

Frank Marinier
On Behalf of Kawartha Lakes Taxi
75 Durham Street W
Lindsay, ON.

To Whom it May Concern:

On behalf of those providing transportation to the good people of our Local communities in the City of Kawartha Lakes I wish to thank you for taking time to consider our request for a rate increase for our services. What follows outlines the reasons you should consider for granting this request.

The current rates are a drop fee of \$3.75 with increases of \$3.00/km at \$.25 increments. This rate has been held for several years. We are asking that you increase the drop to \$4.50 and \$3.50/km at \$.25 increments respectively. Roughly a 17% increase.

The first reason we are asking for this increase is because while the cost of operations has increased every year and the minimum wage has increased since the current rates set, our ability to earn more has been controlled by the town and has seen no increase. While this increase would certainly not cover the actual rising costs it would certainly help to offset these increases in costs and wages. Currently drivers earn on a commission basis. So without an increase in rates their wages have stayed the same.

The second reason, and the most significant one, is the current cost of fuel. As every person who is still breathing and living today knows the cost of fuel has increased in the last couple of months by roughly 50%, going from about \$1.20/litre to currently over \$1.80/litre. Since the drivers are responsible for their own gas they would have borne the brunt of this cost had it not been for the taxi owners offering a rebate to the drivers. For this reason both the driver and owners have seen a reduction in our wages as these costs have gone up. Depending on the litres/100km that a taxi is getting the cost of operation from fuel has increased from roughly 12-18% to now 18-25%.

We appreciate that part of your decision will be based on the rates charged in other municipalities. Unfortunately this is an unfair comparison. This is due to several factors. While these factors are hard to explain they are significant. The first factor is the number of Taxis that serve a given area. The more taxis that a company has on the road at a given time, the shorter a taxi will have to travel between calls, thus reducing time and fuel that a taxi driver would not be paid for. Smaller towns have fewer taxis on the road than bigger towns. Another consideration is that larger towns means larger fares, and when a greater distance is required by a local taxi, the number of kilometres driven to the next fare is increased. For example if a taxi rides in a larger town is 10 km; the chances that another fare within one or two kilometres of the drop of point is high because there is a greater chance the fare ends within city limits. Whereas a fare picked up within the town of Lindsay that requires 10 or more kilometres means that a driver will almost always have to travel that same distance to pick up the next fare as the fare most definitely will end outside the Town of Lindsay. When considering the rates charged in

Lindsay versus the rates of Peterborough or Oshawa the larger amount of Dead time and Kilometers driver needs to be taken into account.

If you combine the need to keep pace with the rising minimum wage and operation cost related to fuel price increases a definite increase in rates is necessary.

Your attention to this matter is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,
Frank Marinier
Kawartha Lakes Taxi