



DURHAM REGIONAL POLICE

leaders in community safety

During the Month of October 2026 members of the Durham Regional Police Service (DRPS), in cooperation with the Ministry of Transportation (MTO), and Child Passenger Safety Association of Canada (CPSAC), will be conducting a roadway safety initiative, dubbed Project 'B.A.S.S' (Before & After School Safety), in the area of the 208 primary schools within Durham Regional Police boundaries. The initiative will focus on ensuring that children being driven to and from school are wearing proper seat belt assembly systems and/or utilizing appropriate child safety seats as mandated by the Government of Ontario and Ontario Highway Traffic Act Legislation.

The importance of using proper seatbelt assembly systems and/or child safety seats cannot be understated. According to Transport Canada, unintentional injury is the leading cause of death and disability among children ages 1 to 14, with traffic injury making up the largest portion (45 %) of fatalities. Across Canada, on average 43 deaths and 3,000 serious child injuries occur each year¹. Furthermore, a roadside study conducted by the CPSAC found that 97% of children wear proper seat belt assembly systems, however, 81% of car seats were used or installed incorrectly, 44% of children in booster seats had misrouted the seat belt, and 37% of children in seat belts did not fit safely without a booster seat². Furthermore, child safety seats can reduce the risk of death by 71% for infants under the age of 1, reduce the risk of hospitalization by 67% for children under the age of four (4), and booster seats provide 59% more protection than seatbelts alone³.

Please support the initiative's objective of enhancing community safety through a culture of collaboration and mutual appreciation, trust, and respect between members of DRPS and the community by ensuring your children are properly buckled up and/or are secured in child safety seats. By working together, we can achieve our *Vision* of having the safest community for people to live, work, and play as well as earn the trust and confidence of the local community through improving road safety by focusing on enforcement of driving behaviours that cause the greatest harm to children.

For further information relating to Project 'B.A.S.S' and car seat safety please visit the following links:



Central East Division Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/drps_officialcentraleast

Central East Division 'X': <https://twitter.com/DRPSCEDiv>

Durham Regional Police Service: <https://www.drps.ca>

Choosing a Child Car Seat: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/choosing-child-car-seat>

Child Passenger Safety Association of Canada (CPSAC): <https://www.cpsac.org/>

¹ <https://tc.canada.ca/en>

² <https://www.cpsac.org>

³ <https://www.caa.ca/driving-safely/car-seat-safety>

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