

# Niagara Falls Lions Park Opens with a Splash



## Ready, Set, Go!

On September 12th, the official ribbon cutting took place, followed by a Fundraising Steak & Chicken Dinner. The fully wheel chair accessible park features a splash pad, a children's playground, a natural stone outdoor amphitheatre and a peaceful memorial walkway/trail in addition to the existing Olympic size pool.



Niagara Falls Lions grandchildren and friends assisted in cutting the ribbon for the Lions logo adorned splash pad. Thanks to generous grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation. (photo courtesy Tim Shafley)



**Niagara Falls Lions Park**, a \$500,000 first phase project is the result of a partnership between the city and the Niagara Falls Lions Club. The Club took on the challenge by pledging to raise \$150,000 of the cost over 10 years. (To date almost \$144,000 has been raised.)

With 3 years of planning, the removal of a former daycare building and Lions artificial outdoor skating rink the project began to blossom this spring. "My property value just increased." commented a nearby home owner during the park opening celebrations.

In addition to the fully accessible park amenities are picnic tables, park benches and a gazebo. The park design includes the planting of over 75 trees (including a Ginkgo). Many of the trees have been sponsored by individual Lions members and residents of Niagara Falls.

Congratulation to the city parks staff and the committed "new vision" of the Niagara Falls Lions for making the vision a reality.

Submitted by Lion Bradd Anderson, A-2, 2<sup>nd</sup> VDG



The accessible playground is an instant hit with the neighbourhood kids! A generous grant from Ronald McDonald Charities made it possible.

(photos courtesy Chester Murawski)



Supporting the ceremonial planting of our Ginkgo Tree is Phyllis Buchner with Club President Bill Bosgraaf and A-2 Governor "Jack" Buchner shovelling on the mulch.