



**NIAGARA
PARKS**

Business Highlights Presentation

Niagara Parks Commission

Thursday, July 9, 2026



Monday, June 29 - Niagara Parks Strengthens Partnership with Niagara College

- A ceremony was held at Legends on the Niagara, where representatives from Niagara Parks and Niagara College signed a new Strategic Collaboration Agreement that will serve as a framework for expanded collaboration and partnership opportunities between the two organizations.
- The new agreement builds upon the decades-long relationship between Niagara Parks and Niagara College, who have worked closely to provide enriching career opportunities for students in the Niagara region across a number of sectors from hospitality and tourism to skilled trades.



Tuesday, July 7 – Milestone Celebration at the Botanical Gardens

- Celebrated the 30th anniversary of the Butterfly Conservatory and the 90th anniversary of the Botanical Gardens with the unveiling of the Pollinator Playground and the launch of a new partnership with the Shaw Festival.
- Pollinator Playground is a new permanent interactive exhibit that uses hands-on and digital experiences to teach guests about pollinators, biodiversity and environmental stewardship.
- Through a new partnership with the Shaw Festival, Niagara Parks launched "A Short History of Niagara", a free 30-minute outdoor theatre experience that brings more than 12,000 years of Niagara's history to life through puppetry and visual storytelling.
- The production runs July 9 to August 18 with free performances at 11 a.m. & 1 p.m., six days a week from Thursday to Tuesday at the Botanical Gardens.



Business Development

Retail and Attractions

In June, Niagara Parks added two new features to enhance the guest experience at Niagara Parks Power Station.

- The Tesla vs. Edison interactive exhibit uses animated storytelling, synchronized lighting and immersive visuals to explore the rivalry that shaped modern hydroelectric power.
- A new premium guided tour featuring exclusive access to behind-the-scenes areas, including the restored Control Room and General Manager's office. The tour sold out on opening day, reflecting strong interest in immersive and exclusive experiences.
- Queenston Courts launched its 2026 season on June 13 with a well-attended open house and hosted its first tournament on June 21–22. The next tournament is scheduled for August 21–23.





Business Development

Culinary

- Hosted an International Association of Amusement Parks and Attractions event at Table Rock, where Niagara Parks gave a presentation to IAAPA members.
- Queenston Heights Restaurant hosted a sold-out Father's Day brunch seating over 150 guests over 2 seatings.
- The Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police hosted two dinner events: a President's Dinner at Queen Victoria Place Restaurant and a reception at Table Rock House Restaurant, each welcoming more than 300 attendees. The events featured a three-course plated dinner and six interactive food stations.





Planning, Environment and Culture

Heritage and Legacy

- With support from Provincial and Tourism Partnership of Niagara funding, Old Fort Erie unveiled a new public art exhibit on June 27 in recognition of National Indigenous History Month, featuring performances by the Strong Water Singers and remarks from Métis artist Tracey-Mae Chambers.
- Funding also supported the full restoration of the 1812 Exhibit in the Welcome Centre.
- Old Fort Erie commemorated the 160th anniversary of the Fenian Raids with live battle re-enactments.



Business Development

Sales – June

- Business & Social Events
 - 12 site calls; 10 site inspections and 2 hosted industry events.
- Travel Trade
 - 5 fam tours; held 2 virtual training sessions.
 - Staff attended the Niagara Falls Tourism Europe Sales Mission and conducted 27 presentations, held 8 sales meetings and attended 3 networking events.
- Weddings
 - Hosted 19 wedding receptions; 12 ceremonies; 12 site inspections; 11 site inspections and 6 proposal packages.



Planning, Environment and Culture

Mosaïcultures – Whimsical Creatures: Life on Display Garden

- Returning installations include five bumblebees and one Bluegill fish sculpture, all replanted and reinstalled for the season.
- New feature installations include a 25-foot Monarch butterfly, 13-foot Yellow Swallowtail butterfly and giant Monarch caterpillar.
- All new mosaïcultures have been planted and are scheduled for installation this week, enhancing the garden experience and pollinator-themed storytelling.



Horticulture and Education

Design and Production Team

- Annual bedding displays have been planted across key garden spaces, delivering a strong seasonal presentation.
- The Police ribbon beds feature a New Classical-inspired carpet bedding design commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Police Station building.
- Victoria Park plantings feature FIFA-inspired colours, creating vibrant displays that support Niagara Parks' role in welcoming international visitors.
- The 2026 Summer Floral Clock highlights several key milestones:
 - 90th anniversary of the Niagara Parks School of Horticulture & Botanical Gardens, recognized through blue-and-gold plantings.
 - 30th anniversary of the Butterfly Conservatory, reflected through integrated butterfly motifs.
 - Niagara Parks' role in welcoming FIFA World Cup visitors, celebrated through a bold, globally inspired colour palette.



Horticulture and Education

Environmental Stewardship

- Over 800 trees planted at Niagara Glen and Legends on the Niagara with support from more than 170 students
- Planting of 200+ caliper trees underway, including a new treed buffer along Legends Way.
- Habitat restoration projects launched at Niagara Glen, with hundreds of native plants being added.
- Shoreline management efforts underway in Fort Erie and Niagara-on-the-Lake to control invasive Japanese Knotweed.
- Expanded Whirlpool Golf BioBlitz included School of Horticulture-led plant and wildlife inventories at nearby natural areas.
- New bee monitoring technology being installed at Chippawa Battlefield and the Botanical Gardens Legacy Garden in partnership with Niagara College.
- Manager, Forestry & Environmental Sustainability presented Niagara Glen trail management initiatives at the Canadian Trails Summit.





Horticulture and Education

School of Horticulture

- Hosted 240 Niagara Catholic students through the School of Horticulture's Pathway Days program.
- Welcomed Craig Kielburger Secondary School Green Industries students for an introduction to ornamental horticulture careers.
- Hosted Niagara Catholic guidance staff to discuss School admissions, enrolment and career pathways.
- Presented the School's history and programs to the Niagara Escarpment Commission, followed by a student-led Botanical Gardens tour.



Engineering and Project Management

- **White Water Walk concrete platform** –Concrete work is complete. Upper platform ready to open for July 1st. Lower platform will open mid-July.
- **Queen Victoria Park water & wastewater project** – In progress
- **Fort Erie break wall remediation and shoreline protection** – Work to commence second week of July (Rankin Construction).
- **Fleet Services** – Amalgamation of Fleet and WEGO to begin mid-July.
- **Butterfly Conservatory Heating System** – Replacement of boilers in progress.





Parks Operations

Parking and Transportation

- The Welcome Centre window at Rapidsview reopened on July 1, 2026, awaiting POS system.
- Fan Zone at Queen Victoria Place – additional dedicated Parking staff have been on-site to assist, which is working well to manage the Parking lot during matches.
- 12,833 Parking Annual Passes sold – Nov 3, 2025 - June 24, 2026
- 2,438 commercial vehicle arrivals Table Rock Bus Management – May - June 24, 2026
- 1,871 commercial vehicle arrivals Grandview Bus Management – May - June 24, 2026
- WEGO Charters booked from Jan 1, 2026, to December 31, 2026 – 101
- Train Station - Staffed with Ambassadors and Cashier, 11 am - 3 pm Monday to Friday and 11 am - 4 pm on weekends, providing an enhanced guest experience.