

# NEWS RELEASE

Wilfrid Laurier  
University



## **New cohort of Laurier students eases into life in Brantford**

*Orientation week introduces new students to university life and surrounding community*

**For Immediate Release**

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BRANTFORD – Laurier Brantford is preparing an exciting week of activities to help new students ease into university life and the Brantford community. Orientation week, which runs from September 2 to 7, includes a concert, Grand River clean-up project, academic workshops and a football game in Waterloo.

“We’re introducing students to a new life, a new academic environment, new friends and in many cases, a new city and place to call home,” says Tracy Arabski, Brantford campus manager. “The week provides students with much-needed opportunities to settle in and start to feel comfortable before classes start.”

The week begins Labour Day Monday, when out-of-town students move into residence. Those who live at home will attend their first meeting of Laurier off-campus university students, or LOCUS, a group that helps students who live off campus learn about Laurier Brantford. Students will then travel to Waterloo, where they’ll attend opening ceremonies for orientation week and a football game against the University of Waterloo.

Tuesday is dedicated to academic workshops designed to prepare students for the classroom. Sessions include such topics as academic challenges, essay-writing skills and academic integrity. Students will also tour the campus buildings downtown Brantford.

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The fun resumes Wednesday with a kick-off activity for the orientation-week cup, a competition between teams that carries through the entire week, followed by a community-service project in which students clean a section of the banks of the Grand River. The evening includes a concert in Waterloo featuring Sloan.

Thursday morning, students will attend registration sessions to finalize their timetables and then visit Bingemans Amusement and Recreation Park with their Waterloo campus counterparts. They later return to Brantford for an evening of cosmic bowling.

Laurier Brantford's annual scavenger hunt takes place Friday. While details remain top secret, past hunts have involved convincing the mayor of Brantford to do a cartwheel, gathering information about downtown Brantford and getting a ride in the car of campus dean's car. A ball hockey game will pit senior students who volunteer during orientation week against staff and faculty. The day ends with a talent show at a downtown restaurant.

Saturday is dedicated to Shinerama, a fundraiser for cystic fibrosis held at colleges and universities across Canada. Students will be shining cars, windows, shoes and glasses in the parking lots of Comisso's Food Market and Zehrs Markets on King George Road as well as the Zehrs stores on Fairview Drive and Colborne Street from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Laurier Brantford's goal this year is to raise \$2,000.