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## Laurier Sustainability Office to unveil first on-campus bikesharing station in region

WATERLOO – Wilfrid Laurier University's <u>Sustainability Office</u>, in partnership with <u>Community Access Bikeshare</u> (CAB), will unveil the first on-campus bike sharing station in the region **May 13**. Through the initiative, the sustainability office hopes to provide affordable access to bicycles as alternative transportation to students, staff, faculty and community members.

Laurier's Sustainability Office has been working with Community Access Bikeshare since early 2014 to bring sustainable transportation to campus.

"We're thrilled to be partnering with Community Access Bikeshare for this new bike sharing station," said **Tyler Plante**, coordinator: outreach and programs, Sustainability Office. "This is another step towards embedding sustainability into campus life, and is a fun and healthy way for Laurier's community to connect with our broader community in the region."

The bicycle sharing station joins <u>seven other locations</u> within the community, including stations in uptown Waterloo and downtown Kitchener.

The station will be located on University Avenue with the key box located inside Laurier's **John Aird Centre Theatre Auditorium**. The eight bikes can only be accessed with an annual May-November membership. Members must swipe their membership card at the key box and input a PIN to unlock a bike. Bikes can be returned to any station with available spots.

"Having an on-campus location marks a huge step in increasing cycling use in the region," said **Suzie Taka**, project coordinator for Community Access Bikeshare. "Laurier's Sustainability Office has been an amazing partner and we're so glad they have seen the need for something that benefits student and environmental health."

The May 13 launch will be hosted in the Concourse inside the Fred Nichols Campus Centre on Laurier's Waterloo Campus beginning at 12:30 p.m.

The Libro Credit Union has also sponsored 30 free memberships. The memberships are available to Laurier students who participate in a research study examining the impact of free access to bicycles on campus.

Community Access Bikeshare is run through The Working Centre and is a community project that provides affordable public access to bicycles.

The Wilfrid Laurier University Sustainability Office opened January 2010 to create and foster a culture of sustainability by engaging, promoting and coordinating the sustainability efforts of all stakeholders to develop an environmentally proactive Laurier community.

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