

Emily Loewen name Leathertown Ambassador

By Frances Niblock

Acton's Emily Loewen, 11, was "shocked" speechless when told in a telephone call last week that her letter was selected as the winning entry in the Acton Leathertown Festival Ambassador contest.

That means Emily will take over as Leathertown Festival Ambassador on Sunday during this year's festival, accepting the sash from the first ever Ambassador, Dana Bowman.

Emily said she entered the contest because she thought it would be fun, and good practice for when she enters the Miss Acton contest one day.

She said she entered a similar contest for kids when vacationing with her grandparents in England last summer, and when her mom told her about the Ambassador contest, she decided to try out for it, never thinking that she'd win.

"I sat down and thought about all of the things I like to do at the festival, and things that usually happen when I'm there and wrote it all down," Emily said on Sunday.

She said when she received the call saying she'd been selected, she was "kind of shocked and didn't know what to say - my hands were shaking, but I was happy."

Emily said there are three things that even her duties as Ambassador won't get in the way of the day at the festival - ice cream, the entertainment and checking out the crowds.

Emily also hopes to raise at least \$30 for breast cancer at the festival by accepting donations for pink gimp "ribbons" that she and her best friend have made.

They are shaped like the breast cancer ribbon that is folded across itself and made from plastic; Emily and her friend, who have sold between 15 and 20 so far, hope to have 30 made in time for Sunday.

Emily hopes as Ambassador she can help people have even more fun at the festival.

Festival co-ordinator Jo-sey Bonnette said they had 10 entries - all from girls - this year, and the selection committee was unanimous in selecting Emily as Ambassador.

"Hands down she is our choice. Her letter is so cute. She talks about all of the things that she likes to do at the festival and how much fun it is," Bonnette said last Thursday.

Here is Emily's winning letter:



ACE AMBASSADOR: Acton's Emily Loewen, 11, will be crowned Leathertown Festival Ambassador on Sunday during the 15th edition of the Acton street party that features family fun, food, entertainment and good deals on Mill Street, which will run from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. - *Frances Niblock photo*

Dear Acton,

Here is what the Leathertown Festival means to me. I love to wake up on the morning of the Festival to the sounds of people setting up.

It's exciting to meet up with friends that I haven't seen over the summer and to head over to the pie-eating contest because there's always bound to be someone that I know that is brave enough to take on a challenge.

It's great to walk through the crowds of Acton people and to also watch the entertainment while eating ice cream, which by the way, is a must. Oh, and you don't even realize how many people live here until you've seen them at the Festival.

I like to just walk around and see what there is and this year I've come up with my own design with my best friend to represent breast cancer awareness and we are hoping to make enough money so that we can donate all of the money to the breast cancer society.

This year's Festival will be bitter sweet for me because it is my last year dancing with the Robert

Little dance club. I think I would make a good Ambassador because I have lived in Acton all of my life, because I am involved with my school activities and

because one day I would like to be Miss Acton.

Well, that's it. That's my letter Acton.

Sincerely,
Emily Loewen

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ON THE

MAIN STAGE

- 11 A.M. OPENING CEREMONIES**
- MAYOR'S OPENING REMARKS**
- MISS ACTON FALL FAIR**
- CROWNING OF LEATHERTOWN FESTIVAL AMBASSADOR**
- 11:30 CLASSIC KARATE DEMONSTRATIONS**
- 12:00 ACTON CITIZENS BAND**
- O' CANADA**
- 12:30 JAMIE THORNE**
- 1:30 JEFF MCENERY - YUK YUK'S**
- 2:30 ALYSHA BROOKE**
- 3:30 ACTON IDOL FINALISTS**
- 4:00 ZERO GRAVITY**

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