year, due to the impact of the fixed portion of these expenses. As a percentage of gross profit, the variable portion of operating expenses has stayed consistent at 65.5% while the fixed portion has increased from 11.1% to 12.9%.

The increase in the fixed portion of operating expenses is due to the growth of the Company since the third quarter of 2014, resulting in an

increase in facility lease costs, depreciation of property and equipment, and the fixed portion of administrative costs. While the fixed costs would typically remain steady as a percentage of gross profit, the slowdown in the economy in the current year has caused this to rise. As the economy, and gross profit, improves, the fixed costs as a percentage of gross profit will also improve.

As evidenced by the variable costs as a percentage of gross profit, Management has been successful in controlling operating costs for the Company and, as shown in the decrease in employee costs as a percentage of gross profit, have been able to show improvement over the prior year as a result of integration efforts of new dealerships.

For the nine month period ended September 30, 2015, operating expenses as a percentage of gross

profit increased to 81.0% from 77.4% in the same period of the prior year. This increase is driven by the slowdown of the economy during the year and the time lag in the corresponding reduction of operating costs. During the first two quarters of the year, operating expenses remained at levels higher than normal, as a percentage of gross profit, due to this time lag, however, significant progress has been made during the third quarter in realigning the operating costs with gross profit. This improvement in operating expenses as a percentage of gross profit is expected to continue during the fourth quarter and into 2016.

#### *Employee costs*

During the three month period ended September 30, 2015, employee costs increased by \$4.8 million to \$62.7 million from \$57.9 million in the prior year period. Employee costs as a percentage of gross profit stayed consistent compared to the same period of the prior year. Employee costs as a percentage of gross profit for the nine month period ended September 30, 2015 increased to 50.7% from 50.4% for the same period in the prior year. Our dealership employee pay structures are tied to meeting sales objectives, maintaining customer satisfaction indices, as well as improving gross profit and net income.

#### *Administrative costs*

During the three month period ended September 30, 2015, administrative costs increased by \$3.8 million or 15.7%. The variable portion of administrative costs as a percentage of gross profit increased to 16.8% in the third quarter from 16.6% in the comparable period of 2014. The fixed portion of administrative costs as a percentage of gross profit increased to 4.8% in the third quarter from 3.3% in the comparable period of 2014.

For the nine month period ended September 30, the variable portion of administrative costs as a percentage of gross profit increased to 17.6% from 16.3% in the same period of the prior year. For the nine month period ended September 30, the fixed portion of administrative costs as a percentage of gross profit increased to 4.6% from 2.6% in the same period of the prior year. The increase in variable and fixed portion of administrative costs are primarily due to the acquisitions completed

since the beginning of 2014 as they are fully represented in the expenses during the current period.

During the nine month period ended September 30, 2015, the Company incurred \$0.3 million in professional fees related to acquisitions compared to \$1.2 million for the same period in 2014. These costs will vary based on the number of acquisitions completed each period.

#### *Facility lease costs*

During the three month period ended September 30, 2015, facility lease costs increased by 12.8% to \$5.3 million from \$4.7 million. For the nine month period ended September 30, 2015 the Company's facility lease costs have increased by 70.3%, to \$15.5 million from \$9.1 million, primarily due to the acquisitions completed since the beginning of 2014 as they are fully represented in the expenses during the current period. Facility lease costs are 4.2% of gross profit for the three month period (2014 - 4.0%) and 4.3% for the nine month period ended September 30 (2014 - 3.5%).

#### *Depreciation of property and equipment*

During the three month period ended September 30, 2015, depreciation of property and equipment increased to \$5.1 million from \$4.1 million in the same period of the prior year. For the nine month period ended September 30, 2015, depreciation of property and equipment increased to \$13.7 million from \$9.2 million in the same period of the prior year. The increase in depreciation of property and equipment can be primarily attributed to the acquisitions completed since the beginning of 2014 as they are fully represented in the expenses during the current period. Depreciation expense makes up 3.9% of gross profit for the three month period (2014 -3.5%) and 3.8% for the nine month period ended September 30 (2014 - 3.6%).

#### **Income Taxes**

Income tax expense for the three month period ended September 30, 2015 increased by \$0.7 million to \$6.2 million from \$5.5 million in 2014. For the nine month period ended

September 30, 2015, income tax expense increased by \$1.6 million from \$12.9 million to \$14.5 million.

During the first three quarters of 2015, the Company paid \$25.0 million of cash taxes which relates to the fiscal 2014 taxation year and installments toward the 2015 taxation year. The payment of cash taxes will have an impact on adjusted free cash flow.

The increase in income tax expense is mainly due to the 2% increase in the corporate tax rate for the province of Alberta from 10% to 12%. The increase in tax rate has negatively impacted diluted earnings per share for the three month period ended September 30, 2015 by \$0.01 from \$0.48 to \$0.47, and for the nine month ended September 30, 2015, negatively impacted basic earnings per share by \$0.03 from \$1.27 to \$1.24 and the diluted earnings per share by \$0.04 from \$1.27 to \$1.23.

#### Finance costs

The Company incurs finance costs on its revolving floorplan facilities, long term indebtedness and banking arrangements. During the three month period ended September 30, 2015, finance costs on our revolving floorplan facilities increased by 3.3% to \$3.1 million from \$3.0 million in the third quarter of 2014, mainly due to increased inventory as a result the acquisitions completed since the beginning of 2014 as they are fully represented in the expenses during the current period. Finance costs on long term indebtedness increased by \$1.9 million in the third quarter of 2015 due to the increase in the Company's revolving term facility for acquisitions completed since the beginning of 2014 as they are fully represented in the expenses during the current period.

Management believes that a comparison of floorplan financing costs to floorplan credits can be used to evaluate the efficiency of our new vehicle sales relative to stocking levels. The following table details the carrying cost of vehicles based on floorplan interest net of floorplan assistance earned:

(in thousands of dollars)	For the Three Months Ended		For the Nine Months Ended	
	Sept 30, 2015	Sept 30, 2014	Sept 30, 2015	Sept 30, 2014
Floorplan financing	3,123	3,004	10,204	7,115
Floorplan credits earned	(3,640)	(3,920)	(11,246)	(8,387)
<b>Net carrying cost of vehicle inventory</b>	<b>(517)</b>	<b>(916)</b>	<b>(1,042)</b>	<b>(1,272)</b>

Redemption liabilities relate to put options held by certain non-controlling shareholder interests (excluding Mr. Patrick Priestner) and are measured at fair value. The fair value of the liabilities are based on predefined formulas included in the universal shareholder agreements as executed at the time of acquisition. The fair value of the redemption liabilities are revalued at each reporting date. The redemption liabilities only become payable in the event the non-controlling shareholder exercises their put option, wherein the Company is required to acquire the non-controlling shareholder's interest.

During the quarter ended September 30, 2015, the net income of certain dealerships exceeded the quarterly net income from the comparative quarter, resulting in an increase in cumulative net income for the purposes of revaluing the redemption liabilities. Consequently, a \$1,104 increase to the fair value was recorded on the balance sheet with a corresponding expense charged to financing costs in the third quarter.

Some of our manufacturers provide non-refundable credits on the finance costs for our revolving floorplan facilities to offset the dealership's cost of inventory that, on average, effectively provide the dealerships with interest-free floorplan financing for the first 45 to 60 days of ownership of each financed vehicle. During the three month period and the nine month period ended September 30, 2015, the floorplan credits earned were \$3,640 (2014 - \$3,920) and \$11,246 (2014 - \$8,387), respectively. Accounting standards require the floorplan credits to be accounted for as a reduction in the cost of new vehicle inventory and subsequently a reduction in the cost of sales as vehicles are sold.

