

# Your Co-op

The Best Deal in Town for 25 Years

August  
2008

## Fuel rebate tops \$365,000



*Juan Guerrero fuels up his truck at the Co-op Gas Bar. Members received cheques worth \$365,000 in June for fuel rebates earned between November 2007 and April 2008.*

Members who gas up regularly at the Yellowknife Co-op gas bar received some welcome mail during the past few weeks, rebate cheques

A total of 3,479 cheques representing \$365,554 were issued in June for Member Gas Discounts, likely a bit of financial relief for motorists facing an ever-rising cost of topping up the tank.

The rebates are for fuel purchases between Nov. 1, 2007 and April 30, 2008, said Louise Cormier, the Co-op's accounting manager. Members who fuel up at the Co-op Gas bar accumulate a nine cent per litre discount on each purchase.

"The average cheque amount was \$105.00," explained Cormier.

Cheques were not issued for rebate amounts of less than \$10. Any amounts under \$10 were credited to Members' Share Capital, bringing the total discount to \$368,448.

Co-op board president Mark Needham said the cheques were issued as part of a twice-yearly payout of the discount.

In 2007, members received fuel rebates totaling \$690,000. Part of this discount was paid at the pump during November 2006 to March 2007, while the balance was paid in December 2007.



## EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

# Amadu Dumbuya

## MILK MASTER

From 11:30 p.m. until 8 in the morning, Amadu Dumbuya is master of the dairy section at Yellowknife Co-op.

He's a member of the grocery department and as a stock clerk, he takes great pride in making sure everything's just right.

"What I like about my job is that I always need to put things right for the customer," he explained.

While some might wince at working the night shift, he's matter of fact, saying: "it's my job."

Key to stocking dairy shelves, he said, is attention to detail.

"You have to be very observant on the code dates," he said.



*Proud of being named Employee of the Month, Amadu Dumbuya poses for a photo on the deck at his Niven Lake home.*

"Today's the 20th, so I have to remove everything that's (best before) dated the 20th, 21st and 22nd."

At the Co-op a jug of milk, for example, needs to be removed three days before its best before date comes due.

"We are selling the best milk because of the code dates," said Dumbuya.

In dairy, there are four deliveries a week, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights, keeping him very busy.

When asked how many litres of milk he'd put on the shelf each week, he simply says: "lots, lots, lots."

He has worked the Co-op for five years, and came to Yellowknife on May 2, 2002 from Ghana in West Africa with his two children and his wife. He now has two granddaughters.

In addition to working at the Co-op he also works at Diamante's restaurant.

"I'm paying off the mortgage," he said. "My wife pays the bills and I pay for the house."



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# New scholarship criteria introduced

New criteria makes the difficult task of selecting Co-op scholarship recipients a little bit easier starting this year.

The application deadline is September 30 and the eight awards are generally presented at the October/November meeting.

Typically, 30-40 applications for the \$1,000 scholarships are received, said scholarship committee chair Deb Simpson. Four scholarships are awarded to new high school graduates and four are awarded to post-secondary students.

"We have the ability to award more if we feel the necessity," she explained.

"For example if there are 10 excellent candidates the names would be presented to the Board."

This year, a new points system is being introduced to help the committee rate scholarship applicants:

- Academic achievement;
- Demonstrated leadership capability;
- Volunteerism and community involvement;
- Participation in extracurricular activities;
- Career Goals that lead to a future contribution to the North; and,
- Financial hardship.

As well, applicants who have worked at the Co-op would be awarded extra points.

Other changes to the scholarship program this year include limiting scholarships to four students graduating from Grade 12 and four to those attending post-secondary institutions. One last change would see students eligible to receive the scholarship once.

"(The new system) allows us to spread it around a bit better," said Simpson, who noted clearly-defined criteria make a "very difficult" job of choosing recipients a little bit easier.

The scholarship committee recommends a list of recipients to the board of directors, which has the final decision.

