



For immediate release Back-to-school basics

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Toronto, ON – The long, lazy days of summer are over and as thousands of students return to the classroom, CAA South Central Ontario and women's hockey star Jennifer Botterill are reminding drivers to keep a watchful eye out for children in school zones. This fall, many will be helped on and off school buses and across the street safely by one of 25,000 dedicated students who volunteer as CAA School Safety Patrollers.

Long before Botterill was a three-time Olympic gold medalist and five-time world champion hockey player, she was a CAA School Safety Patroller. "I still remember to this day the sense of responsibility, pride and leadership I felt looking out for my classmates," said Botterill. "The dedication which the CAA School Safety Patrol program instilled in me helped to shape many of my core beliefs even before I reached for Olympic gold."

CAA SCO tips for drivers:

- Slow down in school zones
- Be ready to stop at all times
- Always try to make eye contact with kids waiting to cross the road
- Stop for school buses when lights are flashing

"Drivers need to be alert and reduce their speed in school zones while school children should always stop, look and listen for traffic," said Sergeant Dave Woodford, OPP.

CAA SCO tips for children:

- Be seen. Stop before stepping onto the road
- Look in all directions before crossing the street
- Walk; don't run, across the road

CAA SCO bus safety rules:

- Be at the bus stop on time and avoid running to or from the bus
- Wait for the bus in a safe place that is a good distance from the side of the road
- Use the hand rail when boarding or exiting the bus
- Keep feet out of the aisle to avoid tripping people as they enter and exit the bus
- Keep your head and arms inside the bus
- Always follow the bus driver's instructions

Back to school means new teachers, new friends and new notebooks. And what better way to start the new school year than with a brand new iPad 2. Enter the [Smart Like A Patroller Contest](#) for a chance to win an iPad 2, a \$1,000 CAA Travel Voucher, a \$500 gas card or a luggage set.

For further information: Media contact: Silvana Aceto, Media and PR Specialist, CAA SCO, sace@caasco.ca, Office: (905) 771-3194, Cell: (416) 209-4930 or Jeff LeMoine, Internal/External PR Specialist, jlem@caasco.ca, Office: (905) 771-4709, Cell: (416) 254-0641.

Media Contact:

Silvana Aceto,
Media and PR Specialist
60 Commerce Valley
Drive East,
Thornhill, ON L3T 7P9
sace@caasco.ca
Office: (905) 771-3194
Cell: (416) 209-4930

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