## 7. GROWTH, ACQUISITIONS, RELOCATIONS AND REAL ESTATE

The Company operates 52 automotive dealerships (60 franchises) comprised of 40 dealerships (46 franchises) which are wholly owned, as well as nine General Motors dealerships (nine franchises), two BMW dealerships (four franchises), and one Chrysler dealership (one franchise) which the Company controls and consolidates for accounting purposes.

### Growth

The Company has acquired 4 dealerships (4 franchises) in 2015. Acquisitions completed during the year are as follows:

#### *Airdrie Chrysler*

On May 11, 2015, the Company purchased substantially all of the operating and fixed assets of North Hill Motors (1975) Ltd. (“Airdrie Chrysler”), in Airdrie, Alberta, for total cash consideration of \$21,595 and contingent consideration with a fair value of \$3,608. The acquisition was financed by drawing on the Company’s revolving term facility. In 2014, the dealership retailed 935 new vehicles and 704 used vehicles.

#### *Don Folk Chevrolet*

On September 14, 2015, the Company, through an 80% owned subsidiary, DFC Holdings Inc., purchased substantially all of the operating and fixed assets of Don Folk Chevrolet Inc., a Chevrolet dealership, and 399573 B.C. Ltd., an auto body shop, (together “Don Folk Chevrolet”), located in Kelowna, British Columbia, for total cash consideration of \$9,175. The acquisition was financed by drawing on the Company’s revolving term facility. To comply with GM Canada’s approval, Mr Patrick Priestner, the Executive Chairman of the Company, is required to have 100% voting control of Don Folk Chevrolet. In 2014, the dealership retailed 452 new vehicles and 304 used vehicles.

The Company also purchased the land and facilities through a wholly-owned subsidiary, DFC Properties Inc., for \$13,250.

#### *Grove Dodge Chrysler Jeep*

On October 5, 2015, the Company, through GRV C Holdings Inc., purchased substantially all of the operating and fixed assets of Grove Dodge Chrysler Jeep Ltd. (“Grove Dodge”), in Spruce Grove, Alberta, for total cash consideration of \$19,083 and contingent consideration with a fair value of \$1,808. The acquisition was financed by drawing on the Company’s revolving term facility. In 2014, the dealership retailed 809 new vehicles and 407 used vehicles. As part of the transaction, the Company entered into an agreement with a former minority owner of Grove Dodge, whereby he acquired a 10% ownership interest in GRV C Holdings Inc. from the Company for cash consideration.

#### *Hunt Club Nissan*

On November 1, 2015, the Company, through AutoCanada HCN Holdings Inc., purchased substantially all of the operating and fixed assets of Hunt Club Nissan Ltd. (“Hunt Club Nissan”), in Ottawa, Ontario, as well as the exclusive right to build and operate a Nissan motor vehicle franchise on a designated property in southwest Ottawa. Total cash consideration for the transaction was \$13,825. The acquisition was financed by drawing on the Company’s revolving term facility. In 2014, the dealership retailed 1,109 new vehicles and 452 used vehicles.

As part of the transaction, the Company entered into an agreement with the former owner of Hunt Club Nissan, whereby he acquired a 10% ownership interest in AutoCanada HCN Holdings Inc. from the Company for cash consideration.

### Integration of New Dealerships and Investments

Since September 30, 2014, the Company has acquired six dealerships and has been dedicating resources to ensure a successful integration of its newly acquired dealerships. As noted in our same store analysis, experience has shown that it takes a minimum of two full years in order to successfully integrate a store and achieve its anticipated performance objectives.

The dealerships acquired in 2014 and 2015 are being integrated into their respective platforms and within the Company. Management continues to work diligently on the integration of those dealerships and is very satisfied with the progress being made.

The investments in dealerships that we made in the third and fourth quarters of 2014, as well as the second and third quarters of 2015 are fairly recent. As a result, we are still relatively early in the process of integrating these investments.

We will continue to dedicate significant resources to newly acquired dealerships in order to successfully integrate acquisitions in an efficient manner. As a result, we expect to incur additional selling and administrative costs in the future in order to successfully integrate new dealerships into our model.

### **Dealership Open Points**

#### *Volkswagen - Sherwood Park, Alberta*

In February 2014, the Company announced that it had been awarded the right to a Volkswagen Open Point dealership in Sherwood Park, Alberta. The Company intends to construct an approximately 45,000 square foot facility in Sherwood Park, designed to Volkswagen Canada image standards, with construction anticipated to be completed in the third quarter of 2016. The Volkswagen Open Point has a planning potential of 800 new vehicles annually which the Company anticipates achieving in two to three years of operation.

#### *Nissan - Calgary, Alberta*

On July 1, 2014, as part of the Company's purchase of the Hyatt Group, the Company acquired the exclusive right to build and operate a Nissan dealership on a designated property in southeast Calgary. The purchase price for transfer of the right was \$1.5 million, which was satisfied by the issuance of 18,753 common shares of AutoCanada at a deemed price of \$79.99. The permit process in the City of Calgary has taken longer than expected. The dealership construction is now expected to begin in 2016 with anticipated opening in 2017. The dealership will be constructed by a third party and subsequently leased by the Company.

#### *North Edmonton Kia*

During the third quarter of 2014, the Company opened its North Edmonton Kia Open Point dealership. The Company expects to incur operating losses over the first year of operations as the dealership builds its customer base and, in particular, its service customer base. Management

is very pleased to have opened its first Kia dealership and expects the dealership to continue to drive higher volume over the coming months.

#### *North Winnipeg Kia*

In March 2015, the Company announced that it has signed a Letter of Intent with Kia Canada Inc. ("Kia") which, subject to the completion of requirements contained in the Letter of Intent, will award AutoCanada an Open Point Kia dealership in North Winnipeg, Manitoba. AutoCanada intends to operate the dealership out of a new facility, designed to Kia image standards, with construction anticipated to commence in late Q3 2016.

### **Future Acquisition Opportunities**

Due to the economic slowdown occurring in the West, and Alberta in particular, Management anticipates that there will continue to be attractive buying opportunities, further enhancing long term shareholder value, however, Management is not yet seeing a change in acquisition multiples. Additionally, the Company shall continue to seek opportunities elsewhere in Canada, where appropriate, so as to provide continued diversity. The Company is in a position to patiently pursue its acquisition strategy thereby maximizing its ability to take advantage of anticipated buying opportunities that times of economic uncertainty generally provide. Management and the Company have excellent relationships with our manufacturer partners and believe that if we can continue to perform well, we can build upon our current brand portfolios and hopefully gain the acceptance of other new manufacturers over time.

### **Capital Plan**

The Company maintains a capital plan for contemplated future capital projects. Details of the capital plan are described below:

#### *Dealership Relocations*

Management estimates the total capital requirements of additional potential planned dealership relocations to be approximately \$134.5 million by the beginning of fiscal 2019, \$83.8 million of this amount is to be financed. As noted above, the Company expects dealership relocations to provide long term earnings sustainability and result in significant



improvements in revenues and overall profitability. Management continually updates its capital plan and as such the estimates provided may vary as delays occur or projects are added or removed.

#### *Current Dealership Expansion and Imaging Requirements*

The Company has identified approximately \$38.1 million in capital costs that it may incur in order to expand or renovate various current locations by the beginning of fiscal 2019, \$13.3 million of this amount is to be financed. The Company is required by its manufacturers to undertake periodic imaging upgrades to its facilities. Included above are the estimated costs and timing related to the re-imaging requirements by Hyundai Canada. The Company expects re-imaging to attract more customers to its dealerships.

