



Grand River CarShare & Hamilton CarShare *on the move*

February 2010 monthly newsletter

REGION OF WATERLOO JOINS AS A CORPORATE MEMBER

The Regional Municipality of Waterloo has joined the Co-op as a Corporate Member. This will enable Regional employees to shift their commutes away from an expensive drive to work, using affordable and green modes (transit, cycling, carpooling) instead. When they have to drive for work during their day, CarShare vehicles are there to meet their needs. Regional employees becoming Corporate Drivers can apply via the Co-op's website.

NEW PARKING LOCATION – 150 FREDERICK ST., KITCHENER

In addition to becoming a Corporate member, the Region of Waterloo has provided a parking location for a CarShare vehicle at its administration building at 150 Frederick St. The 2008 Toyota Yaris, formerly located at Cameron, has been re-located to Frederick St. For more details about this location, visit the My Fleet section when you're logged in to the online reservation system.

UPDATES TO THE MEMBER MANUAL

The Board of Directors has approved a number of changes to the Member Manual, with changes effective February 25, 2009. The changes include formatting changes, updating text to reflect current policies, and some changes were made to assist the Region of Waterloo in becoming a Corporate Member. Some changes were also approved for some of the Surcharges listed on the Membership Rates Plans and Usage Rates sheet (Appendix A). In addition, the Board approved combining the Corporate and Non-Profit membership options into one Corporate Member option, with a non-profit rate available. A copy of the Manual with updates has been circulated to members and will also be available on the website.

JOIN YOUR LOCAL ACTION COMMITTEE

Each local service area in which the Co-op operates now has its own Action Committee. The KW Action Committee was recently formed by the Board, to join the existing Hamilton Action Committee and the Cambridge Action Committee. Action Committees (formerly known as Advisory Committees) are made up of members who want to help promote the Co-op in their neighbourhood and community, volunteer at events, and work on membership recruitment. The KW Action Committee in particular is looking for members to join. Members interested in joining the KW Action Committee (or any committee) are asked to contact the office.

REMINDER: NEW 90-DAY TRIAL MEMBERSHIP!

The Co-op's new \$49 (non-refundable) 90-day trial membership is a great way for your friends, co-workers or family members to "test drive" carsharing. If they would like to continue their membership after the trial period, they simply pay the fully-refundable member deposit.

(Note: to be eligible for this trial membership a valid credit card is required; the \$10 fully-refundable key deposit is payable at the time of orientation)

Stay connected

Visit the co-op on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) (GRCS), and [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) (HCS).

Reminder to drive cautiously

Please drive with extra caution during winter weather!

Pets have designated CarShare vehicles

Please remember if you are transporting a pet to use either the Lancer Wagon at Tim Horton's (Kitchener), or the Mazda 5 at the First Unitarian Church (Hamilton).

Pets must be in a carrier, in the cargo area, or larger pets must have a barrier placed between them and the upholstery. Please clean up any pet hair, dirt, or window smudges after transporting pets.

Double-check your reservation!

... to avoid inconveniencing other members and paying hefty fees!

Gas surcharge

The Gas Surcharge for the month of February is nil (i.e. \$.00/km).

Reminder to leave vehicle clean for next member

Please ensure that you clean up after your reservation (e.g. coffee spill, cargo leftovers, etc.). As a reminder there is a \$10 admin fee + cost of cleaning (if applicable).

Help reduce Co-op expenses

To reduce the Co-op's telephone reservation costs consider using the FREE online reservation system.

Late payment charge

A reminder that a late payment charge of 1.25% compounded monthly will be charged and driving privileges suspended until full payment is received.

REMINDER: ONLINE PAYMENTS VIA SCOTIABANK BEING PHASED OUT

For those members who have a Scotiabank account and pay their monthly CarShare invoice via online or telephone banking, unfortunately these two (2) payment options will be phased out on **February 28, 2010**.

This phase-out is due to a hefty increase in Scotiabank banking rates (all other financial institutions provide free online and telephone payment options).

Our apologies for any inconvenience that this may cause.

If you have a Scotiabank account the following payment options are available:

- 1) Automatic Fund Transfer - this option would require that you simply complete a banking form (provided by the co-op) and then attach a copy of a void cheque to it. Your monthly invoice would be paid automatically on the 21st of each month (thus, no need to worry about whether you have paid your invoice or not);
- 2) via credit card - your monthly invoice would be paid automatically on or about the 15th of each month;
- 3) via cheque;
- 4) via cash.

Young drivers

The Co-op can approve drivers as young as 21. However, members under 23 are currently limited to reserving the vehicle at WCRI (Waterloo). The Co-op would like to convince its insurance provider to permit a second vehicle for this age group (for Hamilton).

Save gas!

Improve fuel efficiency by avoiding idling, rapid acceleration, and quick stops. Remember that 10 seconds is sufficient for warming a cold engine. However, consider driving at a slower speed for the first few kilometres.

Business Office locations:

Kitchener: 7 - 29 King St E, N2G 2K4

Tel: 519-578-1895 (Waterloo Region)

Hamilton: 19 Bold St, L8P 1T3

Tel: 905-543-4411 (Hamilton)

Fax: 519-579-2195

Email: info@grandrivercarshare.ca

info@hamiltoncarshare.ca

www.grandrivercarshare.ca

www.hamiltoncarshare.ca

Reservation Line (GRCS): 519-505-1895

Reservation Line (HCS): 905-548-7630

Next Board Meeting:

Thursday February 25, 2010

7 - 9pm (regular monthly meeting)

This month's meeting takes place at the Kitchener Office.

Kitchener office hours: 12pm - 5pm

Monday to Friday

Hamilton office hours: by appointment

on Fridays.

Directors:

Jason Hammond, President, jason@grandrivercarshare.ca

David Newton, Secretary davidn@grandrivercarshare.ca

Richard McLean, Treasurer richard@grandrivercarshare.ca

Simon Geoghegan, Director simon@hamiltoncarshare.ca

Mark Knackstedt, Director mark@hamiltoncarshare.ca

Sara Wilbur, Director sara@grandrivercarshare.ca

Taodhg Burns, Director taodhg@grandrivercarshare.ca

Marcia Redmond, Director marcia@grandrivercarshare.ca

Alicia Mah, Director alicia@grandrivercarshare.ca

Staff: Dave Steffler, dave@grandrivercarshare.ca

Janet MacLeod, janet@grandrivercarshare.ca

Matthew Piggott, matthew@grandrivercarshare.ca

New rates effective January 1, 2010:

Regular driving rates

per hour - weekdays (7am - 11pm)	\$3.90 + 28¢ / km
per hour - weekends (5pm Friday - 11pm Sunday)	\$4.40 + 28¢ / km
per hour - 11pm - 7am	no hourly charge
10 hours - weekday (up to 10 hours before 6pm)	\$34 + 18¢ / km
24 hours - weekday	\$44 + 18¢ / km
24 hours - weekend	\$49 + 18¢ / km

Premium driving rates (Mini Cooper)

per hour - weekdays (7am - 11pm)	\$5.25 + 28¢ / km
per hour - weekends (5pm Friday - 11pm Sunday)	\$5.80 + 28¢ / km
per hour - 11pm - 7am	no hourly charge
10 hours - weekday (up to 10 hours before 6pm)	\$46 + 18¢ / km
24 hours - weekday	\$56 + 18¢ / km
24 hours - weekend	\$62 + 18¢ / km

Insurance

automobile insurance per membership - monthly	\$19
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