

WHEELS

ADVERTISING FEATURE

Rates

hiked on Hwy. 407

Prices are going up just six months after Tory's sold Highway to private interests

The Canadian Automobile Association is outraged that rates on the 407 toll highway are being raised less than six months after it was sold by the Harris government.

"Just as the CAA predicted in April, tolls on the 407 are being hiked," said Susan deRyk, CAA Central Ontario spokesperson.

"This is outrageous. The company operating this road is raising rates even though it estimates it will collect more than \$100 million in revenues next year alone, with only \$30 million of that going to operating and maintaining the highway."

Starting Sept. 27, fees will increase for all vehicles using the highway during off peak times including weekends and holidays.

Off peak times are considered weekdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. On weekends and holidays it is 6 a.m. to 11 p.m.

The rate increases are: light vehicles (cars, vans and light trucks) eight cents per kilometer up from seven cents; heavy single units (buses, units trucks and tractors) 16 cents up from 14 cents; heavy multiple units (trucks with one or two trailers) 24 cents up from 21 cents.

On top of that, motorists are subject to a \$30 fee for bills that are paid late. As well, those with overdue accounts will not be able to renew their license through the Ministry of Transportation without paying all outstanding tolls and interest fees first.

These rules apply only to vehicles with Ontario plates. All others ride for free.

"CAA first predicted tolls would increase in April when the highway was sold to private interests," said deRyk.

"It was obvious that the purchasers would raise tolls, but it is distressing that it is happening so quickly. It appears the owners of the highway are trying to determine what the backlash will be from motorists before hiking the tolls across the board."

The highway is owned by financial interests in Quebec and their partners in Spain.

According to deRyk, motorists in Ontario already pay more than \$3.5 billion a year to the provincial government in fuel tax and registration fees, which should be used to finance construction of new roadways and the maintenance of existing roads.

The CAA protested the sale because it increases the life of tolls to 99 years after the government promised the tolls would be removed once the highway was paid for.

The government's last projections prior to the sale was the highway would be paid off in 25 years.

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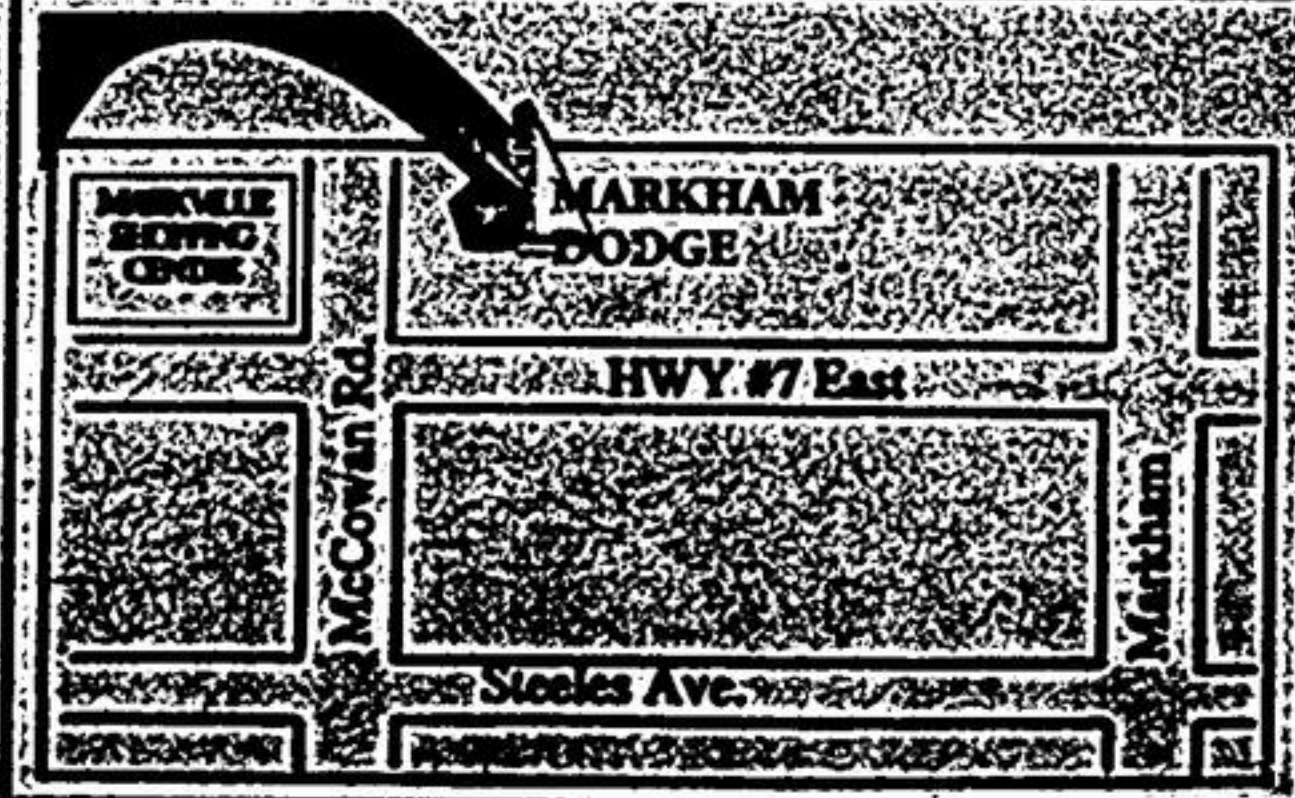
Friday, Sept. 24 to Thursday, Sept. 30, 1999