#### *Open Point Opportunities*

Management regularly reviews potential open point opportunities. If successful in being awarded these opportunities, Management would then estimate additional capital costs in order to construct suitable facilities for open points. The Company estimates approximately \$25.1 million in capital costs that it may incur by the end of fiscal 2017 related to currently awarded Open Points, \$10.5 million of this amount is to be financed. If awarded in the future, Management will provide additional cost estimates and timing of construction. In order to be successful in some opportunities, Management may be required to secure appropriate land for the potential open points, in which case, additional land purchase costs may be incurred in the future.

The following summarizes the capital plan for contemplated future capital projects as at September 30, 2015:

<b>(in millions of dollars)</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Same Store</b>						
Dealership Relocations	1.6	43.4	41.0	11.2	–	97.2
Current Dealership Expansion and Imaging Requirements	–	3.0	11.2	–	8.9	23.1
<b>Capital Plan</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>46.4</b>	<b>52.2</b>	<b>11.2</b>	<b>8.9</b>	<b>120.3</b>
<b>Expected to be Financed</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>28.3</b>	<b>31.7</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>67.8</b>
<b>Non-Same Store</b>						
Dealership Relocations	–	7.3	16.0	9.0	5.0	37.3
Current Dealership Expansion and Imaging Requirements	–	12.2	2.8	–	–	15.0
Open Point Opportunities	3.5	17.4	4.2	–	–	25.1
<b>Capital Plan</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>36.9</b>	<b>23.0</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>77.4</b>
<b>Expected to be Financed</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>20.5</b>	<b>11.2</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>39.8</b>
<b>Total Capital Plan</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>83.3</b>	<b>75.2</b>	<b>20.2</b>	<b>13.9</b>	<b>197.7</b>
<b>Total Expected to be Financed</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>48.8</b>	<b>42.9</b>	<b>13.2</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>107.6</b>

Notwithstanding the capital plan laid out above, expected capital expenditures are subject to deferral due to issues in obtaining permits, construction delays, changes in reimagining requirements or other delays that are normal to the construction process. The above is considered to be a guide for when the Company expects to perform capital expenditures, however, significant deferral may occur in the future. Management closely monitors the capital plan and adjusts as

appropriate based on Company performance, Manufacturer requirements and individual dealership needs. Management performs a robust analysis on all future expenditures prior to the allocation of funds. Timing of dealership relocations is determined based on the dealership's current performance, the market, and expected return on invested capital. It is expected that a dealership relocation will result in improved performance and increased profitability.

## 8. LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

Our principal uses of funds are for capital expenditures, repayment of debt, funding the future growth of the Company and dividends to Shareholders. We have historically met these requirements by using cash generated from operating activities and through short term and long term indebtedness. Due to the significant increase in acquisition activity, the Company completed an offering of senior unsecured notes during the second quarter of 2014 in order to replenish its capital and execute on acquisitions. On July 11, 2014, the Company also completed an equity offering which was used to pay down its revolving credit facility and replenish its capital in order to execute on future acquisitions.

The Company maintains working capital in excess of manufacturer requirements which may be used for capital expenditures. The Company's analysis of its available capital based on the balance sheet at September 30, 2015 is as follows:

- The Company had drawn \$132.7 million on its \$200.0 million revolving term facility.

As a result of the above, as at September 30, 2015, the Company currently has approximately \$67.3 million in readily available liquidity, not including future retained cash from operations, that it may deploy for growth expenditures including acquisitions.

### Cash Flow from Operating Activities

Cash flow from operating activities (including changes in non-cash working capital) of the Company for the three month period ended September 30, 2015 was \$20.1 million (cash provided by operating activities of \$23.0 million less negative net change in non-cash working capital of \$2.9 million) compared to \$9.1 million (cash provided by operating activities of \$23.2 million less negative net change in non-cash working capital of \$14.1 million) in the same period of the prior year.

### Cash Flow from Investing Activities

For the three month period ended September 30, 2015, cash flow from investing activities of the Company was a net outflow of \$42.8 million as compared to a net outflow of \$101.4 million in the same period of the prior year. The decrease was primarily due to less business acquisitions in Q3 2015 of \$22.4 million compared to \$101.8 million used for business acquisitions that occurred in Q3 2014 .

### Cash Flow from Financing Activities

For the three month period ended September 30, 2015, cash flow from financing activities was a net inflow of \$19.7 million as compared to \$65.3 million in the same period of 2014. The decrease was primarily due to less repayment of debt of \$46.1 million compared to \$119.5 in Q3 2014.

### Credit Facilities and Floor Plan Financing

The Company is in advanced stages of negotiations towards expanding its revolving credit facility. As part of this process, the Company has amended its banking covenants to align with current industry lending practices.

## Key Financial Covenants

The Company is required by its debt agreements to comply with several financial covenants. The following is a summary of the Company's actual performance against its financial covenants as at September 30, 2015:

Financial Covenant	Requirement	Q3 Actual Calculation	Q2 Actual Calculation
<b>Syndicated Revolver:</b>			
Senior Secured Leverage Ratio <sup>1</sup>	Shall not exceed 2.75	1.74	1.26
Adjusted Total Leverage Ratio <sup>1</sup>	Shall not exceed 5.00	4.30	4.49
Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio	Shall not be less than 1.20	1.60	2.07
Current Ratio	Shall not be less than 1.05	1.14	1.13
<b>Syndicated Floorplan:</b>			
Current Ratio	Shall not be less than 1.10	1.15	1.14
Tangible Net Worth	Shall not be less than \$40 million	\$93.5 million	\$90.9 million
Debt to Tangible Net Worth	Shall not exceed 7.50	4.52	4.88

<sup>1</sup> On September 30, 2015, amended terms and conditions of the syndicated revolver facility resulted in the Senior Secured Leverage Ratio changing from 2.00 to 2.75, and the Adjusted Total Leverage Ratio changing from 4.50 to 5.00.

The covenants above are based on consolidated financial statements of the dealerships that are financed directly by the lender. As a result, the actual performance against the covenant does not necessarily reflect the actual performance of AutoCanada. The Company is required to comply with other covenants under the terms of its remaining credit agreements. The Company stress tests all covenants on a monthly and quarterly basis and notes that a significant further drop in performance would be necessary to breach the covenants.

As at September 30, 2015, the Company is in compliance with all of its financial covenants.

## Financial Instruments

Details of the Company's financial instruments, including risks and uncertainties are included in Note 23 of the annual audited consolidated

financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2014. There have been no significant changes to the Company's financial instruments since that time.

## Growth vs. Non-Growth Capital Expenditures

Non-growth capital expenditures are capital expenditures incurred during the period to maintain existing levels of service. These include capital expenditures to replace property and equipment and any costs incurred to enhance the operational life of existing property and equipment. Non-growth capital expenditures can fluctuate from period to period depending on our needs to upgrade or replace existing property and equipment. Over time, we expect to incur annual non-growth capital expenditures in an amount approximating our amortization of property and equipment reported in each period.

Additional details on the components of non-growth property and equipment purchases are as follows:

(in thousands of dollars)	July 1, 2015 to September 30, 2015	January 1, 2015 to September 30, 2015
Leasehold improvements	2,819	5,528
Machinery and equipment	468	1,637
Furniture and fixtures	376	1,034
Computer equipment	468	1,317
Company & lease vehicles	–	17
	4,131	9,533



Amounts relating to the expansion of sales and service capacity are considered growth expenditures. Growth expenditures are discretionary, represent cash outlays intended to provide additional future cash flows and are expected to provide benefit in future periods. During the three month period and the nine month period ended September 30, 2015, growth capital expenditures of \$18.1 million and \$56.2 million were

incurred, respectively. These expenditures related primarily to land that was purchased for future dealership operations during the first quarter of 2015 for \$22.9 million, \$15.0 million in the second quarter, and \$15.0 million in the third quarter. Dealership relocations are included as growth expenditures if they contribute to the expansion of sales and service capacity of the dealership.

