

Canadian musician Matthew Good to headline Celebrate Caledon Festival

Written By JASEN OBERMEYER

The 11th annual Celebrate Caledon Day is the town's biggest festival event, and will see not only a famous Canadian musician perform, but have some new additions that sees thousands of people near and far celebrate the town.

The event's festivities were unveiled last Wednesday (April 11) at the Royal Ambassador Event Centre, where it was announced that Canadian rock musician Matthew Good will kick off the event on Saturday, June 16. He was the leader of the Matthew Good Band, one of the most successful Canadian alternative rock bands in the 1990s, and since moving on to a solo career, has won four of 21 Juno Awards.

"We're very excited to have Matthew. We always get around to about 10 to 12'000 people, sometimes 15'000 depending on the weather," said Caledon Mayor Allan Thompson.

Caledon Day started off as a one day event, but has now expanded to a weekend of festivities, including a craft cider and beer festival beginning Friday, June 15.

New this year is Velocity Ride, a charitable bike ride in partnership with Caledon Community Services. The ride will have 10- 25- 60- and 100 kilometer routes, that will take riders throughout the town, including the villages and hamlets. The ride will raise money for the organizations senior's services, from their wheelchair accessible buses, community assisted living, and specialist clinics.

The Town applied for a \$21,341 grant from the Province's Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport, which they received in full, something Mayor Thompson was pleased with.

The second annual Cheers Caledon will again feature locally brewed beer and cider, including from: Badlands Brewing, Caledon Hills Brewing, GoodLot Farmstead Brewing, Pommies Cider Co., and Spirit Tree Estate Cider.

Mayor Thompson said the festival helps bring out community spirit, and as always, is looking forward to the festival. "We find it's great for the community. It's a lot of networking, it brings a lot of volunteers together, it brings the community together."

He added that the festival has had a huge impact on the community interests and "building community pride."