

HEALTH AND SAFETY

The Welland Hospital Site of the Niagara Health System provides many services to the citizens of Welland and surrounding communities. The 900 employees at the hospital work hard to meet the health care needs of their patients. In-patient and out-patient health care information is included.

The New Niagara Emergency Services enhance the health care in the Regional Municipality of Niagara by providing an ambulance service to the residents of its communities.

The issue of safety in Welland is one well-recognized and attended to. The Niagara Regional Police, Number 33 Division, is located in Welland. The Ontario Provincial Police and Royal Canadian Mounted Police also patrol areas in the City and Regional Municipality of Niagara. The Welland Fire Department, with five local fire stations, enforces the safety of the citizens of Welland as well.

HEALTH

Hospital Care

The Welland Hospital site of the Niagara Health System is centrally located in Welland. It is a modern 117 bed acute care hospital offering a broad range of services to the City of Welland and surrounding communities. There are a total of 67 active doctors in the hospital, including 51 specialists. The Welland Hospital Site also has a 35 bed Complex for Continuing Care (Woolcott Care) and owns and operates a 115 bed Long Term Care Unit (Extended Care).

Out-Patient Health Care

Laboratory ♦ X-Ray (including CT Multislice) ♦ Physiotherapy ♦ Occupational Therapy ♦ Mental Health (Children and Adult) ♦ Community Crisis ♦ Nutritional Counseling ♦ Cardio/Respiratory Care Programs (Rheumatology, Oncology, Pain, Chemotherapy) ♦ Day Surgery (Pediatric and Adult) ♦ Colonoscopy Screening Program ♦ Dialysis Out-Patient ♦ Pre-Surgery Assessment Clinic (Pediatric and Adult) ♦ Pediatric Asthma and Diabetes Clinic

In-Patient Health Care (with # of beds)

Medical and Surgical	55	Intensive Care/Cardiac Care	8	Pediatric	12
Special Care Nursery Beds	4	Obstetrical	14	Complex Continuing Care	35
Extended/Int. Long Term Care	115	Psychiatric	16	Bassinets	20
OR Room	5	Cardiac Monitored Care	8	3 South Nephrology	15

Medical Services

There are over 27 General Practitioners and 51 Specialists that practice in Welland. MDS Laboratories operates a Regional Laboratory and Patient Laboratory in Welland. In addition, there are approximately 30 dentists, 2 physiotherapy centres and 14 chiropractors that practice in Welland along with 3 private emergency walk-in clinics.

Ambulance Services

Niagara Emergency Medical Services (EMS) is a program of the Niagara Region Public Health Department Emergency Services Division. There are two components; the Paramedic Service and the Communications Service. Niagara EMS provides quality pre-hospital patient care to residents and tourists within the 12 municipalities of Niagara. There are 17 ambulance bases and 33 emergency service vehicles which are staffed by over 230 Advanced and Primary Care Paramedics. Our state of the art Communication Centre is staffed with 25 System Status Controllers who handle all 911 emergency ambulance calls 24/7.

SAFETY FACILITIES

Police Protection - Niagara Regional Police Service (N.R.P.S.)

The Niagara Regional Police Service provides policing to the Niagara Region's residents and visitors. The Service has a Central Region headquarters for Welland and Port Colborne, located on Lincoln Street in Welland. In addition to uniform patrol officers, the Central Region also includes an investigative branch consisting of detectives who investigate major incidents. The Niagara Regional Police Service maintains mobile and foot patrols and also has a number of specialized units, including Canine, Auxiliary Police and Community Services. Some of the focus of the Service is on education on traffic safety and drug awareness and these are provided to elementary and secondary schools.

Ontario Provincial Police (O.P.P.)

Ontario's provincial highways (King's Highway system) are patrolled by the Ontario Provincial Police. King's Highways in Welland are 58A, 140 and 406.

Royal Canadian Mounted Police (R.C.M.P.)

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police (R.C.M.P.) has an office located on Glendale Avenue in Niagara-on-the-Lake. The Niagara R.C.M.P. detachment covers the entire Regional Municipality of Niagara. There are thirty-one members of the R.C.M.P. stationed at the Niagara Detachment, as well as a support staff of five civil servants. The Niagara R.C.M.P. enforces approximately 97 statutes including The Narcotic Control Act, The Food and Drug Act, The Customs Act, The Excise Act and The Immigration Act.

Fire and Emergency Services

Welland Fire and Emergency Services Department is a composite department made up of 48 career fire-fighters and 62 volunteer fire-fighters assigned to emergency response and working from five stations in the City. The career firefighters work in 4 rotating shifts providing 24/7 availability while the volunteers are called as needed.

At fire Headquarters, the department has a Training Officer, a Director of Fire Prevention and two Fire Prevention Officers and a Fire Inspector. On the administrative side a Fire Chief, Deputy Fire Chief and two Administrative Assistants. The staff generally works regular office hours.

Firefighters deal with more than just fires. "Suppression" staff maintain many different skills to deal with all types of emergencies including fires of all types, hazardous material spills, specialized rescue incidents, and medical assistance calls.

A big part of our emergency call volume is responding with ambulance on medical assistance calls. Medical call volumes are increasing every year and the department's role in this area is also increasing. In 1996, all department apparatus were equipped with Defibrillators. Currently all Suppression staff are trained to First Responder-Level 3.

The Training Officer prepares and ensures that appropriate training is available and is provided to all firefighters in the Department. Skill demands on firefighters are constantly evolving which creates a challenging task to ensure that our staff are on top of their skills at all times.

"Fire Prevention" staff provides services including public safety education, Fire Code enforcement, and fire cause investigation. These services are a vital part of providing fire protection to the public. The principal aim is threefold; 1) To educate the public on how to prevent fires in their homes and at work. 2) To ensure that buildings are fire safe by design and in their use. 3) To discover how fires happened and what can be done to prevent a reoccurrence. Ironically, it is public attitude and individual actions (or inactions) that cause the vast majority of fires.

Fire safety is in your hands. Be a part of the solution!