

10 Years of Safe Rides: Volunteers, Sponsors and Community Power Operation Red Nose Northumberland

Cobourg, ON – YMCA Northumberland's Operation Red Nose has proudly wrapped up its 10th successful season of helping to keep roads safer during the holidays, all made possible by their exceptional team of volunteers and the steadfast support of community sponsors, partners, in-kind donors and the community.

Operation Red Nose has been an integral part of Northumberland County for the past 10 years, promoting road safety and offering a safe, reliable way for residents to get home with their vehicles during festive celebrations. During that time, more than 4,300 people were driven home safely across over 50,000 kms, highlighting the program's ongoing role in preventing impaired driving and supporting safer roads. What's more, it has raised much-needed funds to support the YMCA Strong Communities Campaign. This year, over \$20,000 was raised to improve access to Y programs and services across the region.

"Operation Red Nose is about more than just a safe ride home; it's about a community coming together to look out for one another," said Eunice Kirkpatrick, President & CEO, YMCA Northumberland. "Our volunteers, sponsors, partners, and in-kind donors are the heart of this program, and their commitment ensures we can offer this important service year after year."

YMCA Northumberland extends its heartfelt thanks to the over 60 volunteers who gave their time, energy, and enthusiasm to support this year's operation. This season was distinguished by a steady turnout of volunteers across the entire campaign. Many individuals generously returned to volunteer for multiple nights, ensuring the service was welcoming, dependable and ran smoothly. Plus, their dedication reflects how deeply the mission of Operation Red Nose resonates within the community and how committed residents are to keeping their neighbours safe.

Operation Red Nose Northumberland is made possible through the generous contributions of sponsors, partners, and in-kind donors who provide vital financial support, promotional reach, and resources to sustain the campaign. YMCA Northumberland gratefully acknowledges Avanessy Giordano LLP, Realty Executives Pentel Ltd., LiUNA! Local 183, MBC Media (93.3 myFM, Classic Rock 107.9, Oldies 100.9), Quantrill Chevrolet Buick GMC Cadillac, Protoplast Inc., Cobourg Lions Club, Enbridge, Part-Time CFO Services LLP, Behan Construction Ltd., Custom Plastics International Ltd., Finlay Construction, Cobourg Police Service, Stronger's Auto Spa & Accessories and Vandermeer Toyota for their support.

Local businesses also played a crucial role in caring for volunteers by donating meals and snacks throughout the season. YMCA Northumberland extends special thanks to Arthur's Pub, Domino's Pizza, Boston Pizza, Millstone Bakery, Foodland, Ketch's Korner and the Mill Restaurant and Pub for keeping volunteers fueled and energized each night.

Operation Red Nose has become a trusted and valued service in Northumberland County, saving lives and promoting responsible choices one ride at a time. As YMCA Northumberland reflects on 10 remarkable seasons, the organization is filled with gratitude for everyone who has helped build and sustain this program—from volunteers and sponsors to community partners and riders.

From all of us at Operation Red Nose and YMCA Northumberland, thank you for making this 10th Anniversary season meaningful, memorable, and safe for our community.

For more information, please contact:

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ABOUT YMCA NORTHUMBERLAND

As a charity, YMCA Northumberland provides vital community services that have a positive impact on pressing social issues—from chronic disease to unemployment, social isolation, poverty, inequality and more. The Strong Community Campaign helps countless children, teens, adults, and seniors in the community. YMCA Canada is one of the longest standing and largest charities nationally, with a presence in Canada since 1851 and now serving more than 2.1 million people annually across 1,700 program locations.