



MEDIA RELEASE



Welland Transit Drivers Commence Stop Announcements

For Immediate Release – October 8, 2008 – 12:30 p.m.

Welland – Welland Transit drivers started announcing all Transit stops on City of Welland fixed transit routes on October 1. This new service will ensure that the City of Welland and Welland Transit are in compliance with a directive issued by the Ontario Human Rights Commission. This directive requires all transit systems across Ontario to announce all stops to assist riders with disabilities.

“It’s going pretty well so far; the feedback from our passengers has been positive and our drivers understand the importance of this service”, states Welland’s Transit Manager, Alfred Stockwell. “We hope to move from manual announcements to an automated stop announcement system gradually over the next few years.”

Welland Transit looks forward to seeing increased ridership as a result of the addition of stop announcements that assist riders who are sight impaired and also assists riders that may be new to the City and the Welland Transit system.

“It’s wonderful that the City of Welland is taking this step in making their transit system more accessible for persons with disabilities”, said Russ Findlay, Chair of the City’s Accessibility Advisory Committee. “I’m amazed at the pace this City is moving forward with its desire to be a fully accessible City”, continued Findlay.

In June 2007, the City added six new Ultra Low Floor buses to its fleet, which are accessible for persons who require assistive devices to maintain their mobility.

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