

For Immediate Release
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TRAFFIC SAFETY AT INTERSECTIONS IS KEY TO BETTER DRIVING

Intersections are designed to allow motorists, cyclists, and pedestrians to interact with each other safely. Ignoring traffic signs or signals, or failing to yield to pedestrians and following too closely are all common causes of collisions.

The City of Welland reminds drivers that clear safe driving is the best way to avoid accidents. Driver error can occur when drivers are fully engaged; therefore, distracted drivers increase the chance of driving accidents significantly and could potentially cause injury or death.

Distracted driving and failure to comply with signage not only increases the potential for injury, it is also detrimental to driving records and insurance rates. Any driver charged under The Highway Traffic Act is subject to the following penalties:

- **Three demerit points**
- **A fine of \$110 unless reduced by the Justice of the Peace**
- **If convicted, this charge will remain on a driver's abstract for two years from the offence date**
- **The possibility of insurance rate increases**

"You should always check for vehicles approaching the intersection to make sure they are going to stop completely or yield the right of way," said Ali Khan, Traffic, Parking & By-Laws Supervisor. "Safe driving means that we are constantly watching the road and other drivers to avoid dangerous collisions."

Witnesses can also submit traffic complaints to Niagara Regional Police Services Traffic Hotline at www.niagarapolice.ca/en/whatwedo/submitattrafficcomplaint.asp.

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