The following table provides a reconciliation of the purchase of property and equipment as reported on the Statement of Cash Flows to the purchase of non-growth property and equipment as calculated in the free cash flow section below:

(in thousands of dollars)	July 1, 2015 to September 30, 2015	January 1, 2015 to September 30, 2015
Purchase of property and equipment from the Statement of Cash Flows	22,264	65,727
Less: Amounts related to the expansion of sales and service capacity	(18,133)	(56,194)
<b>Purchase of non-growth property and equipment</b>	<b>4,131</b>	<b>9,533</b>

Repairs and maintenance expenditures are expensed as incurred and have been deducted from earnings for the period. Repairs and maintenance expense incurred during the three month period and the nine month period ended September 30, 2015, were \$1.5 million and \$4.5 million (2014 - \$0.8 million and \$2.4 million), respectively.

and fixtures, machinery and equipment, service vehicles, computer hardware and computer software. Management expects that our annual capital expenditures will increase in the future, as a function of increases in the number of locations requiring maintenance capital expenditures, the cost of opening new locations and increased spending on information systems.

### Planned Capital Expenditures

Our capital expenditures consist primarily of leasehold improvements, the purchase of furniture

For further information regarding planned capital expenditures, see "GROWTH, ACQUISITIONS, RELOCATIONS AND REAL ESTATE" above.

### Financial Position

The following table shows selected audited balances of the Company (in thousands) for December 31, 2014 and December 31, 2013, as well as unaudited balances of the Company at September 30, 2015, June 30, 2015, March 31, 2015, September 30, 2014, June 30, 2014, and March 31, 2014:

(in thousands of dollars)	September 30, 2015	June 30, 2015	March 31, 2015	December 31, 2014	September 30, 2014	June 30, 2014	March 31, 2014	December 31, 2013
Cash and cash equivalents	77,071	77,676	66,351	72,462	64,559	91,662	41,541	35,113
Trade and other receivables	118,853	124,683	104,753	92,138	115,074	85,837	69,747	57,771
Inventories	581,258	620,837	625,779	563,277	471,664	324,077	261,764	278,091
<b>Assets</b>	<b>1,508,028</b>	<b>1,517,978</b>	<b>1,449,213</b>	<b>1,354,755</b>	<b>1,211,527</b>	<b>910,715</b>	<b>667,016</b>	<b>619,078</b>
Revolving floorplan facilities	550,857	607,694	601,432	527,780	437,935	313,752	261,263	264,178
Non-current debt and lease obligations	313,703	287,202	241,929	223,009	179,447	294,289	123,811	83,580

## Net Working Capital

The automobile manufacturers represented by the Company require the Company to maintain net working capital for each individual dealership. At September 30, 2015, the aggregate of net working capital requirements was approximately \$90.6 million. At September 30, 2015, all working capital requirements had been met by each dealership. The working capital requirements imposed by the automobile manufacturers' may limit our ability to fund capital expenditures, acquisitions, dividends, or other commitments in the future if sufficient funds are not generated by the Company. Net working capital, as defined by automobile manufacturers, may not reflect net working capital as determined using GAAP measures. As a result, it is possible that the Company may meet automobile manufacturers' net working capital requirements without having sufficient aggregate working capital using GAAP measures. The Company defines net working capital amounts as current assets less current liabilities as presented in the interim consolidated financial statements. At September 30, 2015, the Company had aggregate working capital of approximately \$100.0 million.

The net working capital requirements above restrict the Company's ability to transfer funds up from its subsidiaries, as each subsidiary dealership is required to be appropriately capitalized as explained above. In addition, our VCCI Facilities require the VW and Audi dealerships to maintain minimum cash and equity, which also restricts our ability to transfer up funds.

## Off Balance Sheet Arrangements

The Company has operating lease commitments, with varying terms through 2037, to lease premises and equipment used for business purposes. The Company leases the majority of the lands and buildings used in its franchised automobile dealership operations from related parties and other third parties.

The minimum lease payments over the upcoming fiscal years will be as follows:

(in thousands of dollars)	\$
2015	4,707
2016	18,506
2017	17,217
2018	14,726
2019	12,728
Thereafter	125,556
<b>Total</b>	<b>193,440</b>

Information regarding our contractual obligations with respect to long-term debt, capital lease obligations and other long-term obligations is included in the Liquidity Risk section of Note 21 of the Company's annual consolidated financial statements.

## Related Party Transactions

Note 22 of the condensed interim consolidated financial statements of the Company for the period ended September 30, 2015 summarizes the transactions between the Company and its related parties.

### *Administrative support fees*

The Company currently earns administrative support fees from companies controlled by the Executive Chairman of AutoCanada. The administrative support fees consist of a portion of human resource and fixed costs associated with providing technological and accounting support to these companies. The Company believes that providing support services to these companies provides value to both the companies supported and AutoCanada. By providing support, AutoCanada is able to reduce its overall fixed costs associated with accounting and information technology.

Related party transactions are measured based on the proportionate allocation of actual costs incurred multiplied by the number of resources and/or hours provided to or used by the related party. There are no ongoing or continuing obligations of the Company to provide these services or for the related parties to utilize these services.

## 9. BUSINESS COMBINATION UNDER COMMON CONTROL

On July 11, 2014, the Company completed a business combination under common control, resulting in the consolidation of the financial results of the Company's investments in associates as further described in Notes 14 and 15 of the annual audited consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2014. The Company has provided a reconciliation below of its consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income for the three month and nine month periods ended September 30, 2015 to its financial results had the results from its investments in associates not been consolidated as at September 30, 2015.

(in thousands of dollars)	For the three months ended September 30, 2015 (Including GM)	Effects of GM Consolidation	For the three months ended September 30, 2015 (excluding GM)
Revenue	781,205	(141,325)	639,880
Cost of sales	(652,532)	114,113	(538,419)
<b>Gross Profit</b>	128,673	(27,212)	101,461
Operating expenses	(100,824)	19,780	(81,044)
<b>Operating income before other income (expenses)</b>	27,849	(7,432)	20,417
Lease and other income, net	814	(296)	518
(Loss) gain on disposal of assets, net	75	(33)	42
Income from investments in associates	–	3,581	3,581
<b>Operating Profit</b>	28,738	(4,180)	24,558
Finance costs	(9,463)	1,957	(7,506)
Finance income	717	(196)	521
<b>Net income for the period before taxation</b>	19,992	(2,419)	17,573
Income taxes	6,207	(516)	5,691
<b>Net and comprehensive income for the period</b>	13,785	(1,903)	11,882
<b>Net and comprehensive income attributable to:</b>			
AutoCanada shareholders	11,690	–	11,690
Non-controlling interests	2,095	(1,903)	192
	13,785	(1,903)	11,882
<b>Earnings per share</b>			
Basic	0.48	–	0.48
Diluted	0.47	–	0.47
<b>Weighted average shares</b>			
Basic	24,440,080	–	24,440,080
Diluted	24,532,409	–	24,532,409

