

Canada Day celebrated in style

Numerous events are planned in Markham to help residents celebrate Canada's birthday next week.

The big events include the annual Canada Day picnic at Milne Park on Wednesday, July 1, and the Proud To Be Canadian Show set for the night of Monday, June 29, at Markham Theatre.

There will also be a special Court of Canadian Citizenship at 10 a.m. on July 1 at the Markham Civic Centre.

As part of this year's Canada Day celebrations, Markham will play host to a number of family visiting from Laval, Quebec.

The families will visit from June 29 to July 2, and host families in Markham are still needed for the visitors.

The purpose of the Family Exchange Program is to build better understanding between Ontario and Quebec residents, said organizer Mounir Sahyoun.

A member of Markham's Canada Day Committee, Sahyoun first got the idea for a family exchange after the 1995 Quebec referendum. Since Markham and Laval are twin cities, it only made sense that such an exchange program should take place, explained Sahyoun.

He said host families are needed to open their homes for the length of the visit, provide lodging and three in-home meals, along with attending some of the planned events with their guest family. Anyone wishing to participate in the program should call Sahyoun at 940-2877.

The Proud To Be Canadian Show is a fundraiser for the Kevin Lewis Support Fund. All proceeds will go to help Lewis, who is in desperate need of a lung transplant.

A celebration of Canadian pride and heritage is the show's central theme.

The cast is comprised of volunteers including John Prince, the Skylark

Trio, Carolyn Koff, David Morris, Reesor Park School students, the Markham Men of Harmony, Tony Murphy and many more.

A special acknowledgment of Canada's Veterans will be included along with a presentation by the Markham District Veterans Association in honour of Mr. Arthur Lee. Lee spent more than \$400,000 to ensure that Lieutenant-Colonel John McGrae's (author of Flanders Field) First World War medals remained in Canada. The show will conclude with a formal citizenship Reaffirmation Ceremony conducted by Judge Clare Westcott with the help of the RCMP, York Regional Police, and the Scout, Guide, and Cadet organizations.

Tickets are \$12.50 for general admission, \$10 for seniors and students. Tickets may be purchased by calling the Markham Theatre box office at 305-7469. For more information on the show, contact either John Hawco at 294-7270 or Bonnie Craig at 471-0075. Start time is 7:30 p.m., with pre-show events at 7:15 p.m.

Those who attend the show are encouraged to wear red and white to show their pride.

July 1 is Markham's Canada Day Picnic at Milne Park.

The fun gets underway at 4 p.m. with a parade from Markville Shopping Centre, followed by the picnic and a wide variety of entertainment from 4:30 p.m. on.

The Canada Day picnic will be capped with a fireworks display slated for 9:30 p.m.



Residents are encouraged to wrap themselves up in the Canadian flag next week and celebrate the many events planned in Markham. On Monday night there's a Proud To Be Canadian Show, and on July 1, Canada Day, there's Markham's annual picnic in Milne Park.

Milne Park Canada Day schedule

- 4-4:30 p.m. -- People's Parade from Markville Shopping Centre to Milne Park
- 4:30-5 p.m. -- Flag-raising ceremony with music from Queen's Own Rifles, People's Unity Circle around flag pole, Skydiver with Canadian flag
- 5-5:30 p.m. -- Opening Ceremonies
- 5:30-6 p.m. -- Markham Concert Band
- 6-6:30 p.m. -- African Caribbean Group
- 6:30-7:15 p.m. -- Kick Up A Fuss Cloggers
- 7:15-7:30 p.m. -- Tai Chi demonstration
- 7:30-7:45 p.m. -- Philippines Line Dancers
- 7:45-8:30 p.m. -- Dan The Music Man
- 8:30-9:30 p.m. -- Johnny Favourite Swing Orchestra
- 9:30 p.m. -- Fireworks display



July 1, 1998 - Milne Park

- SKY DIVER
- CHILDREN'S GAMES
- ENTERTAINMENT
- QUEEN'S OWN RIFLE BAND
- 78 FRASER HIGHLANDERS
- MARKHAM CONCERT BAND
- KICK UP A FUSS CLOGGERS
- DAN THE MUSIC MAN

- 3:30 Meet at Markville for the Peoples Parade
- 4:00 Peoples Parade
- 4:30 Flag Raising
- Unity Circle
- Canadian Sky Diving
- 5:00 Opening Ceremonies
- 5:30 - 8:30 Entertainment
- 8:30 Johnny Favorite - Swing Orchestra
- 9:30 Fantastic Fireworks sponsored by: Dave Tsubouchi and the provincial PC Riding Association



**DRESS IN RED & WHITE
PRIZES FOR THE MOST PATRIOTIC**

Park at Markville Mall and climb aboard the free shuttle bus service into Milne Park



BE A PART OF THE EXCITEMENT

Information Hot-line 415-7523