

WELLAND LEADING THE WAY



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

EXPLORE AND LEARN WITH RIDE TO READ 2014

Welland, ON – For the third consecutive year, Welland Transit and Welland Public Library are partnering to provide children with the opportunity to participate in the Ride to Read program. The program was initiated in 2012 to support a healthy community, foster community partnership, and provide fully accessible transportation to and from the Welland Library for children ages 3-13. Free and easy transportation encourages children to continue reading during the summer months and engage in public transportation.

Transit Manager, Alfred Stockwell, feels the program is educational not only because it promotes reading, but it also allows children to experience the transit system and learn how it works. "Having the children active on the transit system and at the Library helps create a healthier community," said Stockwell. "The program is an excellent resource to learning," he added.

Welland Public Library staff are excited to see the program resume in 2014. Devon Ward, Coordinator of Children and Youth Services, looks forward to children gathering at the Library during the summer months. "Reading is the most amazing thing kids can do, not just for all the academic benefits but because it's fun and an amazing way to connect, share, and learn. It makes well rounded, smart, compassionate kids and isn't that what all communities want for their futures. That's why the Ride to Read program and the Summer Reading Club work so well together," said Ward.

Staff from the Welland Library and Welland Transit hope to see the program inspire Welland's children to get moving and get reading. "It takes more than just a library building, even more than the books, it takes the support of a community to ensure all kids have access to programs like this," said Ward.

The program commences July 1, 2014, and ends August 31, 2014. It is eligible to children from 3-13 who have a Welland Public Library card, or register for a card. Passport stickers can be obtained at the Welland Public Library.

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