

# Champions WELLAND LEADING THE WAY

Thursday, December 10, 2015  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**



## MITTEN TREE GROWS WITH GENEROSITY

**Welland, ON** – The Welland Community Wellness Complex (WCWC) is running another successful year with its Mitten Tree Donation Program. This is the third consecutive year the program has run throughout the holiday season—and with the generosity from the community—the program continues to grow. Initially, when the Mitten Tree Program launched in 2013 it accepted donations of homemade mittens; however, this year’s donations consist of mittens, scarves, hats, slippers, onesies, toys, and non perishables.

Ryanne Hale, Customer Service Clerk for the WCWC, has spearheaded the program over the years in conjunction with Welland Community Christmas. “The Community Christmas leaders are Salvation Army, The Hope Centre, Community Toys, and St. Vincent De Paul. All are well recognized organizations in Welland,” said Hale.

The Holiday Tree at the WCWC is filling fast with donated items but there’s always room for more. Staff is hoping to surpass last year’s collection. “We decided to expand the donations to a variety of items because there’s a large demand for these items over the holidays,” said Hale. It’s taxing on local service agencies to provide and meet the needs of the community. We feel that social responsibility should be on everyone’s holiday agenda,” she added.

Donations are being accepted until Friday, December 11, 2015, at 2:00 p.m. at the Welland Community Wellness Complex.

-30-

Contact: Richard Morwald  
Manager, Recreation & Culture  
Integrated Services Department  
Welland Community Wellness Complex  
145 Lincoln Street, Welland, ON L3B 6E1  
Tel: (905)735-1700 ext. 4007  
richard.morwald@welland.ca  
www.welland.ca