

## **Appendix C**

### **Co-operative Auto Network**

The Co-operative Auto Network - CAN for short - is a not-for-profit co-operative incorporated to foster car sharing as an environmentally responsible transportation option.

#### **What does it cost to join and use the cars?**

Initially a one-time, 'refundable' share purchase in the co-op of \$500. THEN... a \$20 non-refundable Registration Fee is collected to pay for a member binder, a lockbox key and a credit check. Joining means going through an hour and a half long orientation process, signing the CAN Membership Application, and purchasing shares in the co-operative. This lifetime membership has a one-time cost of \$500. As it is a share in a company it cannot be purchased with a credit card.

If you ever leave the co-op you will get 100% of your share purchase back (unless you cause an accident or fail to pay your invoice!). However, to foster a stable membership base, you must be prepared to join for at least 6 months. In keeping with our not-for-profit status, we will not issue dividends on the share, nor will the share accrue interest.

#### **I understand there are different usage charges - how does the pricing work?**

The cost structure is very easy. There are two Usage Plans - the FlexPlan and the Lower Usage Plan. These plans are designed to meet the needs of members using a car quite a bit or just a little. The rate plans each have three price components:

1. Monthly - An Administrative Charge which is billed whether the car is used or not,
2. Time - An hourly cost for each hour you have the car (half hours are half the cost), with a fair daily maximum, and
3. Distance - A per kilometre fee with a cost that fluctuates according to the plan selected by the member.

#### **The CAN PLANS are:**

The FlexPlan, for those driving more than 1800 km/year (over 150 km per month).

This plan is designed to offer a lot of flexibility for members whose usage may vary quite a bit from one month to another. With this plan, CAN's custom reservation and billing system will calculate the total number of kilometres driven in a month, then charge the member based on the most cost-efficient price point.

The price points applicable are the Higher Usage and Moderate Usage categories. Both of these usage plans charge \$1.75 per hour (to a maximum of \$21 daily) plus applicable admin and km charges, which are:

- Higher Usage: \$35 monthly admin fee and 17¢ for every kilometre driven.

- Moderate Usage: \$12.50 monthly admin fee and 27¢ for every kilometre driven.

The Lower Usage Plan, for those driving less than 1800 km/year (150 km per month or less).

This plan was designed for the very occasional user. As they are not typically going to use up a lot of staff time they are billed far less administratively and on a yearly basis only. However, recognizing that their usage will help to pay less of the fixed costs of the vehicle, they receive a slightly higher per kilometre cost.

- \$60 yearly admin fee, \$1.75 per hour (to a maximum of \$21 daily), and 32¢ for every kilometre driven.

A special Excursion Surcharge applies to both plans for trips of more than 72 hours.

Any trip lasting longer than 72 hours (3 days) MAY use a different pricing. It will be charged \$35 daily OR regular rates - whichever is MORE. The \$35 includes all fuel and kilometre charges. It is a minimum charge designed to mitigate any losses the co-op may sustain when a vehicle is out of the fleet for extended periods. Any day or portion over the 72-hour period will be charged \$35 per day.

### **How does the Insurance Work?**

The Co-operative purchases insurance from the Insurance Corporation of British Columbia (ICBC) under a fleet plan option so the co-op, not the driver, holds the insurance. We carry Third Party Legal Liability to \$5,000,000 plus Collision and Comprehensive Coverage. Plus, we have Directors' Liability Insurance and Corporate Liability Insurance (members are well and truly covered!)

### **What do I have to do to join?**

Call the CAN office (604-685-1393) and arrange a meeting time. With your first call, we'll ask about your driving history and establish whether your membership is a good fit with CAN criteria. These are:

- a good credit rating;
- at least 3 years' driving history;
- 3 or fewer traffic violations in the last five years;
- a BC driver's licence (or willingness to get one soon after joining);  
*(Don't have a BC driver's licence? [Click here for more info.](#))*
- NO at-fault accidents in the last three years;
- NO criminal convictions under the Motor Vehicle Act.

Your next step will be to acquire your Driving Record and Claims History from ICBC -- even if you don't think you have one. They're free. You can get them by calling 604-661-2800 (or 1-800-950-1498 if you're outside the Lower Mainland). You have the option of having them directly e-mailed to the CAN office at , or bringing these records to the orientation.

If you have had a driver's licence from outside BC within the past five years, you may need to submit additional documents from your old driver's licence within one month of joining CAN. Links to other provincial licensing authorities can be found [here](#), or call the CAN office at 604-685-1393 for more information.

### **What kinds of cars do you have?**

People have different car needs at different times. CAN has vehicles ranging from hatchbacks - including Volkswagen New Beetles - up through sedans, minivans, and even pickup trucks. For the same price, you can always choose the vehicle that's right for your trip. All of our vehicles have automatic transmissions.

### **How do I arrange to use the cars?**

The CAN office is available to handle your bookings, or you can go on-line to our very own web-based reservation system to book the car whenever you wish. Regular maintenance, repairs and membership generation are exclusively handled by CAN staff. When you realize you need the car, you call 604-685-1393 or go on-line and request to use it giving specific information about day, times, and location. The car will be booked for you. Then you go to the car when your booking time starts and drive away!

### **Do I have to go to the office to pick up/drop off a key each time I use the car?**

No. You will be given a lock box key when you join. This key accesses a box which holds the key to the car. The lock boxes are built into the cars and the same key is used for every car's lock box.

- More information available at: <http://www.cooperativeauto.net/page1.htm>

Source: Co-operative Auto Network (2003). *CAN Frequent Asked Questions*. Retrieve in Nov 23, 2003. from <http://www.cooperativeauto.net/page1.htm>

## Appendix C

### Electric Avenue Condominium, Vancouver

A \$110 million condominium in the downtown Vancouver area built at Burrard and Smithe. In this 24 storey building it houses 456 condominium. Electric Avenue is scheduled to be completion by 2005. It is a project financed by the Wall Financial Corporation

- Wall Financial Corp held North American Record of selling \$127 million worth of property in the year of 2001 and 2002
- Wall Financial Corp. and the City of Vancouver had reached an agreement where the city gave permission to Wall Financial Corp. to build fewer parking spots (Reduce parking requirement). Incorporate vehicle co-op car sharing program into this development, where this agreement requires the developer to provide cars to Co-operative Auto Network
- According to Vancouver Sun, it generally costs about \$15000 to build an underground parking stall. So a reduction in 20 stalls is sufficient to finance a purchase of 7 different vehicles. Wall financial donate seven vehicles to Co-operative Auto Network, this is funded by the saving of reduce parking space
- Expect for only 10 per cent of condo buyer sign up for the car co-op program, currently there is 26 per cent of the residents signed up for car co-op
- Mr. Rennie said he has so much confidence in the car-sharing concept that he expects to sell at least 350 of the 456 Electric Avenue suites within four months after they go on the market in June.
- "It is environmentally correct; it is financially correct and I think it will work," Mr. Rennie, a realtor of the condo development.

Source: Globe and Mail, Retrieved in April 7,2003. From <http://www.globeandmail.com/servlet/ArticleNews/TPStory/LAC/20030407/RWALL/TPBusiness/Canadian>

Source: Vancouver Sun, November 12, 2003. City of Vancouver steers developers to car-sharing.