



MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Licence 2 Ride program offers Barrie youth free summer access to transit and recreation

(Barrie, ON) – Applications open today for the City's Licence 2 Ride program, which offers Barrie youth aged twelve to sixteen free rides on Barrie Transit and access to free recreational opportunities at the City's recreation/community centres, from July 1 to September 4, 2023.

"Licence 2 Ride is designed to support local youth by providing access to and education about City services like transit and recreation, and by encouraging them in their journey to becoming active and involved members of the community," says Brent Forsyth, Director of Transit and Parking Strategy.

Nearly 1,000 youth participated in the program in 2022. Voluntary "Rider's Ed" orientation sessions will be offered to participants at the start of the program to educate them on how to use Barrie Transit, and the City's fitness centres.

"The goal of the program is to build future transit riders through education and familiarity of the system, along with motivating a healthy lifestyle by providing access to recreation facilities and programming," says Dan Bell, Director of Recreation & Culture Services.

Youth who have a licence can enjoy free activities throughout the summer, some of which include:

- Select drop-in recreation programs, including open gym, public skating and swimming
- Access to the fitness centres at Allandale Recreation Centre, East Bayfield and Peggy Hill Team Community Centres (for those thirteen years and older)
- Free rides on all Barrie Transit routes

Interested youth can submit a completed application form (which includes a parent/guardian signature), along with one piece of identification in-person at Allandale Recreation Centre, East Bayfield or Peggy Hill Team Community Centres.

Application forms and more information on the program are available at barrie.ca/Licence2Ride.

To learn more about Barrie's transit services, visit barrie.ca/transit. To learn more about recreation opportunities in the city, visit barrie.ca/recreation.

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