(in thousands of dollars)	For the nine months ended September 30, 2015 (Including GM)	Effects of GM Consolidation	For the nine months ended September 30, 2015 (Excluding GM)
Revenue	2,231,489	(410,680)	1,820,809
Cost of sales	(1,867,702)	336,691	(1,531,011)
<b>Gross Profit</b>	363,787	(73,989)	289,798
Operating expenses	(294,567)	55,682	(238,885)
<b>Operating income before other income (expenses)</b>	69,220	(18,307)	50,913
Lease and other income, net	4,002	(1,029)	2,973
(Loss) gain on disposal of assets, net	41	10	51
Income from investments in associates	–	8,885	8,885
<b>Operating Profit</b>	73,263	(10,441)	62,822
Finance costs	(25,159)	4,009	(21,150)
Finance income	1,673	(260)	1,413
<b>Net income for the period before taxation</b>	49,777	(6,692)	43,085
Income taxes	14,522	(2,053)	12,469
<b>Net and comprehensive income for the period</b>	35,255	(4,639)	30,616
<b>Net and comprehensive income attributable to:</b>			
AutoCanada shareholders	30,182	–	30,182
Non-controlling interests	5,073	(4,639)	434
	35,255	(4,639)	30,616
<b>Earnings per share</b>			
Basic	1.24	–	1.24
Diluted	1.23	–	1.23
<b>Weighted average shares</b>			
Basic	24,424,863	–	24,424,863
Diluted	24,526,949	–	24,526,949

## 10. OUTSTANDING SHARES

As at September 30, 2015, the Company had 24,509,683 common shares outstanding. Basic and diluted weighted average number of shares outstanding for the three month period ended September 30, 2015 were 24,440,080 and 24,532,409, respectively. As at September 30, 2015, the value of the shares held in trust was \$0.5 million (2014 - \$3.3 million) which was

comprised of 70,147 in shares with a nil aggregate cost. As at November 5, 2015, there were 24,509,683 shares issued and outstanding.

On February 17, 2015, the Company announced that it had received approval from the Toronto Stock Exchange ("TSX") to commence a normal course issuer bid to purchase its common shares on the open market in accordance with the rules of the TSX. To date, the Company has not executed on the normal course issuer bid as the Company has been subject to a share purchase blackout period for a majority of the year.

## 11. DIVIDENDS

Management reviews the Company's financial results on a monthly basis. The Board of Directors reviews the financial results periodically to determine whether a dividend shall be paid based on a number of factors.

The following table summarizes the dividends declared by the Company in 2015:

Record date	Payment date	Per Share \$	Total \$
February 28, 2015	March 16, 2015	0.25	6,102
May 31, 2015	June 15, 2015	0.25	6,111
August 31, 2015	September 15, 2015	0.25	6,110
		0.75	18,323

On November 5, 2015, the Board declared a quarterly eligible dividend of \$0.25 per common share on AutoCanada's outstanding Class A shares, payable on December 15, 2015 to shareholders of record at the close of business on November 30, 2015. The quarterly eligible dividend of \$0.25 represents an annual dividend rate of \$1.00 per share.

As per the terms of the HSBC facility, we are restricted from declaring dividends and distributing cash if we are in breach of financial covenants or our available margin and facility limits or if such dividend would result in a breach of our covenants or our available margin and facility limits. At this time, the Company is within its covenants.

## 12. FREE CASH FLOW

The Company has defined free cash flow to be cash flows provided by operating activities (including changes in non-cash operating working capital) less capital expenditures (excluding capital assets acquired by acquisitions or purchases of real estate).

(in thousands of dollars, except unit and per unit amounts)	Q3 2015	Q2 2015	Q1 2015	Q4 2014	Q3 2014	Q2 2014	Q1 2014	Q4 2013
Cash provided by operating activities	20,139	21,004	(810)	42,276	9,093	10,918	8,850	9,674
<b>Deduct:</b>								
Purchase of property and equipment	(5,144)	(3,228)	(2,352)	(2,454)	(2,834)	(1,057)	(1,069)	(1,319)
<b>Free cash flow<sup>1</sup></b>	14,995	17,776	(3,162)	39,822	6,259	9,861	7,781	8,355
Weighted average shares outstanding at end of period	24,440,080	24,424,598	24,409,574	24,410,169	24,103,670	21,832,777	21,685,876	21,638,433
<b>Free cash flow per share</b>	0.61	0.73	(0.13)	1.63	0.26	0.45	0.36	0.39
<b>Free cash flow - 12 month trailing</b>	69,431	60,695	52,780	63,723	32,256	33,137	36,762	34,516

<sup>1</sup> This financial measure is identified and defined under the section "NON-GAAP MEASURES."

Management believes that the free cash flow (see "NON-GAAP MEASURES") can fluctuate significantly as a result of historical fluctuations in our business operations that occur on a quarterly basis as well as the resulting fluctuations in our trade receivables and inventory levels and the timing of the payments of trade payables and revolving floorplan facilities.

Changes in non-cash working capital consist of fluctuations in the balances of trade and other receivables, inventories, finance lease receivables, other current assets, trade and other payables, vehicle repurchase obligations and revolving floorplan facilities. Factors that can affect these items include seasonal sales trends, strategic decisions regarding inventory levels, the addition of new dealerships, and the day of the week on which period end cutoffs occur.

The following table summarizes the net increase (decrease) in cash due to changes in non-cash working capital for the nine month periods ended September 30, 2015 and September 30, 2014.

(in thousands of dollars)	January 1, 2015 to September 30, 2015	January 1, 2014 to September 30, 2014
Trade and other receivables	(26,201)	(29,529)
Inventories	1,042	3,303
Finance lease receivables	532	(2,578)
Other current assets	(2,752)	(4,271)
Trade and other payables	21,283	26,545
Vehicle repurchase obligations	778	1,838
Revolving floorplan facilities	5,405	(7,049)
	86	(11,741)

## Adjusted Free Cash Flow

The Company has defined adjusted free cash flow to be cash flows provided by operating activities (before changes in non-cash operating working capital) less non-growth capital expenditures.

(in thousands of dollars, except unit and per unit amounts)	Q3 2015	Q2 2015	Q1 2015	Q4 2014	Q3 2014	Q2 2014	Q1 2014	Q4 2013
Cash provided by operating activities before changes in non-cash working capital	23,082	22,386	(5,221)	19,125	23,192	16,497	7,984	12,894
<b>Deduct:</b>								
Purchase of non-growth property and equipment	(4,131)	(3,199)	(2,199)	(2,003)	(1,079)	(996)	(638)	(963)
<b>Adjusted free cash flow<sup>1</sup></b>	18,951	19,187	(7,420)	17,122	22,113	15,501	7,346	11,931
Weighted average shares outstanding at end of period	24,440,080	24,424,598	24,409,574	24,410,169	24,103,670	21,832,777	21,685,876	21,638,433
<b>Adjusted free cash flow per share</b>	0.78	0.79	(0.30)	0.70	0.92	0.71	0.34	0.55
<b>Adjusted free cash flow - 12 month trailing</b>	47,840	51,002	47,316	62,082	56,891	49,404	47,269	44,914

<sup>1</sup> This financial measure is identified and defined under the section "NON-GAAP MEASURES."

Management believes that non-growth property and equipment is necessary to maintain and sustain the current productive capacity of the Company's operations and cash available for growth. Management believes that maintenance capital expenditures should be funded by cash flow provided by operating activities. Capital spending for the expansion of sales and service capacity is expected to improve future free cash and as such is not deducted from cash flow provided by operating activities before changes in non-cash working capital in arriving at adjusted free cash flow. Adjusted free cash flow is a measure used by Management in forecasting and determining the Company's available resources for future capital

expenditure, repayment of debt, funding the future growth of the Company and dividends to Shareholders.

In the nine month period ending September 30, 2015, the Company paid approximately \$25.0 million in corporate income taxes and tax installments. Accordingly, this reduced our adjusted free cash flow by this amount. The Company expects the payment of corporate income taxes to have a more significant negative affect on free cash flow and adjusted free cash flow. See "RESULTS FROM OPERATIONS - Income Taxes" for further detail regarding the impact of corporate income taxes on cash flow.

