

Acton fair celebrates 98th year

By **CYNTHIA GAMBLE**
Staff Writer

The 98th annual Acton Fall Fair returns to Prospect Park for three days, Friday to Sunday.

"Generally speaking the fair is billed 'As The Best Little Fair in Ontario', and every year, I know the Acton Agricultural Society tries to live up to that reputation," said Ward 1 Councillor Michael O'Leary, Acton Agricultural Society spokesperson.

"It's an old-fashioned country fair. We have horse shows, tractor pulls, and there's a midway, poultry exhibit, homecraft exhibition and entertainment on Friday and Saturday nights."

Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. is reserved as Education Day for school classes.

"For children that are raised in an urban environment it gives them an opportunity to see what agricultural work is all about," O'Leary said, adding seniors and parents with preschoolers are also welcome.

The fair opens to the public at 5 p.m. with the opening of the Home Craft Exhibit, and the midway opens at 5:30 p.m.

Activities on Friday night include the Miss Acton Fall Fair pageant, heavy horse pull, and homecraft presentation.

The Fair re-opens Saturday, 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. and again on Sunday, 9 a.m.

to 5 p.m.

Events on Saturday include the cattle, poultry, and horse shows, the noon parade, horseshoe pitching contest, baby show, Northern Borders Flyball show, and tractor pulls.

Branch 197 will be serving breakfast on Saturday, 7-11 a.m. in the Acton Legion auditorium, 15 Wright Ave. Starting at 5 p.m. the Legion also welcomes the return of Bad Weather and his live rocking music until 10 p.m. There will also be a barbecue on the patio as well.

On Sunday, activities include the English horse show, dairy cattle show, antique tractor pull, 4x4 truck pull, pet show, pedal tractor pull and fruit crisp baking challenge. Singer and songwriter David Cavan Fraser will headline the musical entertainment at 8 p.m.

Admission is \$9 adults, \$8 (seniors/youth 13-17), \$3 children and free for children under five. Parking costs \$5. An \$18 weekend pass is available at all local banks.

O'Leary stressed that except for the Sunday dog show, no dogs will be allowed. This is a safety issue, not only for humans, but also for the animals at the fair, he said.

A free bus service to the fair will be available from the Acton Legion, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday, and noon to 4 p.m. on Sunday.

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