

Changing Things Up At The 2017 Harriston-Minto Fall Fair

Good things are happening at the Harriston-Minto Fall Fair on September 15, 16 and 17. New attractions, traditional exhibits and trade show participants will be ready as usual on Friday at 6 pm. for viewing. Official opening ceremonies are set for Friday at 7 pm in the Main Arena followed by the popular Pie and Pork Auctions with the Lawn Mower Races happening outside at the Derby site. In the auditorium, 'Val E. Joy' will be entertaining the youngsters with her Clown Show.

Young adults may like to try out the Escape Houses that will be on site all day Saturday on the former midway site. Also new on Saturday will be a Ball Hockey Tournament, Stilt Walker and the Bubbleology Show. Don't forget to check out the Silent Auction running all weekend. Saturday night is 'Movie Night at the Crown Theatre' for the children. Thanks to funding from the Minto Cultural Round Table, local band 'Big Wheels' will be entertaining at Pub Night in the auditorium Saturday night.

After your Sunday morning 'Breakfast at the Fair' and Church Service, you can enjoy the Soap Box Derby taking place on main street downtown Harriston with assistance from the Wellington Jr. Farmers, Kinsmen and Minto Youth Action Council. The popular Demolition Derby, Big Bale Roll Out and Scooter Draw will also be running that afternoon. More information and registration forms can be found on our website at www.harristonmintofair.ca

Yet another change will be the Sunday Car Show. The cars will be on display under the trees and on the former midway site. The castles will be set up inside the ball diamond all day Saturday and Sunday.

The most significant change at this year's fair is that there will be no midway. In past years different midway companies have been invited to set up at our event at no cost to the Ag. Society. Up until 2016, the Harriston-Minto Ag. Society received a small percentage of midway profits for allowing them to attend our event. As operation costs have increased, midway owners make less profit at small fairs. It is now a very common practice for other Ag. Societies to pay thousands of dollars to have a midway at their fair. Few people realize that these midways then take even more thousands of dollars out of the community from ticket sales. This year, the board of Harriston-Minto Ag. Society has chosen to fund a variety of bouncy castles geared for different ages. For the purchase of a bracelet, a child will be able to have unlimited access to all age appropriate castles for the day. This could ease some of the expense for families and increase the enjoyment of attending our fair. Revenue from bracelet sales will help offset the expense of this entertainment.

More information about this year's Harriston-Minto Fall Fair can be found in our fair book, on our website at www.harristonmintofair.ca, on our face book page, twitter account, or call our Secretary at 519-338-5566 or President at 519-327-8053. To volunteer, contact info@harristonmintofair.ca or any Board Director.

So, mark your calendar for September 15, 16 and 17 and come to the Fair. There's something for everyone at the Harriston-Minto Fall Fair.

M. Shannon