Nine scholarships were awarded in 2007, including the Judy Wilson Memorial Scholarship and the Ted Sabine Memorial Scholarship. Judy Wilson was a former board member and chair of the scholarship committee while Sabine played a leading role in establishing the Co-op and who was an early director.

Recipients of the memorial awards have their names inscribed on a commemorative plaque.

**To apply for the scholarship,  
visit our Community page  
on our website at  
[WWW.YKCOOP.COM](http://WWW.YKCOOP.COM)**



*Co-op director Deb Simpson says new selection criteria will make the job of selecting eight scholarship recipients much easier for the board of directors.*

## Make a Wish Birthday Cake Draw

If you have a birthday coming up soon, drop your name in the entry box at the bakery counter and you could win an oven-fresh cake!

Recent winners:

- Mali Straker
- Jacob Rabesca
- Abby Leblanc
- Ethan Aumond
- Joshua Belcourt

## Grocery Packing Dates

- August 9 – HBC Ladies Basketball
- August 10 – NWT Seniors
- August 23 – HBC Drillers Soccer Team
- August 24 – St. Pat's Canadian Battlefields trip

## Fundraising Car Washes

- August 2 – CIBC (Run for Our Lives)
- August 9 – St. Pat's Canadian Battlefields Trip
- August 30 – Yellowknife Vineyard Youth Group

## Member Referral Rewards

Members who get new members to join the Co-op family get a "signing bonus" of a \$20 gift certificate.

Recent referrals have come from:

- Paul Falvo
- Jennifer Hunt
- Joan Hiron
- Bonnie Forsbloom
- Frank Walsh
- Brian Olford



**Top Up your tank or grab a snack at the Gas Bar**

*Johnny Kootoo, left, and Lloyd Desjarlais stand ready to help customers at the counter of the Co-op Gas Bar.*

There are plenty of pumps and friendly faces waiting for folks who fill up at the Co-op Gas Bar.

Open seven days a week from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m., the gas bar employs seven people, said manager Darwin Macusi.

He's worked for the Co-op for seven years, becoming manager of the gas bar in June. Prior to that, he served as assistant grocery manager.

"This is a very, very busy place," said Macusi.

He's happy to have a full staff, as it can be difficult to find enough people to work, a challenge faced by almost every employer in the city.

The gas bar has three bulk tanks for regular gasoline, one for premium and one for diesel. Each season has its peaks; in the winter the gas bar is busy with members fueling up their snow machines. While in the summer time,

sales shoot up with boats and motor homes getting their tanks filled.

Besides fuel for your car, truck, boat or snowmobile, the gas bar has a full range of snack food and even groceries when you run out of milk or bread after store hours. This time of year, slushies, pop and ice cream are popular. In fact, the Co-op gas bar slushies are the most popular treat. Even in the winter time at minus 45, there are hockey teams coming in up to pick up their favourite flavours.

Mornings are busy with people stopping by to pick up their cup of delicious Van Houtte coffee and a muffin while the lunch crowd comes in for sandwiches, hot dogs and dessert. Candy, newspapers and magazines are also available.

Weekends are always the busiest times at the gas bar, said Macusi.

## Contact us

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[www.ykcoop.com](http://www.ykcoop.com)

### Store Hours

Mon. & Tues.	9 am – 7 pm
Wed. to Fri.	9 am – 9 pm
Saturday	9 am – 7 pm
Sunday	10 am – 6 pm

### Gas Bar Hours

Monday to Sunday	6 am – 11 pm
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### Department

Member Services Counter	237
Member Relations Manager	270
General Manager	221
Accounting Manager	224
Human Resources Manager	245
Bakery Manager	242
Bakery Cake Orders	232

### Ext.

Corporate Sales	269
Deli Manager	230
Front End Manager	226
Gas Bar Manager	235
Grocery Manager	238
Meat Manager	229
Produce Manager	228