## Adjusted Return on Capital Employed

The Company has defined Adjusted Return on Capital Employed to be EBIT (EBITDA, as defined in “NON-GAAP MEASURES”, less depreciation and amortization) divided by Average Capital Employed in the Company (average of shareholders’ equity and interest bearing debt, excluding floorplan financing, for the period, less the comparative adjustment defined below). Calculations below represent the results on a quarterly basis, except for the adjusted return on capital employed – 12 month trailing which incorporates the results based on the trailing 12 months for the periods presented.

(in thousands of dollars, except unit and per unit amounts)	Q3 2015	Q2 2015	Q1 2015	Q4 2014	Q3 2014	Q2 2014	Q1 2014	Q4 2013
EBITDA <sup>1,2</sup>	29,487	30,730	13,890	26,043	31,895	21,702	14,453	14,754
<b>Deduct:</b>								
Depreciation of property and equipment	(5,063)	(4,461)	(4,160)	(4,423)	(4,139)	(2,550)	(2,512)	(2,069)
<b>EBIT<sup>1,2</sup></b>	<b>24,424</b>	<b>26,269</b>	<b>9,730</b>	<b>21,620</b>	<b>27,756</b>	<b>19,152</b>	<b>11,941</b>	<b>12,685</b>
Average long-term debt	316,500	279,343	242,450	208,465	244,105	214,438	108,120	62,959
Average shareholder’s equity	447,774	439,711	436,262	440,513	326,410	205,613	196,608	187,652
<b>Average capital employed<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>764,274</b>	<b>719,054</b>	<b>678,712</b>	<b>648,978</b>	<b>570,515</b>	<b>420,051</b>	<b>304,728</b>	<b>250,611</b>
<b>Return on capital</b>	<b>3.2%</b>	<b>3.7%</b>	<b>1.4%</b>	<b>3.3%</b>	<b>4.9%</b>	<b>4.6%</b>	<b>3.9%</b>	<b>5.1%</b>
Comparative adjustment <sup>3</sup>	(17,264)	(17,264)	(17,264)	(17,264)	(15,951)	(15,951)	(15,951)	(15,951)
<b>Adjusted average capital employed<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>747,010</b>	<b>701,790</b>	<b>661,448</b>	<b>632,369</b>	<b>554,564</b>	<b>404,100</b>	<b>288,777</b>	<b>234,864</b>
<b>Adjusted return on capital employed<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>3.3%</b>	<b>3.7%</b>	<b>1.5%</b>	<b>3.4%</b>	<b>5.0%</b>	<b>4.7%</b>	<b>4.1%</b>	<b>5.4%</b>
<b>Adjusted return on capital employed – 12 month trailing</b>	<b>12.6%</b>	<b>15.4%</b>	<b>16.5%</b>	<b>18.6%</b>	<b>19.2%</b>	<b>20.6%</b>	<b>25.1%</b>	<b>27.9%</b>

<sup>1</sup> These financial measures are identified and defined under the section “NON-GAAP MEASURES.”

<sup>2</sup> EBITDA and EBIT used in the calculation of Adjusted Return on Capital Employed is calculated using the financial results including non-controlling interests.

<sup>3</sup> A comparative adjustment has been made in order to adjust for impairments and reversals of impairments of intangible assets. Due to the increased frequency of impairments and reversals of impairments, Management has provided an adjustment in order to freeze intangible assets at the pre-IFRS amount of \$43,700. As a result, all differences from January 1, 2010 forward under IFRS have been adjusted at the post-tax rate at the time the adjustment to the intangible asset carrying amount was made. Management believes that the adjusted return on capital employed provides more useful information about the return on capital employed.

Management believes that Adjusted Return on Capital Employed (see “NON-GAAP MEASURES”) is a good measure to evaluate the profitability of our invested capital. As a corporation, Management of AutoCanada may use this measure to compare potential acquisitions and other capital investments against our internally computed cost of capital to determine whether the investment shall create value for our shareholders. Management may also use this measure to look at past acquisitions, capital investments and the

Company as a whole in order to ensure shareholder value is being achieved by these capital investments. The decrease in adjusted return on capital employed – 12 month trailing is caused by the volume of acquisitions over the past two years, compounded by the reduced economic activity in the first three quarters of 2015. Management expects this measure to return to normal as the economy improves and the acquisitions are further integrated.



## **13. CRITICAL ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES AND ACCOUNTING POLICY DEVELOPMENTS**

A complete listing of critical accounting policies, estimates, judgments and measurement uncertainty can be found in Notes 3 & 5 of the annual consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2014; there has been no significant change in our critical accounting policies, estimates, judgments and measurement uncertainty in Q3 2015.

Certain new standards, interpretations, amendments and improvements to existing standards were issued by the IASB or International Financial Reporting Interpretations Committee (“IFRIC”) that are not yet effective for the period ended September 30, 2015. A listing of the standards issued which are applicable to the Company can be found in Note 4 of the annual consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2014. No new standards or amendments were adopted for the period ended September 30, 2015.

## **14. DISCLOSURE CONTROLS AND INTERNAL CONTROLS OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING**

During the quarter ended September 30, 2015, there were no changes in the Company’s disclosure controls or internal controls over financial reporting that materially affected, or would be reasonably likely to materially affect, such controls.

## **15. RISK FACTORS**

We face a number of business risks that could cause our actual results to differ materially from those disclosed in this MD&A (See “FORWARD LOOKING STATEMENTS”). Investors and the public should carefully consider our business risks, other uncertainties and potential events as well as the inherent uncertainty of forward looking statements when making investment decisions with respect to AutoCanada. If any of the business risks identified by AutoCanada were to occur, our business, financial condition, results of operations, cash flows or prospects could be materially adversely affected. In such case, the trading price of our shares could decline. Additional risks and uncertainties not presently known to us or that we currently deem immaterial may also adversely affect our business and operations. A comprehensive discussion of the known risk factors of AutoCanada and additional business risks is available in our 2014 Annual Information Form dated March 19, 2015 available on the SEDAR website at [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com).

## 16. FORWARD LOOKING STATEMENTS

Certain statements contained in the MD&A are forward-looking statements and information (collectively “forward-looking statements”), within the meaning of the applicable Canadian securities legislation. We hereby provide cautionary statements identifying important factors that could cause our actual results to differ materially from those projected in these forward-looking statements. Any statements that express, or involve discussions as to, expectations, beliefs, plans, objectives, assumptions or future events or performance (often, but not always, through the use of words or phrases such as “will likely result”, “are expected to”, “will continue”, “is anticipated”, “projection”, “vision”, “goals”, “objective”, “target”, “schedules”, “outlook”, “anticipate”, “expect”, “estimate”, “could”, “should”, “plan”, “seek”, “may”, “intend”, “likely”, “will”, “believe” and similar expressions are not historical facts and are forward-looking and may involve estimates and assumptions and are subject to risks, uncertainties and other factors some of which are beyond our control and difficult to predict. Accordingly, these factors could cause actual results or outcomes to differ materially from those expressed in the forward-looking statements. Therefore, any such forward-looking statements are qualified in their entirety by reference to the factors discussed throughout this document.

