

**For Immediate Release**

Wednesday, November 6, 2019



**ROGERS HOMETOWN HOCKEY AND CITY OF WELLAND PREPARE FOR AN ACTION-PACKED WEEKEND**

The City of Welland is welcoming the Rogers™ Hometown Hockey™ Tour to the downtown core this weekend and city staff are excited to help design one of the city's most anticipated special events of the year. Welland is one of 25 selected communities across the nation to host the Rogers Hometown Hockey Tour. Welland is the sixth stop on the tour, which commenced on Oct. 5, 2019, in Halton Hills Ontario, and is scheduled to end March 29, 2020, in Edmonton Alberta.

Rogers Hometown Hockey and the City of Welland expect to delight fans from Friday to Sunday evening with a long list of free hockey-related activities. The City of Welland is opening the weekend festivities with an invite to the public this Friday at 8:45 a.m. at Civic Square for an official flag-raising ceremony and ball hockey scrimmage. Friday is also the city-wide Jersey Challenge, to help officially start the weekend and welcome Rogers Hometown Hockey to Welland. Residents, students, and businesses are encouraged to wear a jersey to school, work, or play.

A Weekend Warm-up party is planned for Friday evening with a Skate with Hometown Hank from 6:00 p.m. to 6:50 p.m. at the Main Arena. The public is invited to a free skate with Mayor Frank Campion, Hometown Hank, and other famous mascots from Niagara. Hometown Hank will also drop the puck at 7:00 p.m. to kick-off the Welland Tigers vs West Niagara Flying Aces hockey game.

The fun continues through Saturday afternoon at Civic Square with the Rogers Hometown Hockey Festival. Festival attendees can expect appearances and autograph signings from NHL Alumni, live entertainment, and plenty of family-focused fun. Hockey fans are encouraged to stay into the evening for the 6:00 p.m. Overtime Event to enjoy a live broadcast of the Toronto Maple Leafs vs the Philadelphia Flyers. The evening also includes live music with Jonesy, food trucks, activities, raffles and more.

The weekend celebrations resume on Sunday with more of the Hometown Hockey Festival and a long list of family-friendly activities. The weekend's highlight concludes with the Rogers Hometown Hockey program, starring Ron MacLean and Tara Slone, followed by a live broadcast of the Toronto Maple Leafs taking on the Chicago Blackhawks on Sportsnet.

"We're excited to welcome Rogers Hometown Hockey to Niagara, and even more excited to welcome residents and visitors to enjoy the festival in downtown Welland," said Mayor Frank Campion. "Hometown Hockey and city staff have a great weekend planned, and everyone is invited to come out and enjoy the celebrations."

**Social Media Links**

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For a full weekend schedule of the Welland Rogers Hometown Hockey weekend, visit [welland.ca](#). For information on the Rogers Hometown Hockey Tour, visit [hometownhockey.com](#).

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