

10 Reasons to attend the Acton Fall Fair

1) Most people I talk to tell me how much they enjoy living in Acton and that the "small town" felling is very much a part of that image. The event is run by a dedicated group of volunteers, most of them your neighbours, who devote countless hours to ensuring everyone has a good time during Fair weekend. Neighbours helping neighbours is an important part of living in a small town.



Mike O'Leary

2) Although the Acton Fall Fair has an exciting midway with rides, games and vendors, it has managed to stay true to its agricultural roots (no pun intended since this year's theme is "Rooted in Time - 95 Carrots"). Come and see the various agricultural exhibits. The Homecraft displays feature quilting, preserves, baking, and a host of other skills that were common in the past but, with today's busy schedules, are becoming less common. I think it's important for children to see for themselves that the food we eat doesn't originate in a supermarket.

3) Education Day is a big part of our fair. Children from grades one through five are brought to the fair from school on Friday mornings. There are activities such as hay wagon rides and wheelbarrow races, interactive displays, a petting zoo and various information tables. Admittance for these children is free for this event. This is just another example of the community spirit of the members of the Acton Agricultural Society. You can best show your appreciation by coming to the fair from Friday at 4pm to Sunday afternoon. Pre-schoolers and seniors are welcome to attend education day events. Pre-schoolers must be accompanied by an adult.

4) I think the KenJen Petting Zoo is a fantastic addition to our fair. Children today may

is one of the few venues not aimed at children; obviously. Our children are grown now and look forward to meeting old school chums and neighbours at the popular venue. I hear them on the telephone, "Meet you at the beer tent on Saturday". Former residents now living out of town have told me they always check out the beer tent to see if old friends or neighbours are in there just hanging out. Halton Regional Police are stationed at the "Spot in the Park" to make sure no-one gets carried away. But if they do, the Police make sure they are carried out.

5) For the big kids the fair has all sorts of pulls. Friday night is reserved for Heavy Horse Pulls and Log skidding contests. Again, this goes back to our agricultural roots when strong horses were necessary for ploughing fields and harvesting trees from the bush. From the modern era we have highway truck, lawn and garden tractor (some obvious modifications), antique tractor and 4x4 truck pulls. The noise these mechanical marvels makes just adds to the overall atmosphere of the fair.

6) The "Spot in the Park" is a popular attraction. This

7) The Acton Agricultural Society is a non-profit organization. This is not to say that the object of having a fair is not to make a profit. The fair could not have survived for 95 years if it continually lost money but, and it's a big but, all the profit generated by the fair stays in our local community. I have already mentioned that the Agricultural Society is a totally volunteer organization. They only have one part time employee to help with the myriad of organizational and financial details. How does the community benefit, you may ask?

8) The Miss Acton Pageant itself is another example of the society staying true to its roots. These days the politically correct term tends to be "Ambassador of the Fair". The Society made a conscious decision to buck this trend and honour their history. Personally, I applaud that decision.



and operates that building. There are plans to refurbish the old drill shed which is also located in Prospect Park. Your support in attending the fair comes back to the community in the form of facilities that would otherwise not exist and various school award programs.

9) The Fair Board spends a considerable amount on entertainment. There are professional performers during both the Friday night Miss Acton Pageant and Saturday the Grant Daniels Band followed by The Good Brothers show runs from 7:30pm to 10:30pm in the Agricultural Society building. All the entertainment is included in

the price of admission.

10) There is no number 10. If you are not convinced that coming to the fair is

for you, nothing I can write will convince you. For all the rest; See you at the Fair.

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