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For Immediate Release

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## News Release

### “Caution Urged If Purchasing or Selling Used Car Seats”

Spring and summer are busy garage/yard sale seasons in Saskatchewan. Among the items commonly offered for sale and often sought at garage sales are child car/safety seats.

Prairie North Health Region’s Population Health Promotion team reminds garage sale hosts and individuals looking to purchase used child safety seats that the federal *Hazardous Products Act* prohibits the sale and distribution of products that do not meet the requirements of the Act. The Act applies to many items including child car/safety seats sold at garage sales.

Anyone hosting a garage sale is legally responsible for ensuring the products they are selling – whether new or used – are safe and meet safety standards. The *Hazardous Products Act* identifies safety requirements for a number of products, many of them used by children.

If you are considering purchasing a used car seat, you need to ensure that the seat:

- has not been in a severe crash;
- has not been dropped from a distance;
- is not expired or, if there is no expiry date for the seat, that the seat is not more than 10 years old;
- has an owner’s manual available with it; and
- has a sticker affixed to it stating that the Canadian Motor Vehicle Safety Standards are met.

- Saskatchewan Prevention Institute

Parents and caregivers considering purchase of a used child safety seat also need to know the history of the seat to ensure that it has not been damaged or recalled for any reason by the manufacturer.

“It is possible that although a seat looks new, it can have been damaged in some way. Unless you know for certain that the person from whom you are purchasing the car seat has taken care of the seat, don’t purchase it,” cautions Bonita Brick, PNHR Population Health Promotion Coordinator and local car seat technician.

Parents and caregivers who have a car seat that is no longer being used can take the car seat to an SGI Claims Centre, where the seat will be destroyed.

Parents and caregivers in Lloydminster, The Battlefords and surrounding areas who have questions about their child’s car seat are encouraged to attend a Car Seat Clinic. In Lloydminster, car seat clinics are held on the last Wednesday of each month, from 5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. at the SGI Claims Centre, 4805 – 50 Street. In North Battleford, car seat clinics are held on the third Wednesday of each month from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the SGI Claims Centre, 1002 – 103 Street.

For more information about child car seat safety, contact Bonita Brick or Kim Tradewell, PNHR Population Health Promotion Coordinators, at 306-820-6217.