

Fair ambassador contest open to men

BY HANNELORE VOLPE
Staff Writer

Young women and men are encouraged to enter this year's Markham Fair Ambassador Contest.

Until now, all Markham Fair queens, and more recently ambassadors, for the agricultural fair, dating back to 1844 have been female. The contest is open to Markham and Whitchurch-Stouffville residents who were 18 to 24 years old Aug. 4.

The 2003 ambassador will be chosen at the contest and dance at the Markham Fairgrounds Sept. 20. Mary-Lynn Seeley, who is organizing the event, is inviting residents to come to the dance, which starts at 8 p.m., to sup-

port the contestants.

Hopefuls don't have to be farmers' sons or daughters, they don't have to know their timothy from their brome and there won't be a swimsuit contest. They do, however, have to be good representatives of the fair and their community, said co-organizer Karen Murphy.

REPRESENT COMMUNITY

Representing the fair gives young people a chance to practise their public speaking skills and "they get to represent a great organization and a great community," she said.

At the pre-judging evening, Sept. 19, contestants will introduce themselves and their sponsors. They'll be interviewed by a panel of three judges on

issues relating to their community and the world. Contestants will be asked to bring a collage of themselves and their families.

The judges will look for someone who can share their excitement about the fair with visitors coming to the venerable agricultural event from Oct. 2 to 5.

An ambassador and two runners-up will be chosen. They will go to agricultural fairs and other events, including the Royal Winter Fair and CNE.


Last year's ambassador was Alysha Ladha of Markham.

Entries will be taken until the day before the dance. For more information call 905-888-6336 or 905-477-3632.

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