

# April

# Wheels

## Law states that a final vehicle repair bill cannot be more than 10 per cent greater than the written estimate

After the last gasp of winter has passed, many car owners will be looking for spring tune-ups or thinking of selling their vehicles.

The Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations offers car owners information about programs that can help them.

Knowing about the Motor Vehicle Repair Act can help ensure your spring tune-up repairs are done for a reasonable price.

If you don't know much about auto repairs — and most people don't now, that there seem to be more computers than motor parts under the hood — you may fear being overcharged by garages.

The best precaution is to ask friends, family and co-workers to recommend a good garage. Once you're satisfied with the quality of work and the prices, stick with the same shop.

Special discount offers for seasonal inspections and maintenance may seem to be a good idea, but the lowest price for a check-up may not be the best deal in the long run.

According to provincial law, repairs' labour rates and how they are calculated (on a flat or hourly basis) must be posted on a sign big enough to be clearly seen.

If you suspect repairs are needed, it may make sense to pay a bit more for the inspection but less for repairs, which are likely to be the more expensive portion of the final bill.

You are entitled by law to ask for and receive a written estimate before work is started. It must include:

- ✓ the name and address of the customer and repairer;
- ✓ the make, model, vehicle identification number and license number of the vehicle;
- ✓ a description of the repairs to be made;
- ✓ the parts to be installed, and whether they will be new, used, or reconditioned;
- ✓ prices of the parts;
- ✓ total labour costs; and
- ✓ the date the estimate is given and the date after which it no longer applies.

By law, you must be told in advance if a fee is charged for the estimate.

After you have authorized the garage to do the work, the final bill cannot be more than 10 per cent greater than the written estimate without your consent.

The act also provides an automatic 90-day warranty on all new and reconditioned parts and associated labour.

To help the non-mechanically minded get started on their car service programs, ministry experts have prepared a list of items to include in the seasonal maintenance check:

- ✓ ignition systems (including spark plugs, ignition leads, distributor, cap)
- ✓ electrical (battery, starter)

- ✓ air conditioning system
- ✓ cooling system (flush and replace coolant)
- ✓ lubrication (change oil and filter)
- ✓ tires (check plus change to summer tires for those who don't have the all-weather variety)
- ✓ wiper blades and washer reservoir (summer blades installed, reservoir checked)
- ✓ rust check

Owners who find too many items that need attention on that list may consider selling their vehicles.

Those who plan to sell motor vehicles privately are reminded that the law requires them to show prospective buyers the Used Vehicle Information Package and to give it to the buyer at the time of sale. The UVIP costs \$20.

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# SILVER ANNIVERSARY SALE!

COME JOIN US, AS WE CELEBRATE OUR 25<sup>TH</sup> YEAR IN BUSINESS WITH A HUGE CELEBRATION SALES EVENT. OUR ENTIRE INVENTORY OF NEW AND QUALITY USED VEHICLES WILL BE CLEARLY MARKED WITH OUR BEST LEASE AND PURCHASE PRICES. TAKE ADVANTAGE OF CURRENT GM FACTORY INCENTIVES AND SPECIAL GMAC LEASE AND FINANCE RATES. SELECTION, SAVINGS AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AFTER ALL, ISN'T THAT WHAT YOU DESERVE?

OVER 250  
1998 MODELS  
IN STOCK  
NOW!



45  
AVAILABLE

**\$18,488\***  
PURCHASE  
**\$268†**  
LEASE

**1998 GRAND AM SE**  
3.1 Litre V6; Automatic, Air, Cassette, Int. Wipers, Rear Spoiler, ABS, Brakes, Dual Air Bags, Stk. #W183

### SUNFIRE SE COUPE

3.9%  
FIN.



**\$209†** **\$16,999\***  
LEASE PURCHASE

Stk. # W5

### SUNFIRE SE SEDAN

3.9%  
FIN.



**\$218†** **\$17,848\***  
LEASE PURCHASE

Stk. # W679

### TRANS SPORT

LEASE  
SPECIAL



**\$210†** **\$23,998\***  
LEASE PURCHASE

Stk. # W589

### SIERRA Z81

3.9%  
LEASE



**\$169†** **\$21,588\***  
LEASE PURCHASE

Stk. # W200

### JIMMY

1.9%  
FIN.



**\$378†** **\$34,888\***  
LEASE PURCHASE

Stk. # W398

### SAFARI

NO CHARGE  
RUNNING  
BOARDS

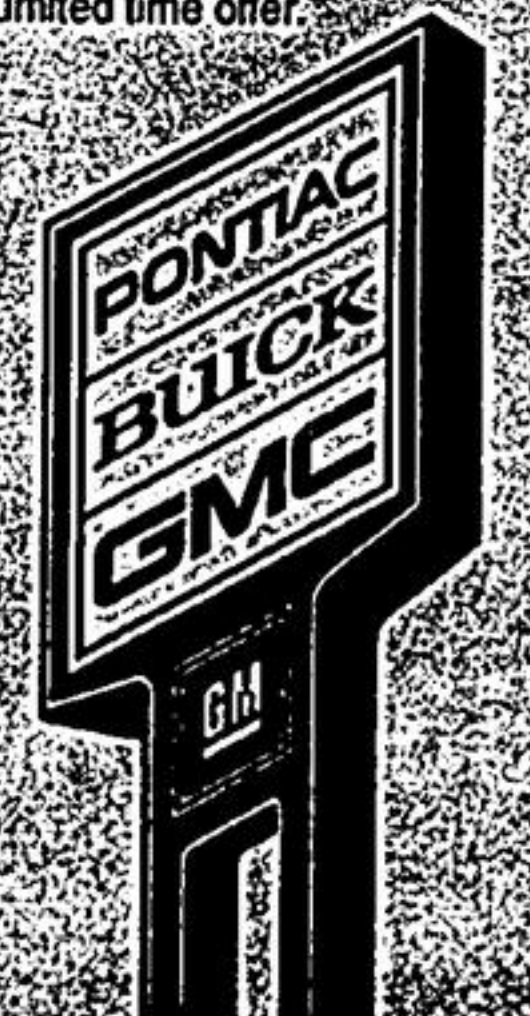


**\$208†** **\$20,728\***  
LEASE PURCHASE

Stk. # W99

\*All Sale Prices are plus freight (Sunfire, Grand AM 620), (Trans Sport 840), (Sierra 895), (Jimmy 695), (Safari 845) Lic. admn. taxes extra. †36 month Smart Lease with 1600.00 down payment (Sunfire) 2500 down (Grand AM) 3500 down (Sierra, Jimmy Safari). Freight Lic. admn. taxes extra. Annual km limit 20,000. 12¢ per excess km. O.A.C. Special GMAC Finance rates based on 48 month no limit terms. Limited time offer.

SALES HOURS: Mon.-Thurs. 9:00 - 9:00; Fri. 9:00 - 5:30; Sat. 9:00 - 6:00  
SERVICE HOURS: Mon.-Thurs. 7:30 - 7:30; Fri. 7:30 - 5:30; Sat. 8:00 - 1:00



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