

**Monday, June 1, 2015
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

VIBRANT SENIORS VIBRANT COMMUNITIES

Seniors across Ontario celebrate vivacious living this June, which marks the 31st anniversary of Seniors' Month. This year's theme *Vibrant Seniors Vibrant Communities* definitely speaks to the amazing contributions seniors have made in our community and the contributions they are still making every day across Ontario. To encourage celebration throughout the month, Welland City Council is proclaiming June as Seniors' Month, while the City launches an array of events sure to appeal to all ages and abilities.

Doug Rapelje, member of the Senior Citizen's Advisory Committee, is pleased with the ongoing events offered to commemorate Welland's senior community. On Wednesday, June 3, at 2 p.m. the committee is kicking off Seniors' Month by promoting the Niagara Aging Strategy. "I hope to see good attendance at the launch," said Rapelje. The festivities begin at 2 p.m. as local dignitaries gather at the Welland Community Wellness Complex. The event includes a presentation on the Niagara Aging Strategy Action Plan. Following the presentation will be live entertainment, complimentary refreshments, and door prizes.

According to the 2011 Census, 50,631 people reside in Welland, and nearly 13,000 of those are age 60 and up. The Welland Community Wellness Complex has seen a steady increase in programming for seniors. Krista Bowie, Community Recreation Coordinator for the City of Welland claims that seniors are looking for new challenges and a variety of recreation programming.

Visit seniors.gc.ca to learn more about Ontario Seniors' Month, government services, benefits for seniors, or tips on staying active, engaged, and informed. For a list of Senior's Month events please visit the City of Welland events calendar at www.welland.ca.

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