<p>2000 CARAVAN</p>  <p>V6 engine, 4 spd, a/c, 7 pass seating, p/windows & locks, p/mirrors, p/vents, cruise control, tilt steering, AM/FM cassette, sunscreen glass, dual doors. \$20-050</p> <p>BUY FOR \$23,988 \$229/mth. for 36 months</p>	<p>2000 GRAND CARAVAN</p>  <p>V6 engine, 4 spd, auto, a/c, 7 pass seating, p/windows & locks, p/mirrors, p/vents, cruise control, tilt steering, AM/FM cassette, sunscreen glass, dual doors.</p> <p>BUY FOR \$24,988 \$239/mth. for 36 months</p>	<p>2000 CHRYSLER INTREPID</p>  <p>2.7L 200 hp, V6, 4 spd, auto, a/c, p/windows & locks, keyless entry, cruise control, tilt steering, p/mirrors, AM/FM cassette, floor mats. \$20-127</p> <p>BUY FOR \$23,988 \$269/mth. for 36 months</p>	<p>2000 CHRYSLER CIRRUS</p>  <p>2.4 150 hp, 4 cyl, 4 spd, auto, a/c, AM/FM cassette, cruise control, tilt steering, p/windows & locks, p/mirrors, keyless entry. \$20-141</p> <p>BUY FOR \$21,488 \$219/mth. for 36 months</p>
<p>2000 CHRYSLER 300M</p>  <p>3.5L V6 253 hp, 4 spd, auto, fully loaded with 17 chrome wheels, p/roof, leather, CD, traction control, p/windows, locks, mirrors, seats. \$20-117</p> <p>BUY FOR \$36,988 \$399/mth. for 36 months</p>	<p>2000 CHRYSLER NEON</p>  <p>2.0L 132 hp, 4 cyl, auto, a/c, dual air bags, side door impact beams, tilt steering, AM/FM cassette, floor mats, dual side mirrors.</p> <p>BUY FOR \$17,388 \$239/mth. \$0 Down for 48 months</p>	<p>2000 DODGE DURANGO SLT 4X4</p>  <p>4.7L V8, 4 spd, auto, a/c, p/windows, locks, mirrors, cruise, tilt, leather, 31" tires, rear a/c, trailer tow, pkg HD, service, 3rd row seat, 8 pass, fully loaded! \$20-192</p> <p>BUY FOR \$39,988 \$549/mth. for 36 months</p>	<p>2000 GRAND CHEROKEE LTD.</p>  <p>Auto, a/c, p/windows & locks, heated seats, pwr, moonroof, leather, premium sound CD changer, quadra drive 4WD, heated seats, tire pkg, full spare, loaded! \$20-203</p> <p>BUY FOR \$43,988 \$529/mth. for 36 months</p>
<p>1999 JEEP TJ</p>  <p>2.5L 4 cyl, 5 spd, trans, command, trac, 4 WD, hard top, convenience group, lockable storage, floor mats, body side steps, grizzly alloy wheels, tow hooks and more! \$99-725</p> <p>BUY FOR \$19,988 \$329/mth. \$0 Down for 36 months</p>	<p>1999 CHRYSLER CIRRUS</p>  <p>2.4L 150 hp, 4 cyl, 4 spd, auto, a/c, AM/FM cassette, cruise control, tilt steering, p/windows, locks, mirrors. \$99-838</p> <p>BUY FOR \$18,988 \$299/mth. \$0 Down for 36 months</p>	<p>1999 RAM 1500</p>  <p>5.2L V8, 4 spd, auto, 6.5 box, a/c, p/w, p/dl, p/mirrors, cruise, tilt, AM/FM cassette, chrome wheels, HD service, trailer tow, anti-spin axle, P285 tire, pkg, tube side steps, Mopar box liner. \$99-116</p> <p>BUY FOR \$31,488 \$399/mth. for 36 months</p>	<p>1999 GR. CARAVAN SE</p>  <p>3.8L V6 engine, 4 spd, auto, dual zone, a/c, 7 pass, seating, p/windows, locks, mirrors, vents, cruise control, tilt steering, sport pkg, ABS brakes, rear air conditioning, 16" alloys, keyless entry, AM/FM cassette, sunscreen glass, dual doors, loaded! \$99-1196</p> <p>BUY FOR \$26,988 \$319/mth. for 36 months</p>


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*Leases based on term as shown with down payment as shown. Freight, licence and taxes extra. 20,400 kms/yr. (except Neon 25,000/yr.) Optional buyback. O.A.C. 1st payment and security deposit required. Retail delivery allowance applied to sale price(s) where applicable. Lease rates based on the following: 2000 Caravan = 3.8%; 2000 Intrepid = 2.00; 2000 300M; 1999 TJ; 1999 Ram 1500 = 4.8%; 2000 Durango = 9.95%; 2000 Neon = 4.5%; 2000 Gr. Cherokee = 6.8%; 1999 Cirrus; 1999 Gr. Caravan = 1.8%.

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