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## Lights on Stratford Expands Free Shuttle Bus Program in Partnership with the City of Stratford

The popular hop-on-hop-off shuttle bus has expanded the 2023/2024 schedule to provide festival patrons free transportation every 15 minutes to and from the main light installations



Stratford Transit Shuttle Bus. Photo by Little Big Creative

**Stratford, Ontario, November 15, 2023** – Building off last year's success, Lights On Stratford and Stratford Transit are once again collaborating to provide festival patrons a unique (and warm) way to take in the light art installations.

"This is a perfect example of the community coming together to create something truly special," said Zac Gribble, Executive Director, Destination Stratford and Festival Director, Lights On Stratford. "The free and accessible shuttle bus from last year proved to be a big hit, and this year we're able to increase it to 2 buses, so there'll be a free hop-on-hop-off bus stopping at each of the 5 locations every 15 minutes. We've also wrapped the buses and added colourful interior lighting to bring extra joy to the experience!"



The free shuttle bus service runs throughout Lights On Stratford (except for Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve) and starts each evening at 5:00pm from the Stratford Transit Terminal (with washrooms and free parking). The shuttle buses continuously loop with additional stops including Market Square, Tom Patterson Island, the Bandshell on Veterans Drive, and Memorial Gardens at York Street. The last shuttle bus leaves the terminal each evening at 9:00pm and returns at 9:30pm.

"The City of Stratford and its Transit Department is once again excited to partner with Destination Stratford and to offer a hop-on-hop-off shuttle bus for the Lights On Stratford winter event this year," said Michael Mousley, Manager of Transit at the City. "The overwhelming positive response to last year's bus shuttle and this exceptional event made it an easy choice to double the frequency to the light installments throughout the City."

Festival organizers are pleased to have received incredible local support from corporate sponsors this year, including Queen's Inn who is a Gold Sponsor supporting the free hop-on-hop-off shuttle bus program.

"Lights On Stratford does an incredible job shining a light on our heritage downtown and encouraging residents and visitors to fully explore our city," said Dan Mathieson of Stratford Hospitality Developments, "and so it was a natural sponsorship fit with our upcoming revitalization plans for the Queen's Inn and its historic place as an 1858 iconic city building."

Prepare to be mesmerized this winter with interactive displays up nightly Thursday through Sunday from 5-10pm. The 4th annual Lights On Stratford is free to the public and set to launch on December 15th, 2023 until January 13th, 2024. Visit <u>lightsonstratford.ca</u> for more details.

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For more information, please email <u>hello@visitstratford.ca</u>.