



## Renfrew County and District Health Unit

### Media Release

**For Release: April 5, 2017**

### **Renfrew County Partners Against Distracted Driving Unveil Leave the Phone Alone Road Signs**

Renfrew County Partners Against Distracted Driving Committee is putting the final touches on a successful distracted driving campaign in Renfrew County partially funded by the Ministry of Transportation's Road Safety Community Partnership Program.

This program, which also received contributions from community partners, private businesses, some municipalities and the County of Renfrew helped to mobilize an awareness and enforcement campaign to draw attention to the risks of driving while distracted.

The final component of the campaign is the installation of 40 Leave the Phone Alone road signs throughout the county, which will take place this spring. The County of Renfrew contributed the Leave the Phone Alone signs to the project and the signs are being distributed to municipalities for installation at key locations to act as a reminder to motorists for years to come.

The other initiatives associated with the campaign were DriveWise High School Presentations for grade 11 and 12 students, a focused patrol from December 4<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> that resulted in 60 charges and an ongoing grade 4 and 5 awareness raising presentation and family activity booklet that encourage families to have a discussion about distracted driving.

Distracted driving is a major safety concern as Ontario data shows that one person is injured in a distracted driving collision every half hour and a driver using a phone is four times more likely to crash than a driver focusing on the road.

The Renfrew County Partners Against Distracted Driving Committee consists of members that represent the Ontario Provincial Police, Community Policing Advisory Committees, Police Service Boards and Renfrew County and District Health Unit.

To learn more or to take the Leave the Phone Alone pledge visit [www.leavethephonealone.ca](http://www.leavethephonealone.ca)

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