

FLASH NEWS

MID-VANCOUVER ISLAND ELECTRIC VEHICLE ASSOCIATION

2021 – March 11th, V2 – I1b – *Ideas and Responses to: Editor - MVI EVA Flash News – info@islandev.org*

March newsletter part deux – as promised, here is the second installment of the newsletter for March - enjoy.

EMOTIVE PROJECT

Our Emotive project is complete and we have sent in the photos and text for a LiveElectric story that will go on the Emotive website in due course. We will be sending in our report in the next few days.

Because of the pandemic we have not been able to use the full amount of the funding we were awarded. However, we hope there will be a new round of funding soon and we will apply – assuming that we will be able to hold and participate in events by summer.

We are also negotiating a date when Emotive can do an online webinar for our members. The webinar would be ideal for prospective and new EV owners.

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS - First Annual Spring EV Count - CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

On Wednesday March 24th, 2021, the Mid-Vancouver Island Electric Vehicle Association will be getting up bright and early to count electric vehicle drivers during the morning commute. From from 06:30 to 09:00, we will be setting up at busy corners of Nanaimo and Parksville / Qualicum to try and establish the number of EVs on the move. We will be combining our numbers with the Victoria EV Association to present a challenge to the rest of Canada to compare their EV population to ours. To join us for this fun event - please email your interest to: members@islandev.org

Given that a large percentage of the Mid-Island EV community are retirees and do not commute in the early hours, we are *thinking about* an additional extended count from 09:00 until noon to try and characterize that group as well. *Any count extension will be dependent on the number of volunteers who express interest in joining.*

Volunteers should bring:

- Folding chair, binoculars, writing instrument(s), and **wear warm clothes!**
- Water/coffee/beverage of choice
- ***Due to COVID-19, all volunteers must be masked and practicing adequate social distancing***

MVI-EVA will provide for each location:

- Posterboards “**Spring EV Count – HONK IF YOU’RE IN AN ELECTRIC VEHICLE!!**”
- Tally sheets to record EV numbers
- Descriptive page of difficult-to-recognize EVs

Electric vehicle demand supercharges lithium prices - Excerpt from the RBC Global Insight Daily newsletter

The gradual end to lockdowns has unleashed a wave of pent-up demand for electric vehicles that has pared down surplus stocks of the metal, while governments have emerged from recessions with pledges to invest in clean-energy projects. “The whole dynamic is completely changed,” said David Archer, chief executive of Savannah Resources. While battery-powered vehicles were once regarded as a niche product, they are now seen as the future of transport, providing solid future demand for lithium, Archer continued.

Chinese electric-vehicle sales more than tripled in January from a year earlier, according to the China Association of Automobile Manufacturers. In Europe, sales of alternatively powered cars, which include those that use batteries, biofuels and hybrids, eclipsed those of diesel-engine vehicles for the first time in Q3 2020 and now account for a third of new passenger cars, according to the European Automobile Manufacturers’ Association.

While this news is a great indicator of how much traction is being gained in EV adoption worldwide, it may also indicate a potential for battery shortages and price increases in the near future as the industry adapts to the demand.

DUDE! Where’s my rebate?

There seems to be some confusion about the future of EV rebates from both the Canadian and BC Government programs. Are they going away? Are they being reduced? We will be investigating and bringing you an update in the next edition of MVI EVA Flashletter