

May 14, 2020

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**



**WELLAND CANCELS 2020 CONCERTS ON THE CANAL AT MERRITT PARK**

**Welland, ON** - The City of Welland is cancelling the Concerts on the Canal music summer series at Merritt Park due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Welland is committed to following provincial and federal guidelines to help curb the spread of COVID-19 and ensure the safety of event planners and Niagara’s residents. Welland is currently under a state of emergency order and has cancelled all public events, closed public facilities, and cancelled programs until June 30, 2020.

Concerts on the Canal is a celebrated event that has been hosted by the Welland Downtown Business Improvement Area over the past few years. This year’s event line-up was set to launch on June 26 and continue throughout the summer with eight musical performances.

“Everyone looks forward to the Concerts on the Canal series in Welland and across Niagara, said Kelly Jones, Welland BIA Chair. “We know this is the right decision to protect our community and everyone’s health. We are looking forward as a BIA to create new ideas that will help our community this year and beyond.”

“It saddens us to see another one of Welland’s festivals cancelled this year; however, we need to take the well-being of the community first and foremost,” said Richard Dalton, Manager of Recreation and Culture. “I’m positive that the Downtown BIA will come back with an impressive line-up in 2021.”

Concerts on the Canal is an annual music festival that entertains locals from June to August. The event brings thousands of people to Merritt Park for live entertainment and award-winning vocal artists.

Stay Connected to @Concertsonthecanal on Facebook for updates on the 2021 series. Stay connected to @wellandrecandculture on Facebook for updates and the status of re-opening special events. For more information on the City of Welland’s response to COVID-19, visit [welland.ca](http://welland.ca).

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