



## MEDIA RELEASE



### Santa Claus is Coming to Town November 29

**For Immediate Release – November 5, 2008 – 6:00 p.m.**

**Welland** — The City of Welland will be holding its annual Santa Claus Parade this year on Saturday, November 29, starting at 6:30 p.m. and running until about 7:30 p.m. The parade will begin at Wellington Street and travel west along East Main Street ending at Civic Square.

The closure of East Main Street from Wellington Street to just east of King Street will commence at 6:00 p.m. with full parking restrictions along the parade route. Any unauthorized vehicles parked on the parade route after 6:00 p.m. will be tagged and towed at the owner's expense. Access to the Main Street Bridge will not be blocked to vehicles travelling north on King Street.

Although the official deadline for submissions of applications to enter a float in the Welland Santa Claus Parade is the 14th of November, "I don't want to disappoint anyone, especially the kids, by not accepting entries that come in after the deadline", says Janice Makepeace, Community Recreation Coordinator for the City. Applications to enter a float in the parade are available at the Rose City Senior's Activity Centre on Lincoln Street, at Civic Square, or by contacting Janice at (905) 735-1700 ext. 4007.

Janice also extends an invitation to everyone to join Santa Claus at Civic Square immediately following the parade for hot chocolate and cookies in the Community Room. "Santa will be waiting under the tree in the lobby to hear children's Christmas wishes and Mad Science will be putting on a show for the kids. I'm hoping to have some local students playing Christmas songs for us as well", continues Janice. Festivities will wrap up at Civic Square at about 8:30 p.m.

With the parade starting a bit later this year, very few bus routes will be affected by the East Main Street closure. Route 5 will be re-routed at Wellington and Hagar Streets just after 6:05 p.m. and will not proceed to East Main Street, but will instead follow Hagar Street west and take the same route into the Terminal as Route 6.

All final bus runs will depart the Terminal as usual; however, they will not return to the Terminal at the end of their runs so as not to disturb the parade. With the exception of Route 8 which will still make its final stop at the Terminal, all buses will return to their original stopping grounds at the end of their routes – Market Square.

Later this month Welland Transit is celebrating its 35th Anniversary and when the transit system began, Market Square was considered the "terminal". For detailed information about the changes to the last Welland Transit runs of the night on Saturday, November 29, contact (905) 735-1700 ext. 3101.

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