

WELLAND TRANSIT INCREASES SERVICE LEVELS TO ALIGN WITH STAGE-TWO RE-OPENING

Welland, ON - Welland Transit is expanding its services, effective June 22, to accommodate the Province's Stage-Two re-opening of the economy. As more businesses re-open and bring people back to work, public transportation is a priority for Welland residents.

The City of Welland also recognizes the importance of keeping people connected to Niagara's list of growing services; therefore, Welland Transit is increasing services for Niagara's transit riders. The following service levels, approved by Welland City Council, will change to meet customer demand while helping to prevent the spread of COVID-19 through physical distancing protocols:

- Monday, June 22, 2020, to Saturday, June 27, 2020, inclusive The Community Bus will be in operation (routes #510 West Community & #511 East Community operating on 45-minute frequency from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.).
- All boarding will take place at the front door effective Monday, June 22.
- Effective Sunday, June 28, 2020, Welland Transit will provide service on all eight routes on an hourly frequency from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. seven days per week.
- Effective June 28, 2020, customers will be required to pay a fare when boarding the bus. All fares remain the same at \$3 per ride (visit welland.ca for fare listings).
- The East Main Street Transit Terminal will also re-open on June 29 from 8 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. with physical distancing measures in place and enhanced cleaning protocols. Staff will be present to assist passengers as they enter the facility.
- Bus operators will be protected by transparent Plexiglass barriers.
- It is strongly recommended that all Transit customers either boarding the buses or entering the Terminal wear a face covering (mask) for the safety of all.

Welland Transit has been operating a Reserve-A-Ride Program over the past ten weeks to contain costs— as a result of the impact of COVID-19—and significantly reduced ridership. The goal is to return to normal levels of Transit Service.

For further clarification on Welland Transit routes and schedules, visit <u>https://www.welland.ca/Transit/index.asp</u>, or follow Welland Transit on Facebook. For more information on WellAnd Recovery – Moving Beyond COVID-19, visit welland.ca.

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