



## Keeping the cost of car insurance down.

Many factors contribute to an insurance premium. Insurance brokers have the tools and qualifications to help you understand the various coverages included in your policy so you can make an informed decision as to what you want and need. Be sure you have all the necessary information when you visit a broker, including the driving record of everyone who will be driving your car.

Increasing your deductible is an easy way to reduce your insurance costs. By paying for the little repairs, like chipped windshields, scratches and parking lot door “dings” yourself, instead of claiming for them on your insurance, you will save money in the long run.

Maintaining a good driving record is very important, as traffic violations will increase your insurance rates. Don't drive when you are tired, and please *don't drink and drive*.

Have you considered the car you're driving? While the type of car you drive does not affect the premium you pay for Third Party Liability insurance, it does affect the cost of Collision, Vandalism and Fire and Theft coverages. Some vehicles offer better protection to occupants;

some are more expensive to repair; some are more susceptible to theft than others. There are many factors that contribute to the cost of insuring specific cars – including the country of origin, the year the vehicle was manufactured, the availability of parts for the car, the safety test ratings ... the list goes on and on. With all of the factors affecting your insurance, it's

**“As Independent Insurance Brokers, we have the tools and the qualifications to help you keep your premiums as low as possible.”**

nice to have someone who can sort through the confusion and make it clear for you. Just speak to us. We represent your interests to insurance companies. We do the research, and offer you unbiased advice on choosing the right coverage for your needs. There's no additional cost to you. And because we're independent, we work for you, not the insurance companies. You can rest assured that the advice we are giving you is always in your best interest.

## Q&A

**Q:** If I have to make a claim, how long will it take before it is reflected in my rates?

**A:** Your premiums will be affected at the next renewal. You may qualify for “forgiveness” of your first accident, and experience little or no increase in premium. Or, it could take six years before you are back at the best driving record and “the best rates.” Contact your insurance broker to find out how a claim would affect your premium.

**Q:** If I'm sharing a car with another driver, will my insurance rates be lower than if I was the only driver on the policy?

**A:** Each individual situation is different. Depending on the age and driving record of each driver, there may be no charge for a second driver, or additional charges could apply. The best advice is to contact your broker to find out what effect an additional driver would have to your policy.

**Q:** If I get into an accident in another province, do the same insurance rules apply?

**A:** The rules of the province where you have the accident will prevail. If you live in a province that allows you to sue an “at fault” driver but the accident happens in a “no fault” province, you will have to look at your own policy for any payment.

**Q:** I am going on vacation and plan to rent a car. Does my automobile insurance policy provide any coverage for my rental?

**A:** If you are renting a vehicle, make sure you talk to your insurance broker in advance. Your policy can be extended to provide coverage based on your own unique needs.

**Q:** My Credit Cards promote that I have insurance coverage for car rentals. Is this sufficient?

**A:** Each Credit card offers different coverages and limits. You need to read the small print very carefully, there may be limitations. Depend on your insurance broker not on your Credit Card.

