



## **METROLINX BRINGS THE GTA TO KITCHENER-WATERLOO OKTOBERFEST ON GO TRANSIT**

- **Pilot project runs October 12<sup>th</sup>**
- **Special activation happening in GTA on September 11<sup>th</sup>**

**SEPTEMBER 6, 2024 – KITCHENER, ON** – [Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest](#) and [Metrolinx](#) are pleased to announce a new pilot partnership that will bring GTA residents to celebrate Canada’s Greatest Bavarian Festival on [GO Transit](#) this fall.

The GO Transit “LederGOsen Line” will run on Saturday, October 12<sup>th</sup> from Union Station to Kitchener for GTA revelers to partake in Bavarian programming at the [Willkommen Platz](#). Travelers will ride in specially arranged train cars and arrive in downtown Kitchener to experience all that Oktoberfest has to offer with traditional Bavarian music ([Weiss Blau](#) and award winning [Walter Ostanek](#)), dancing, food and beverages and a bustling vendor market. Not to mention additional live entertainment including [Always on Friday](#), [The Boo Radley Project](#), multi-brass funk collective [My Son the Hurricane](#), [KIDtoberfest](#), [DOGtoberfest](#) and more.

The “LederGOsen Line” will leave Union Station at 12:38 pm on October 12<sup>th</sup> and arrive in Kitchener at 2:26 pm after making stops at Bloor GO, Weston GO, Malton GO, Bramalea GO, Brampton GO, Mount Pleasant GO, Georgetown GO, Acton GO and Guelph GO stations. The train will leave Kitchener at 10:05 pm and make return trips to all the same GO stations before ending at Union Station at 11:49 pm. Tickets are \$24.99 each and can be purchased [HERE](#).

Local residents are encouraged to share details about this exciting initiative with friends and family members who live along the Toronto-Kitchener corridor. “As you can imagine, we are super excited to pilot this project with our friends at GO Transit,” shares Tracy Van Kalsbeek, Executive Director of Oktoberfest. “People in the GTA are looking for genuine, cultural interactions and where best to find them but at Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest?”

K-W Oktoberfest and Metrolinx are also partnering with Explore Waterloo Region to share details about the Festival and this special initiative and bring the Region’s “spirit of Gemütlichkeit” to Toronto at Union Station and the Skywalk on September 11<sup>th</sup>. Through animated Bavarian interactions with music, selfie stations, giveaways and visits with Onkel Hans Torontonians will immerse themselves in everything Oktoberfest and be inspired to visit the Festival during September 27<sup>th</sup> – October 19<sup>th</sup>.

PHOTO ATTACHED INCLUDES DETAILS ABOUT THE PARTNERSHIP

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### **About [Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest](#)**

The first Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest was celebrated in 1969 at Concordia Club in Kitchener, organized by a group of dedicated founders. The keg was tapped and history was made. Since then, Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest has developed its own traditions, becoming one of the largest Bavarian Festivals outside of Germany. Tens of thousands of visitors celebrate annually in our Festhallen, at local restaurants and by attending one of our many family and cultural events. More than just biergartens, Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest is committed to supporting the cultural, economic and social vitality of Waterloo Region, bringing millions of dollars in economic benefit to the Region each year.

*Oktoberfest Cares* provides funding for charitable partners and supports Festival initiatives that enrich our community such as the Onkel Hans Food Drive and keep admission costs low or free for favourites including the Women of the Year celebration and family-friendly events like KIDtoberfest, Thanksgiving Day Parade and Christkinderfest. For more information visit [www.oktoberfest.ca](http://www.oktoberfest.ca).

### **Media Contact:**

Tracy Van Kalsbeek, Executive Director  
Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest 519-616-0793 or [tracy@oktoberfest.ca](mailto:tracy@oktoberfest.ca)