

# PRESS RELEASE

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## JOINT PRESS RELEASE: COMMUNITY PARTNERS AND CITY OF STRATFORD LAUNCH NEW WELCOME INITIATIVE FOR RESIDENTS

Stratford, ON – The Stratford Public Library, in partnership with local community organizations and the City of Stratford, is excited to announce the launch of a new program aimed at helping new residents feel at home in Stratford. The initiative, centered around a comprehensive "Welcome to Stratford - A Guide for New Residents" website, brochure and Welcome Package, is designed to make the transition smoother and more enjoyable for individuals and families moving into the city.

The welcome package includes, essential information on the wide range of services and opportunities available in Stratford including:

- Community & Social Services: Key contacts and resources for social support and community engagement.
- Education: Information on local schools, educational programs, and services for learners of all ages.
- Recreation: Details about parks, recreational facilities, and community events to help residents get active and involved.
- Employment Services: Guidance on finding job opportunities and accessing career resources.
- Municipal Services: Information on how to connect with vital city services and understand local regulations.
- Health Care: Access points and information on healthcare services available within Stratford.

Starting Monday, October 7, new residents can pick up their Welcome Package at the Stratford Public Library.

In addition to the physical Welcome Package, new residents can visit the Welcome to Stratford webpage on the Library website or pick up a brochure at the Stratford City Hall, Destination Stratford or Stratford Public Library to find even more resources and information online. A QR code provided in the materials makes accessing these digital resources quick and easy.

Stratford is committed to creating a welcoming environment where newcomers can thrive. This initiative is part of the City's broader effort to foster a sense of belonging and community for all residents. The Welcome Package is a valuable tool that not only provides practical information but also showcases the vibrant culture and opportunities Stratford has to offer.

New residents are encouraged to visit the Stratford Public Library, located at 19 St. Andrew St., to pick up their Welcome Package. The library staff, along with our community partners, are eager to assist and provide any additional support needed during this exciting transition.

For more information, please contact Brandi Gillett, Community Engagement Supervisor at Stratford Public Library at 519.271.0220 or Kevin Bonnell, Manager of Inclusion, Equity and Indigenous Initiatives at the City of Stratford at 519-271-0250 x 5282 or visit "[Welcome to Stratford - A Guide for New Residents.](#)"

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If you would like more information about this topic, please contact Brandi Gillett, Community Engagement Supervisor at 519-271-0220 x 116 or [bgillett@splibrary.ca](mailto:bgillett@splibrary.ca) or Kevin Bonnell, Manager of Inclusion, Equity and Indigenous Initiatives, City of Stratford at 519-271-0250 x 5282 or [kbonnell@stratford.ca](mailto:kbonnell@stratford.ca)