

York chairperson retiring in 2014

York Region chairperson Bill Fisch will retire in 2014.

Mr. Fisch, who announced his intention to retire Thursday, is serving his fifth consecutive term as chairperson and CEO of the region.

He is the longest-serving chairperson appointed by regional council in York's history.

"My decision to retire is based on the right reason: my family," Mr. Fisch said in a media release.

"It is no cliché when I say I have enjoyed the best job I could ever imagine, surround-

ed by great people on regional council and skilled and dedicated regional staff."

By the end of the council term in 2014, Mr. Fisch will be almost 66 years old, he said.

"It is time to devote my energy to my wife, Tova, my children and three grandchildren."

York Region, in the meantime, is moving slowly toward electing a chairperson.

A second reading of Richmond Hill MPP Reza Moridi's private bill in the legislature calling for an elected chairperson was debated recently and received unanimous support from all three parties.

-L.H. Tiffany Hsieh

Old-time favourites return with Markham Fair this week

BY AMANDA PERSICO
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It's that time again.

Time to gear up for the annual Markham Fair, which is Sept. 27 to 30.

In keeping with the 168-year tradition, the fair features old-time favourites such as farm animals, handmade crafts, preserves and baked goods, monster truck demonstrations and farm competitions.

That's the fair's staple, fair general manager John Peco said.

"Those events are why people come out," he said. "That's why we're here, to celebrate agriculture."

This is your chance to thank a farmer for your meal, he said.

"Many don't have that connection with the land," Mr. Peco said. "Everyone is so concerned with food security. Local farms is where our food comes from."

This year proved to be both rewarding and challenging for farmers. Due to the warm weather followed by a drop in temperature early in the year, many fruit and orchard farmers lost their crops, Mr. Peco said. The opposite is true for many grain farmers.

"Climate change brings new weather patterns," he said. "Every season is a challenge. But a farmer is the eternal optimist."

While tried and true is key, there are some new events taking place this year.

In honour of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, there will be a high tea pavilion featuring traditional British crumpets served on fine china.

There will also be demonstrations by the Canadian Armed Forces and a military tattoo featuring several marching bands and the Governor General's horse guard.

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Thursday is York Region school day where hundreds of schools from across the region will have a chance to enjoy the traditional fair as well as special pep rally in the morning.

On Saturday, popular band Ubiquitous Synergy Seeker (USS) will take the stage pumping out dance floor beats mixed with ska and jungle music. The band features the sounds of Markham's Ash Buchultz and Whitchurch-Stouffville's Jason Parsons.

For more information, including the schedule for buses running from Stouffville to the fair or to purchase advance tickets, visit markhamfair.ca

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AGE - BIRTH YEAR	FALL 2012 TRYOUT DATES	TIME
U16 G-1997 U17/U18 G-1995/1996	Sat. Sept. 29	3:00-4:30 pm
U16 B-1997 U17/U18 B-1995/1996	Sat. Sept. 29	4:30-6:00 pm
U12 B-2001 U13 B-2000	Sun. Sept. 30	1:30-3:00 pm
U12 G-2001 U13 G-2000	Sun. Sept. 30	3:00-4:30 pm
U14 G-1999 U15 G-1998 (CGSL)	Sun. Sept. 30	4:30-6:00 pm
U14 B-1999 U15 B-1998	Sun. Sept. 30	6:00-7:30 pm

All tryouts are outdoor at the Bethesda Sports Park located at 6301 Bethesda Road.
If inclement weather conditions on day of tryouts, please call 905.640.1800 ext 3 for updates.



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