



MEDIA RELEASE

Niagara-on-the-Lake Launches New Youth and Family Programming

For Immediate Release

September 27, 2023

Let's play, Niagara-on-the-Lake! The Town is excited to offer enhanced programming opportunities for families, youth, and children in the community, with early registration opening today for Niagara-on-the-Lake residents. The Town is eager to hear from residents about these programming opportunities to gain feedback and generate ideas for future improvements.

"Families are a major part of our Town, and their well-being is vital to our community's vibrancy and completeness," stated Lord Mayor Gary Zalepa. "We have listened closely to residents' feedback and are thrilled to provide new youth and family programs. Our commitment doesn't end here; we are dedicated to fostering continuous engagement opportunities to ensure that our Town consistently provides programs that align with the evolving needs of our residents. "

Niagara-on-the-Lake residents can register for programming online at <http://ca.apm.activecommunities.com/notl>, in person at the Niagara-on-the-Lake Community Centre (14 Anderson Lane), or by phone at 905-468-4386.

Registration will open as follows:

- **Wednesday, September 27:** Niagara-on-the-Lake residents only
- **Friday, September 29:** Everyone

The Town will be trialing some new programs catering to different age groups to gather feedback and insights to shape future recreation programming. These new Fall 2023 programming initiatives include:

- **Try-It NOTL:** This program is geared toward families and youth (ages 6+) looking to give a new activity a try. Try-It NOTL is a registration-based program offered on select Friday evenings from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Sign up for one session or all sessions! Sessions will include recreational activities such as pickleball, ping pong, badminton, card & games, and a holiday workshop.



- **Mini/Mighty/Major Movers Program:** This program offers an inclusive, fun, and safe environment for families and children (Mini ages: 3-5, Mighty ages: 6-8, Major ages: 9-12) to enhance gross-motor and sensory organizational skills through walking, running, climbing, jumping, and exploring equipment. This program includes 20 minutes of instructor-led games and activities and 30 minutes of unstructured play and exploration, offered in two four-week sessions on Saturday mornings in the Fall, starting on October 14.

Engagement opportunities are coming soon! The Town is excited to receive input from residents regarding programming opportunities to gather feedback and spark ideas for future enhancements. Community members will be invited to provide their input about programming in two ways:

- **Completing an online survey from October 2 to November 1, 2023.**
 - Two surveys will be open for feedback: a survey for parents/guardians and a survey for youth.
- **Attending an Open House at the Community Centre (14 Anderson Lane, Niagara-on-the-Lake) on Monday, October 30, from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m.**
 - Interactive feedback opportunities will be provided.

"Staff has heard the community's desire to have improved programming for the Town's youth and families, and we look forward to learning more about what is needed," stated CAO Marnie Cluckie. "After reviewing the feedback, Staff will better understand the community's programming desires and create 2024 programming that aligns with the community's wishes. Additionally, Staff will be looking for opportunities to partner with and promote other organizations in the community who are offering youth and family programming."

For more information about Niagara-on-the-Lake's recreation programming and activities, please visit <https://www.notl.com/recreation-events/programs-activities>

For immediate alerts, follow the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#).

Media contact:

Marah Minor, Community Engagement and Communications Coordinator
905-468-3266 | communications@notl.com