

**For Immediate Release**  
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### **THE CITY'S 2017 BIG MOVIE NIGHT LAUNCHES WITH MOANA**

**Welland, ON** - The City of Welland is releasing its second annual Big Movie Night series on Saturday, August 26, 2017, with Disney's animated film Moana. Initiated in 2016, shortly after the addition of City's LED BIG SCREEN at Civic Square, the Big Movie Night series offers free block buster movies and refreshments for families to enjoy.

Big Movie Night is an initiative to bring families to Welland's downtown core, stimulate economic development, revitalize public space, and encourage civic pride. The film series followed a very successful live broadcast of the Tragically Hip in August 2016, where close to 3,000 people gathered at Civic Square to view the concert on the BIG SCREEN.

Moana will kick off the 2017 series, followed by three other scheduled movies on September 22, October 27, and ending with a Christmas film after the Santa Claus Parade on November 18.

The City of Welland is in the process of a public engagement campaign to better understand what residents, visitors, and key stakeholders would like to see incorporated into the front plaza at Civic Square in order to make it a more socially engaging place to visit.

"Civic Square has a lot of potential to bring more engaging and entertaining events downtown," said Cassandra Magazzeni, Arts and Culture Coordinator for the City of Welland. "We're planning a Moana Hawaiian themed movie night along with treats for the kids."

City staff remind participants to bring their own lawn chairs to view the movie. Viewers are also welcome to bring snacks; however, Sweet Sunshine Ice Cream will be on site selling dairy-free ice cream. In the event of rain, the movie will be shown in the Community Room at Civic Square (seating capacity of 100). The movie will begin at dusk. For more City of Welland events visit [welland.ca](http://welland.ca).

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