



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **REMINDER - FESTIVE SEASON ENHANCED R.I.D.E. KICK OFF EVENTS 2016**

York Regional Police is proud to kick off the 2016 Festive Season Enhanced R.I.D.E program and the Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) Project Red Ribbon Campaign to aggressively combat impaired driving during the holiday season.

**Media are invited to attend the kick off on Thursday, November 17, 2016, at 1 p.m., at St. Elizabeth Catholic High School, located at 525 New Westminster Drive, Thornhill.**

Scheduled to speak at the kick off are York Regional Police Deputy Chief Tom Carrique, York Regional Police Sergeant Karen Hodge, York Region Catholic District School Board Trustee Theresa McNicol, York Catholic District School Board Superintendent of Safe Schools Ron Crocco and President of MADD York Region Chapter, Kathy Mitchell. Breakfast Television host Kevin Frankish will be the master of ceremonies.

The theme of this year's Festive Season Enhanced R.I.D.E is #ImTHATPerson, a message empowering people to speak up against impaired driving and take action to stop those who choose to get behind the wheel impaired by drugs or alcohol. Students will be invited to tour the York Regional Police R.I.D.E truck and take photos at the #ImTHATPerson selfie station.

**Media are also invited to attend the third annual Victims Candlelight Vigil organized by MADD York Region in remembrance of the lives lost and affected by impaired driving on Wednesday, November 23, 2016, at 7 p.m., at York Regional Police Headquarters located at 47 Don Hillock Drive, Aurora.**

The York Regional Police R.I.D.E. program is a year-long initiative that is enhanced during the festive season. York Regional Police urges all drivers to take proactive measures if drinking by arranging for overnight accommodations, appointing a designated driver, taking a cab or using public transit.

The message is clear: **DO NOT DRINK ALCOHOL OR USE DRUGS AND DRIVE.**

To date, York Regional Police has laid more than 1,400 impaired driving-related charges this year, down from 1,450 at the same time last year.

For more information contact York Regional Police Corporate Communications, at 866-876-5423, ext. 2664.

Prepared by: Sergeant Kelly Bachoo  
November 16, 2016