In particular, material forward-looking statements in the MD&A include:

- the belief that, as the Company continues to grow, operating expenses as a percentage of gross profit should continue to improve as the Company achieves greater economies of scale;
- the impact of an increase or decrease of one new retail vehicle sold on estimated free cash flow;
- expectations to incur additional selling and administrative costs in the future to successfully integrate new dealerships;
- the belief that, if the Company can continue to perform well, it will be able to build upon its current brand portfolios and hopefully gain the acceptance of other new manufacturers over time;
- commitments regarding future investments in additional GM dealerships;
- expectations to incur additional selling, general, and administrative costs in the future to facilitate the growth anticipated by the Company due to increased acquisition activity;
- estimates, intentions, and expectations regarding the capital plan, potential relocation of certain dealerships, dealership expansion needs, and Open Point opportunities;
- our belief that relocation of certain dealerships may provide incremental long-term earnings growth and better align some of our dealerships with the growth expectations of our manufacturer partners;
- the impact of dealership real estate relocations and purchases and its impact on liquidity, financial performance and the Company’s capital requirements;
- our belief that under a high growth scenario, cash from operating activities may not be sufficient to meet future capital needs and the potential need to seek additional capital in the form of debt or equity;
- our belief that our available liquidity is sufficient to complete our current capital expenditure commitments and to execute on additional dealership acquisitions;
- the impact of a significant decline in sales as a result of the inability to procure adequate supply of vehicles and/or lower consumer demand on cash flows from operations and our ability to fund capital expenditures;
- our expectation to incur annual non-growth capital expenditures in an amount approximating our amortization of property and equipment reported in each period;
- our expectation that growth expenditures will provide additional future cash flows and future benefit;

- our expectation to increase annual capital expenditures and the reasons for this expected increase;
  - the impact of working capital requirements and its impact on future liquidity;
  - the belief that a restriction from declaring dividends is not likely in the foreseeable future;
  - our belief that free cash flow can fluctuate significantly and the impact of these fluctuations on our operations and performance;
  - our belief that maintenance capital expenditures should be funded by cash flow provided by operating activities;
  - our potential use of Adjusted Return on Capital Employed as a measure for comparison and analysis;
  - guidance with respect to future acquisition and Open Point opportunities;
  - our assumption on the amount of time it may take for an acquisition or Open Point to achieve normal operating results;
  - expectations and estimates regarding income taxes and their effect on cash flow and dividends;
  - assumptions over non-GAAP measures and their impact on the Company;
  - management's assumptions and expectations over the future economic and general outlook;
  - the impact of economic stress on our compensation costs;
  - belief that the recession experienced during fiscal 2008 and 2009 should not be used as a proxy to forecast an impact in 2015;
  - the impact of economic uncertainty on the Company's acquisition opportunities;
  - the impact of seasonality on financial performance;
  - outlook regarding vehicle sales in Canada in 2015;
  - the impact of the decline in the exchange rate of the Canadian dollar to the US dollar;
  - expectations to incur operating losses over the first year of operations at North Edmonton Kia and the reasons for this;
  - expectations to continue to drive higher volume over the coming months at North Edmonton Kia;
  - expectations of capital costs related to currently awarded Open Points;
  - expectations that re-imaging will attract more customers to its dealerships;
  - our belief that improvements in technology and process in its parts and service departments will continue to produce increasingly positive results;
  - estimates regarding additional legal and administration expense for each acquisition; and
  - the impact on the Company as a result of the lower oil prices and any related expectations.
- Although we believe that the expectations reflected by the forward-looking statements presented in this release are reasonable, our forward-looking statements have been based on assumptions and factors concerning future events that may prove to be inaccurate. Those assumptions and factors are based on information currently available to us about ourselves and the businesses in which we operate. Information used in developing forward-looking statements has been acquired from various sources including third-party consultants, suppliers, regulators, and other sources. In some instances, material assumptions are disclosed elsewhere in this release in respect of forward-looking statements. We caution the reader that the following list of assumptions is not exhaustive. The material factors and assumptions used to develop the forward-looking statements include but are not limited to:
- no significant adverse changes to the automotive market, competitive conditions, the supply and demand of vehicles, parts and service, and finance and insurance products;

- no significant construction delays that may adversely affect the timing of dealership relocations and renovations;
- no significant disruption of our operations such as may result from harsh weather, natural disaster, accident, civil unrest, or other calamitous event;
- no significant unexpected technological event or commercial difficulties that adversely affect our operations;
- continuing availability of economical capital resources; demand for our products and our cost of operations;
- no significant adverse legislative and regulatory changes;
- stability of general domestic economic, market, and business conditions;
- assumptions regarding other automobile manufacturer agreements; and
- assumptions regarding provincial government regulations.
- our dependence on sales of new vehicles to achieve sustained profitability;
- levels of unemployment in our markets and other macroeconomic factors;
- our suppliers' ability to provide a desirable mix of popular new vehicles;
- the ability to continue financing inventory under similar interest rates;
- our suppliers' ability to continue to provide manufacturer incentive programs;
- the loss of key personnel and limited management and personnel resources;
- the ability to refinance credit agreements in the future;
- changes in applicable environmental, taxation and other laws and regulations as well as how such laws and regulations are interpreted and enforced;
- risks inherent in the ability to generate sufficient cash flow from operations to meet current and future obligations; and
- the ability to obtain automotive manufacturers' approval for acquisitions.

Because actual results or outcomes could differ materially from those expressed in any forward-looking statements, investors should not place undue reliance on any such forward-looking statements. By their nature, forward-looking statements involve numerous assumptions, inherent risks and uncertainties, both general and specific, which contribute to the possibility that the predicted outcomes will not occur. The risks, uncertainties and other factors, many of which are beyond our control, that could influence actual results include, but are not limited to:

- rapid appreciation or depreciation of the Canadian dollar relative to the U.S. dollar;
- a sustained downturn in consumer demand and economic conditions in key geographic markets;
- adverse conditions affecting one or more of our automobile manufacturers;
- the ability of consumers to access automotive loans and leases;
- competitive actions of other companies and generally within the automotive industry;

The Company's most recent Annual Information Form and other documents filed with securities regulatory authorities (accessible through the SEDAR website [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com)) describe the risks, material assumptions and other factors that could influence actual results and which are incorporated herein by reference.

Further, any forward-looking statement speaks only as of the date on which such statement is made, and, except as required by applicable law, we undertake no obligation to update any forward-looking statement to reflect events or circumstances after the date on which such statement is made or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events. New factors emerge from time to time, and it is not possible for Management to predict all of such factors and to assess in advance the impact of each such factor on our business or the extent to which any factor, or combination of factors, may cause actual results to differ materially from those contained in any forward-looking statement.

## 17. NON-GAAP MEASURES

Our MD&A contains certain financial measures that do not have any standardized meaning prescribed by Canadian GAAP. Therefore, these financial measures may not be comparable to similar measures presented by other issuers. Investors are cautioned these measures should not be construed as an alternative to net earnings (loss) or to cash provided by (used in) operating, investing, and financing activities determined in accordance with Canadian GAAP, as indicators of our performance. We provide these measures to assist investors in determining our ability to generate earnings and cash provided by (used in) operating activities and to provide additional information on how these cash resources are used. We list and define these “NON-GAAP MEASURES” below:

### EBITDA

EBITDA is a measure commonly reported and widely used by investors as an indicator of a company's operating performance and ability to incur and service debt, and as a valuation metric. The Company believes EBITDA assists investors in comparing a company's performance on a consistent basis without regard to depreciation and amortization and asset impairment charges which are non-cash in nature and can vary significantly depending upon accounting methods or non-operating factors such as historical cost. References to “EBITDA” are to earnings before interest expense (other than interest expense on floorplan financing and other interest), income taxes, depreciation, amortization and asset impairment charges.

