

**For Immediate Release**

Thursday, January 31, 2019



**CITY EXTENDS COLD ALERT PROGRAM TO INCLUDE EMERGENCY OVERNIGHT SHELTER**

With temperatures plummeting below  $-15^{\circ}\text{C}$ , The City of Welland has initiated an emergency warming shelter for Niagara residents in need of overnight shelter. The shelter is located at Civic Square, 60 East Main Street, Welland. The city's Emergency Overnight Warming Shelter is a safe warm place for people to find relief from extreme winter conditions. Presently, the shelter is able to accommodate up to 10 people. The emergency shelter is open to the public when Environment Canada issues a cold alert in Niagara of temperatures  $-15^{\circ}\text{C}$  and will operate between the hours of 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m.

People seeking overnight shelter are encouraged to contact 211 services first for assistance in locating the most appropriate accommodations; however, people are welcome to use the shelter on a drop-in basis for overnight stay if the shelter is not at capacity. The public is encouraged to check-in for overnight stay early in the evening due to the shelter's 10 person capacity limit.

In conjunction with the city's Emergency Overnight Warming Shelter, the city also directs the public to the following daytime warming stations:

- Welland Civic Square, located at 60 East Main Street, Hours: Mon-Fri 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m., Sat 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Sun 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Welland Community Wellness Complex, located at 145 Lincoln Street, Hours: Mon-Fri 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Sat 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Sun 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- Welland Public Library Main Branch, Located at 50 The Boardwalk, Mon-Thurs 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Fri 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Sat 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Sun 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Welland Public Library Diamond Trail Branch, located at 315 Southworth Street, Mon-Thurs 3:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Fri Closed, Sat 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Sun Closed.
- Welland Public Library Seaway Mall Branch, located at 800 Niagara Street, Mon Closed, Tues-Fri 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., Sat 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Sun Closed.

For more information on emergency shelter, locations, or related community services contact 211 on your phone, or dial 1-800-263-3695, or visit the [211 website](#). 211 is a confidential support line that provides live 24-hour customer service. For more information on winter weather preparedness visit [welland.ca](#).

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Contact: Gary Long, CAO

[cao@welland.ca](mailto:cao@welland.ca)

905-735-1700 Ext. 2122