

# Town Crier's Championship Comes to Oxford

The streets of Ingersoll will resound with voices from around North America this summer, as the North American Town Crier Championship comes to town.

The North American Town Crier Championship is the second largest competition, next to the World Championships. The competition is usually held every other year at a different location. This is the first time in history that the competition is being held in the Oxford County Area.

A Town Crier makes proclamations and announcements for his or her town or community. They attend functions and celebrations and ring their bell to get everyone's attention before reading a special announcement or proclamation from a scroll.

There are 42 criers coming to Ingersoll from across Canada and the United States. Each crier has been appointed by a municipality or a historical organization as their official crier. Doug Turvey represents the Township of Zorra, and the town of Ingersoll as their official town crier. Other Oxford representatives are Scott Frazer for Woodstock and Brenda Bosco for Tillsonburg.

All three are part of the Ontario Guild of Town Criers. The Guild exists to promote the ancient and honourable art of Town Crying.

It was incorporated after Ontario's bicentennial in 1984 and established along the lines of the ancient and honourable guild of Town Criers founded many years ago in England.

The Ontario Guild of Town Criers had an original membership of 11 Criers and has grown to 54 Criers in all parts of Ontario. The Guild also includes many associate members from all around the world.

The competition will be held on August 25th, 26th and 27th. There will be 2 cries on the Saturday August 26th and 1 cry on Sunday August 27th.

The championship is being held in conjunction with the Ingersoll Harvest festival.



Spring 2006

**Oxford's Representatives:**  
Brenda Bosco, Tillsonburg Scott Frazer, Woodstock and Doug Turvey, Ingersoll

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