



THE CITY OF  
**CALGARY**



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Carpool.ca and The City of Calgary show appreciation to carpoolers for Going Green this St. Patrick's Day**

On March 16 and 17 Carpool.ca and City staff will be on site at two downtown Calgary parkades to show appreciation for carpooling commuters for 'Going Green':

- Centennial Parkade (620 – 9th Ave SW) from 7 a.m.- 8:30 a.m. on March 16
- City Centre Parkade (221 – 9th Ave SW) from 7 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. on March 17

Carpoolers at these sites will receive coupons for free coffee, a newspaper as well as promotional items. The carpool appreciation program reminds Calgarians of the benefits of the Calgary Parking Authority's 2007 Carpool Parking Policy designating that 50 per cent of all new monthly contracts be allocated to vehicles with two or more occupants. This allows people who carpool to move to the top of CPA parking waiting lists.

St. Patrick's Day is the perfect time to consider greener choices for getting around Calgary. Alternative travel choices reduce greenhouse gas emissions, save money, and reduce congestion on the roadways.

"We encourage commuters to consider a long-term strategy rather than a short-term plan that fluctuates with fuel prices. Don't be lulled into a false sense of security by the current dip in the cost of fuel. Continuing to carpool and use transportation alternatives saves money on your commute and stretches your budget regardless of today's gas price," said Anne Marie Thornton, Carpool.ca director.

A partnership between The City of Calgary and Carpool.ca, now in its seventh year, has been encouraging Calgarians to take advantage of the free service at [www.carpool.ca](http://www.carpool.ca). The program has recently been expanded to accommodate commuters travelling outside of Calgary. Those travelling to outlying communities such as Airdrie, Cochrane, Strathmore, Chestermere, High River, Okotoks, and others, can now use Carpool.ca to identify potential carpool partners.

To date over 10,000 Calgarians have participated in Calgary's carpool program. Commuters seeking to share the ride to work simply log on to [www.carpool.ca](http://www.carpool.ca) and input commuting information. The system instantly generates match lists of neighbours and co-workers who are also seeking to share the ride. Some carpool once a week, others carpool every day - it's completely up to the individual. The website is secure, user-friendly and free!

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