

# Mayor's Message: September 2008



**Mayor Russ Wall**

School will soon start again for many of our schools in the City. Children are excited and anxious as they prepare for a new experience and they look forward to meeting their new teachers and new friends. Some kids will be attending new schools with new opportunities to meet new friends whose friendships may last throughout their lifetimes.

*New clothes - New books - New friends - New school - New teachers  
New experiences - All of this running through these young minds*

tends to be very distracting and may lead to dangerous situations as the young people walk or ride their bicycles to school. We are very fortunate to have a team of wonderful people working as crossing guards for the City, assisting our kids as they make their way to our schools. As good as our crossing guards are, they cannot protect the children from every situation.

To keep our kids safe, we need the help of everyone who drives through our City. Please be aware of children as they walk or ride beside the street you drive on. Do not assume that the kids are paying attention to cars that are traveling down the street. Do not allow yourself to be distracted when you are driving near or through school zones. Avoid talking on a cell phone, eating, putting on makeup or other distractions while driving. Be aware of school crossing zones and obey the speed limit, especially in these zones.

One careless moment can cause a lifetime of anguish and regret. Don't let that happen. Please watch out for children.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Russ Wall".