



For Immediate Release
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YMCA of Niagara Proudly Partners with Garden City Classic Event for its Inaugural Year

ST. CATHARINES, ON - The [YMCA of Niagara](#) is equal parts excited and honoured to announce its partnership with the Garden City Classic Event, a new Cross-Country Race set to take place on Saturday, October 21, 2023. This collaboration brings together the YMCA's commitment to promoting fitness and community engagement with the Garden City Classic's mission to provide a unique and challenging running experience in the heart of Niagara.

The YMCA of Niagara's Manager of Philanthropy, Jennifer McQuillan, expresses her excitement about this collaboration, emphasizing the YMCA's long-standing history of activities at [Burgoyne Woods](#) St. Catharines.

"Burgoyne Woods holds a special place in the hearts of the YMCA of Niagara community," says McQuillan. "From being a cherished host site for making memories and learning leadership skills at our YMCA Day Camps to hosting campfire sing-a-longs, this green space is both near and dear. And Burgoyne Woods is – the ideal location for wellness, community, running and connection!"

Cross country, the purest form of distance running, offers participants a chance to embrace the beauty of nature while being active. "We are thrilled to welcome participants of all levels to the Garden City Classic. Whether you're a seasoned runner or new to the sport, cross country running offers a unique and exhilarating experience that truly challenges you, builds character, and instills a profound sense of accomplishment." - Kevin and Randi Moore, Garden City Classic.

Registration for the event will close on October 19th at 11:50 PM, so do not miss the chance to be part of this *only-in-Niagara* running experience.

The course, an engaging 1 and 2-kilometer loop, winds through the picturesque backfield, following the park's natural contours. Mostly flat with a few bumpy sections, the grass course adds an element of challenge to the race, making it an exciting experience for all participants.

McQuillan adds, "We're especially excited this FUN + RUN is also open to children and youth under 12". In addition to the main 5km race, the Garden City Classic Event will feature a 1km Kids Race, starting at 10:00 AM, catering to children aged 12 and under. It allows young runners and families to share the joy of running and participate as individuals or a 4-person team. Prizes will be awarded to this category's first-placed and team winners.

"Partnering with the Garden City Classic for its inaugural year is a dream come true," said Jennifer McQuillan of the YMCA of Niagara. "This event aligns perfectly with our mission to promote healthy living and community engagement. Together, we aim to inspire individuals of all ages to get out, get active, and participate in this wonderful celebration of running in the heart of Niagara."

The YMCA of Niagara and the Garden City Classic invite all running enthusiasts, families, and community members to participate in this extraordinary event. Join us on October 21st at Burgoyne Woods for an unforgettable day of camaraderie and athleticism.

For more information and to register, please visit the [Garden City Classic website](#).

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About YMCA of Niagara

The YMCA of Niagara is a charitable organization dedicated to building healthy communities by nurturing the potential of children, youth, and families, promoting healthy living, and fostering social responsibility. With a focus on inclusivity, the YMCA offers a wide range of programs and services to empower individuals and create a positive impact on the Niagara region. To learn more, visit www.ymcaniagara.org.