



# Grand River CarShare

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Grand River CarShare holding Elmira expansion meeting

Nov. 16, 2010

KITCHENER – Grand River CarShare, a non-profit co-operative in Waterloo Region, is holding a meeting for supporters in Elmira on Nov. 23 to start an outreach campaign that will lead to the expansion of CarShare service into Elmira.

Earlier this year citizens of Elmira and St. Jacobs were asked if they would like to be part of Grand River CarShare and the answer was an enthusiastic “Yes!” Roughly two dozen citizens met with CarShare representatives at a focus group session in March, with enough interest shown to move forward with the project.

After securing two parking locations in Elmira – one at the Elmira Mennonite Church and another at the Elmira Service Centre, both on Church St. – and after hearing from 24 community members who are interested in joining the co-operative, next week’s meeting is the next step in bringing carsharing to Elmira. Over the past few months, the co-op has already had 13 of those 24 people join as members to show their support for carsharing in Elmira.

“Given the new bus service in town and the rising costs of gas and insurance, carsharing is a great transportation solution for Elmira and St. Jacobs,” said Matthew Piggott, Member Services Coordinator. “I look forward to working together with Elmira residents to help bring carsharing to their community.”

Other events held by Grand River CarShare have already been successful. The CarShare was well received by the Elmira Ministerial Group and an additional presentation will be given to the Adult Sunday School of Elmira Mennonite Church this week.

Grand River CarShare, founded in 1998, provides access to vehicles on a self-serve, pay-per-use basis. Many carshare members already own a car, but supplement their driving needs with CarShare reservations a few times a week. Also, as no car rental companies currently operate in Elmira or St. Jacobs, a CarShare membership would be the easiest and cheapest way to gain access to a vehicle.

Reservations for CarShare vehicles can be made for as little as 30 minutes, or as long as needed, and gas and maintenance costs are included in driving rates. Driving rates range between \$5 and \$9 per hour, depending on the rate plan the member chooses. By filling in transportation gaps with occasional car use, Grand River CarShare also helps support the use of greener transportation modes such as transit and cycling.

Residents of Elmira and St. Jacobs who are interested in becoming members or supporting carsharing in their community are invited to attend the organizing event Tues. Nov. 23, from 7pm-8pm at the Elmira Branch Library, 65 Arthur St. S.

For more information, to show your support, or to become a member of Grand River CarShare please call 519-578-1895 or visit [www.grandrivercarshare.ca](http://www.grandrivercarshare.ca)

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