

## MEDIA RELEASE

### Water Bottle Filling Stations Coming to Leeds and Grenville



**Healthy Kids Community Challenge Leeds and Grenville is working with local organizations to encourage children and families to drink water**

Healthy Kids Community Challenge Leeds and Grenville is pleased to announce the installation of new water bottle filling stations in partnership with 23 charitable and non-profit organizations/groups across the region. This initiative is designed to engage communities around the second theme of the Healthy Kids Community Challenge: ***Water Does Wonders***.

In support of the Water Does Wonders theme, which encourages kids and families to drink water as a healthy alternative to sugar-sweetened beverages, Healthy Kids Community Challenge Leeds and Grenville introduced the Community Water Bottle Filling Station Initiative. Water Bottle Filling Stations provide access to fast, clean, hands-free water.

“We are thrilled to see so many Water Bottle Filling Stations being installed across our community”, says Joanne Desormeaux, Healthy Kids Community Challenge Facilitator in Leeds and Grenville. “Water is essential for good health and these stations will provide a simple, convenient, and low-cost option for children and families to quench their thirst,” says Desormeaux.

Water Bottle Filling Stations will be installed in a variety of locations throughout Leeds and Grenville such as schools, libraries, recreation centres and community hubs. Over the next few months, watch for local organizations promoting their new stations and educating their communities about the health benefits of drinking water and reducing sugar-sweetened beverages.

Getting the whole community involved to positively influence health outcomes for children and families is at the foundation of the Healthy Kids Community Challenge. The Community Water Bottle Filling Station Initiative builds on this foundation and allows our community to create supportive environments for healthy living.

To learn more about the Community Water Bottle Filling Station Initiative, and the Healthy Kids Community Challenge, please visit [www.healthykidslg.ca](http://www.healthykidslg.ca). Like us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/healthykidslg/> and follow us on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/healthykidslg>.

Leeds and Grenville is one of 45 communities across Ontario taking part in The Healthy Kids Community Challenge. The Healthy Kids Community Challenge unites communities with a common goal of promoting children’s health through physical activity and healthy eating. Healthy Kids Community Challenge Leeds and Grenville Steering Committee membership includes regional partners in the health, education, recreation, private and non-profit sectors.

**Joanne Desormeaux, Healthy Kids Community Challenge Facilitator, 613-258-5941.**