



Roam with AutoShare and access cars in Toronto

Roaming is now available to all co-op members with AutoShare in Toronto.

This is in addition to roaming privileges in Ottawa/Gatineau, Quebec City, Montreal, and Sherbrooke through Ottawa's Vrtucar, whose members also have access to CommunAuto vehicles in Quebec.

For a \$50 fee, you may join AutoShare or Vrtucar through the roaming membership agreement. Co-op members joining an additional carshare

organization through a roaming agreement will be issued a membership in the new organization, and any roaming trips made will be billed by that organization.

Roaming is a great way to access vehicles while traveling to any of these cities.

AutoShare and Vrtucar members can also join Grand River CarShare and Hamilton CarShare for a \$50 fee.

If you're interested in roaming membership, contact staff to get started.

Use your smartphone to make reservations

This month the co-op launched its new mobile reservation website, which allows members to easily make CarShare reservations with a smartphone.

The mobile site can be accessed at <http://reservations.grandrivercarshare.ca/m>

The mobile user interface

is a simplified version of the online reservation system, and allows you to quickly and easily make reservations on the go.

Usual features such as car availability, estimated trip cost, member messages and vehicle messages are all available on the mobile site.

October Monthly Survey: communicating with you

This month's member survey is a few questions about how staff communicate with members.

We're looking for your feedback on the monthly newsletter, and emails members receive via the

CarShare-Members listserv.

Link to the survey here: www.surveymonkey.com/s/CarShareSurveyOct2011

And, don't forget that all members who fill out the survey will be entered in a draw for a \$10 driving credit!



CarShare videos in production

CarShare staff and volunteers have been busy over the past few weeks rehearsing lines and filming scenes for two new CarShare videos. The first, a 10-minute tutorial video, will become part of the driver orientation. It features your Hamilton Services Coordinator, Sharyl Spring, and Member Services Coordinator, Matthew Piggott, pictured here getting his mic set up with Director Marc Cameron on the first day of filming. The second video is a 2-minute promotional video, which members can get a sneak peek of at the Annual General Meeting on Oct. 20.

JANET MACLEOD PHOTO

Debenture sales update: half-way to our goal!

Debentures have already been purchased by many members to date this year, and the co-op is now over half-way to its goal of \$30,000 to buy a cargo vehicle for the fleet. However to meet our goal, we still need your support!

Debentures are on sale during September and October, and are available for purchase in increments of \$250 up to \$1000 per person for a three-year term. Inter-

est is compounded annually at 3.5%.

Debentures are also a great way to invest locally and ethically, and a great way to help your co-op grow.

All members are eligible to purchase a debenture.

For more information about investing in debentures, follow the link to download the [Debenture Issue Information Chart 2011](#), or contact the office at 519-578-1895 or 905-543-4411.

"Co-operative Enterprises Build A Better World"

Congratulations! The world is a better place simply because you're a member of this co-op, Grand River CarShare and Hamilton CarShare.

"Co-operative Enterprises Build A Better World" is the theme for this year's Co-op Week, Oct. 16-22, as well as for the 2012 International Year of Co-operatives.

Did you know that as a member of a co-op, you're part of a movement that includes 1.4 million Ontarians, who are members of 1,300 different co-operatives across

the province?

So how do co-ops and credit unions build a better world? Its because of the values solidified in the seven Co-operative Principles:

- Voluntary and Open Membership
- Democratic Member Control
- Member Economic Participation
- Autonomy and Independence
- Education, Training and Information
- Co-operation Among Co-operatives

- Concern for Community

Because co-ops embody the co-operative principles, members have control of their enterprises - they aren't simply clients. Throughout the world, co-operatives help communities develop by giving individual members a voice and a stake in how they build their future.

At our co-op, members can get involved by sitting on a committee, or on the board of directors. Directors are elected by the membership at each AGM, and provide

leadership for the direction of the co-op.

Your co-op currently has four full-time staff and one intern who run the day-to-day operations of carsharing. They are all members as well, and share your common goals and vision for our co-operative.

We hope you'll celebrate Co-op Week with us (we'll see many of you at the AGM), and we also hope you'll consider becoming actively involved in your co-op - it's one of the great privileges of being a member.

Help build your co-operative

Every year at the AGM, new directors are elected by the co-op membership to sit on the board, and right now new volunteers are needed.

The board of directors provides leadership and make decisions about the activities and direction of the co-op.

In practical terms, directors meet monthly and make decisions about things such as finance, human resources, communications and promotion, and what's

going on in the co-op's local service areas.

Many directors are also active on committees, where the details for large and small projects are researched and then implemented in conjunction with staff.

Members interested in joining the board or a committee can contact staff to get started.

For members considering a volunteer position, you are welcome to visit a meeting anytime to see what it's like.

Location of the month: Frederick St. Inn

This month's feature location is the Frederick St. Inn, located at 230 Frederick St., just West of the intersection of Frederick St. and Lancaster St. in Kitchener.

This is an exciting location for the co-op, as staff have been seeking an additional parking location in the Central Frederick neighbourhood for several months.

As many of you experience, the Region of Waterloo - Frederick St. car is well-used, and members often have to go to GRT or Queen St. in-

stead when they need a car.

Therefore, it is the co-op's goal to station a car at the Frederick St. Inn as soon as possible, to relieve congestion on the Region of Waterloo car (and by extension the GRT and Queen St. cars), and to provide an additional CarShare option to the many members who live and work in the neighbourhood.

Once a car is stationed at the Frederick St. Inn, it will be parked behind the building, and the spot will have a reserved parking sign.

Directors

Jason Hammond, President • jason@grandrivercarshare.ca
Sara Wilbur, Treasurer • sara@grandrivercarshare.ca
Michael Druker, Secretary • michael@grandrivercarshare.ca
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Staff

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Hamilton Services Coordinator
Sharyl Spring • sharyl@hamiltoncarshare.ca

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Office Hours:
Mon-Fri 10am-5pm

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info@hamiltoncarshare.ca

Facebook: [facebook.com/HamiltonCarShare](https://www.facebook.com/HamiltonCarShare)

Twitter: [@HammerCarShare](https://twitter.com/HammerCarShare)

Office Hours:
Mon-Wed
By appointment only,
please call ahead.

Next Meetings

Annual General Meeting

Thurs. Oct. 20, 6:30pm for 7pm start, at McMaster Medical Campus Kitchener and McMaster Main Campus Hamilton

Finance Committee
Wed. Oct. 19, 7pm, Kitchener office

Board of Directors
Thurs. Oct. 27, 6:30pm, Kitchener office

Communications Committee
Thurs. Nov. 10, 7pm, Hamilton office

Gas Surcharge

The Gas Surcharge for the month of October will be \$0.03/km, as per the Gas Surcharge Policy.