



MEDIA ADVISORY

Funding boost for Active School Travel

NIAGARA REGION, October 2, 2018

Active transportation in Niagara received a major boost with \$100,000 in funding and support provided through Ontario Active School Travel, a program designed to encourage walking and wheeling on the journey to school.

The two-year project will make a lasting contribution to active school travel through enhanced partnerships, capacity building, policy change, resource commitment, and activities that recreate a culture of every day walking and wheeling on the school journey.

WHO: The project is led by Niagara Student Transportation Services and Niagara Region Public Health. Representatives from the school board and municipality will be on hand to join us in celebrating active school travel at each location.

WHAT: Walk to School Events and Active School Travel Media Launch

WHERE and WHEN:

Thursday, October 4, 2018

8:00-8:30 a.m.

Twenty Valley Public School
4057 Victoria Avenue, **Vineland**

Friday, October 26, 2018

8:30-9:15 a.m.

Cardinal Newman Catholic Elementary School
8120 Beaverdams Road, **Niagara Falls**

WHY:

- Active school travel has declined sharply in most Ontario communities in recent decades. Niagara Student Transportation Services and Niagara

Region Public Health are working with Green Communities Canada and many partners to reverse that decline, and make active transportation the "new normal".

- Active school travel has numerous benefits, including health, improved school performance, social development, an increase in independent mobility, increased happiness, reduced traffic and school zone congestion, reduced emissions, and improved air quality
- Active school travel programs address road safety through infrastructure improvements, skills development, and changes to driver behaviour, including reduced speeds

This project is made possible in part through financial support from Green Communities Canada and the Government of Ontario. For details, see www.ontarioactiveschooltravel.ca

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