

Celebrating Canada Day is right around the corner

by David Tilson

Canada Day is quickly approaching. It's a fantastic holiday and one where we can display our outstanding patriotism to the world, while celebrating our cherished Canadian values, shared history, and immense diversity with family, friends, and neighbours. There are many wonderful community events taking place across Dufferin-Caledon this Canada Day to celebrate our country's birthday and all that's Canadian.

Downey's Farm Market (located at 13682 Heart Lake Road, Caledon) will be hosting its annual Canada Day Festival on July 1st. The festivities begin at 9:00 a.m. with pancakes being served, topped with delicious Downey's strawberries and whipped cream. An Opening Ceremony will take place at 10:30 a.m. The fun continues with live entertainment from several local groups, a play area, a goat walk, farm animals, pony rides, and much more! Admission and parking are free. For more information, please visit <http://www.downeysfarm.com/downeys-farm-market-strawberry-fest.htm> or call (905) 838-2990.

The Caledon Agricultural Society will be hosting its' 26th annual July 1st Canada Day Strawberry Festival from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Caledon Fairgrounds (18297 Hurontario Street, Caledon Village). The festivities include: free birthday cake and balloons at noon; a classic car show; a scrumptious all-day strawberry breakfast; all-day BBQ and strawberry desserts; a vendor village; and village craft show. Admission to this super community event is free. For more information, please visit <http://www.caledonfair.ca/index.php/events/canada-day-strawberry-festival> or call 519-925-3461.

The Town of Orangeville will be hosting its annual Canada Day Celebration on July 1st from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Alder Recreation Centre (275 Alder Street, Orangeville). This not-to-miss celebration includes: Opening Ceremonies at 12:30 p.m.; free family swims; Much Video Dance Fun Zone; face painting, airbrush tattoos, and balloon twister; inflatable activities; and a photo booth. There will also be fireworks over Island Lake at 10:00 p.m. For more information, please visit <https://www.orangeville.ca/events/2018/07/01/canada-day-celebration> or call 519-941-0440.

The Orangeville Legion will be hosting its annual Canada Day Celebration at the Legion's site (7 John Street, Orangeville). An official Canada Day Ceremony will take place at 2:00 p.m. For more information, please contact the Legion at 519-942-4895.

The Town of Shelburne will be hosting its' annual Canada Day festivities on July 1st at Fiddle Park (515677 Dufferin County Road 11, Shelburne) from 3:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. There will be something for everyone at this terrific event, including: live bands performing on stage; bouncy castles, GT Train for children; a wide assortment of food; a beer tent; a vendors market; a fireworks display at dusk; and much more! For more information, please visit <http://www.townofshelburne.on.ca/calendar/events/609> or call 519-925-2600.

Another outstanding event to check out in Dufferin-Caledon on July 1st is Albion Hills' 22nd Annual Canada Day Celebration at Albion Hills Conservation Area (16500 Regional Road 50, Caledon). The event begins at 4:00 p.m. and concludes at 11:00 p.m. with a spectacular fireworks display at dusk. Visitors to Albion Hills may look forward to: steel pan drums; dog performances; magic shows; Four Colours Drum Circle; the retelling of The Three Little Pigs; Caledon-based pipes and drums; and much more! Parking is free with a donation to the Rotary Club of Palgrave. For more information, please visit https://trca.ca/event/caledon-canada-day-2018/?instance_id=2858 or call (416) 661-6600.

There is much going on across Dufferin-Caledon on Canada Day 2018. It's an excellent opportunity for all of us to join our friends and neighbours at these fantastic events taking place in our own community. I look forward to seeing you at many of them on July 1st to celebrate our magnificent country. Happy Canada Day!