Press Release



March 19, 2015

## Town of Pelham Improving Transportation for Seniors, Youth & Persons Living With Disabilities

The Town of Pelham is pleased to receive a provincial <u>Community Transportation Pilot Grant</u> to help improve community transportation services for seniors, youth, persons living with disabilities, and other members of the community who need transportation.

"We are thrilled to receive this grant and are very grateful to the Provincial Government for the support," said Pelham Mayor Dave Augustyn. "We look forward to working together with our partners to advance one of our community's key goals – increasing access to public transportation."

The Town of Pelham was awarded the maximum \$100,000 for a new coordinated service to provide inter-municipal and volunteer service to surrounding municipalities, Niagara College, Niagara Regional Transit and GO Transit.

Funding for the coordinated service will be awarded from April 1, 2015 to March 31, 2017, at which time the pilot program will be evaluated to determine the effectiveness of coordinated community transportation as a service delivery model. The Town of Pelham was one of 54 communities to submit applications across Ontario.

"The government of Ontario is committed to ensuring better access to transportation services for all residents, so that they can stay connected to their communities and maintain an active lifestyle," said Minister of Transportation Steven Del Duca. "Our transportation investments like the Community Transportation Pilot Grant Program help build stronger communities."

## About the Grant

The Community Transportation Pilot Grant Program provides funds to municipalities to partner with community organizations, such as health and community agencies, transit agencies, schoolbus operators and private transit operators, to coordinate local transportation services, so more rides can be provided to more people, and to more destinations. The Town of Pelham is one of eleven municipalities to receive funding.

The program is part of the province's commitment to provide support to help seniors stay healthy and at home longer. It also improves transportation services, options, and resources for everyone in the community, such as students and youth who need to get to school, persons living with disabilities, or those in rural areas where amenities and services are too far to reach without a car.

As a community dedicated to alternative modes of transportation —Pelham is designated as a <u>Walk Friendly</u> and <u>Bicycle Friendly</u> Community— the Town of Pelham looks forward to providing better transportation services to residents through the sharing and coordination of community transportation resources.

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