### Adjusted EBITDA

Adjusted EBITDA is an indicator of a company's operating performance and ability to incur and service debt. The portion of share-based compensation related to changes in the share price and its impact on the Company's cash-settled portions of its share-based compensation programs, the revaluation of redemption liabilities, and the unrealized gain or loss on embedded derivatives are added back to EBITDA to get to adjusted EBITDA. The Company considers share-based compensation related to changes in the share price to be non-cash in nature as we maintain

a share purchase trust in which we purchase shares on the open market as these units are granted to reduce the cash flow risk associated with fluctuations in the share price. Share-based compensation, a component of employee remuneration, can vary significantly with changes in the price of the Company's common shares. The revaluation of redemption liabilities, as well as the unrealized gain or loss on embedded derivatives, are also non-cash in nature. The Company believes adjusted EBITDA provides improved continuity with respect to the comparison of our operating results over a period of time.

### Adjusted net earnings and Adjusted net earnings per share

Adjusted net earnings and adjusted net earnings per share are measures of our profitability. Adjusted net earnings is calculated by adding back the after-tax effect of impairment or reversals of impairment of intangible assets, impairments of goodwill, the revaluation of redemption liabilities, the unrealized gain or loss on embedded derivatives, and the portion of share-based compensation related to changes in the share price and its impact on the Company's cash-settled portions of its share-based compensation programs. The Company considers this expense to be non-cash in nature as we maintain a share purchase trust in which we purchase shares on the open market as these units are granted to reduce the cash flow risk associated with fluctuations in the share price. Share-based compensation, a component of employee remuneration, can vary significantly with changes in the price of the Company's common shares. Adding back these amounts to net earnings allows Management to assess the net earnings of the Company from ongoing operations. Adjusted net earnings per share is calculated by dividing adjusted net earnings by the weighted-average number of shares outstanding.

### EBIT

EBIT is a measure used by Management in the calculation of Return on capital employed (defined below). Management's calculation of EBIT is EBITDA (calculated above) less depreciation and amortization.

### **Adjusted pre-tax earnings**

Adjusted pre-tax earnings are calculated by adding back the impairment or reversals of impairment of intangible assets and impairments of goodwill. Adding back these non-cash charges to pre-tax net earnings allows Management to assess the pre-tax net earnings of the Company from ongoing operations.

### **Free Cash Flow**

Free cash flow is a measure used by Management to evaluate its performance. While the closest Canadian GAAP measure is cash provided by operating activities, free cash flow is considered relevant because it provides an indication of how much cash generated by operations is available after capital expenditures. It shall be noted that although we consider this measure to be free cash flow, financial and non-financial covenants in our credit facilities and dealer agreements may restrict cash from being available for distributions, re-investment in the Company, potential acquisitions, or other purposes. Investors should be cautioned that free cash flow may not actually be available for growth or distribution of the Company. References to “Free cash flow” are to cash provided by (used in) operating activities (including the net change in non-cash working capital balances) less capital expenditure (not including acquisitions of dealerships and dealership facilities).

### **Adjusted Free Cash Flow**

Adjusted free cash flow is a measure used by Management to evaluate its performance. Adjusted free cash flow is considered relevant because it provides an indication of how much cash generated by operations before changes in non-cash working capital is available after deducting expenditures for non-growth capital assets. It shall be noted that although we consider this measure to be adjusted free cash flow, financial and non-financial covenants in our credit facilities and dealer agreements may restrict cash from being available for distributions, re-investment in the Company, potential acquisitions, or other purposes. Investors should be cautioned that adjusted free cash flow may not actually be available for growth or distribution of the Company. References to “Adjusted free cash flow” are to cash provided by

(used in) operating activities (before changes in non-cash working capital balances) less non-growth capital expenditures.

### **Absorption Rate**

Absorption rate is an operating measure commonly used in the retail automotive industry as an indicator of the performance of the parts, service and collision repair operations of a franchised automobile dealership. Absorption rate is not a measure recognized by GAAP and does not have a standardized meaning prescribed by GAAP. Therefore, absorption rate may not be comparable to similar measures presented by other issuers that operate in the retail automotive industry. References to “absorption rate” are to the extent to which the gross profits of a franchised automobile dealership from parts, service and collision repair cover the costs of these departments plus the fixed costs of operating the dealership, but does not include expenses pertaining to our head office. For this purpose, fixed operating costs include fixed salaries and benefits, administration costs, occupancy costs, insurance expense, utilities expense and interest expense (other than interest expense relating to floor plan financing) of the dealerships only.

### **Average Capital Employed**

Average capital employed is a measure used by Management to determine the amount of capital invested in AutoCanada and is used in the measure of Return on Capital Employed (described below). Average capital employed is calculated as the average balance of interest bearing debt for the period (including current portion of long term debt, excluding revolving floorplan facilities) and the average balance of shareholders equity for the period. Management does not include future income tax, non-interest bearing debt, or revolving floorplan facilities in the calculation of average capital employed as it does not consider these items to be capital, but rather debt incurred to finance the operating activities of the Company.

### **Adjusted Average Capital Employed**

Adjusted average capital employed is a measure used by Management to determine the amount of capital invested in AutoCanada and is used in the



measure of Adjusted Return on Capital Employed (described below). Adjusted average capital employed is calculated as the average balance of interest bearing debt for the period (including current portion of long term debt, excluding revolving floorplan facilities) and the average balance of shareholders equity for the period, adjusted for impairments of intangible assets, net of deferred tax. Management does not include future income tax, non-interest bearing debt, or revolving floorplan facilities in the calculation of adjusted average capital employed as it does not consider these items to be capital, but rather debt incurred to finance the operating activities of the Company.

### **Return on Capital Employed**

Return on capital employed is a measure used by Management to evaluate the profitability of our invested capital. As a corporation, Management of AutoCanada may use this measure to compare potential acquisitions and other capital investments against our internally computed cost of capital to determine whether the investment shall create value for our shareholders. Management may also use this measure to look at past acquisitions, capital investments and the Company as a whole in order to ensure shareholder value is being achieved by these capital investments. Return on capital employed is calculated as EBIT (defined above) divided by Average Capital Employed (defined above).

### **Adjusted Return on Capital Employed**

Adjusted return on capital employed is a measure used by Management to evaluate the profitability of our invested capital. As a corporation, Management of AutoCanada may use this measure

to compare potential acquisitions and other capital investments against our internally computed cost of capital to determine whether the investment shall create value for our shareholders. Management may also use this measure to look at past acquisitions, capital investments and the Company as a whole in order to ensure shareholder value is being achieved by these capital investments. Adjusted return on capital employed is calculated as EBIT (defined above) divided by Adjusted Average Capital Employed (defined above).

### **Cautionary Note Regarding Non-GAAP Measures**

EBITDA, EBIT, Free Cash Flow, Absorption Rate, Average Capital Employed, Return on Capital Employed, Adjusted Average Capital Employed and Adjusted Return on Capital Employed are not earnings measures recognized by GAAP and do not have standardized meanings prescribed by GAAP. Investors are cautioned that these non-GAAP measures should not replace net earnings or loss (as determined in accordance with GAAP) as an indicator of the Company's performance, of its cash flows from operating, investing and financing activities or as a measure of its liquidity and cash flows. The Company's methods of calculating EBITDA, EBIT, Free Cash Flow, Absorption Rate, Average Capital Employed, Return on Capital Employed, Adjusted Average Capital Employed and Adjusted Return on Capital Employed may differ from the methods used by other issuers. Therefore, the Company's EBITDA, EBIT, Free Cash Flow, Absorption Rate, Average Capital Employed, Return on Capital Employed, Adjusted Average Capital Employed and Adjusted Return on Capital Employed may not be comparable to similar measures presented by other issuers.



**AutoCanada Inc.**

200 - 15505 Yellowhead Trail NW  
Edmonton, AB T5V 1E5

[autocan.ca](http://autocan.ca)