



OPEN EVERY SATURDAY
YEAR ROUND

www.owensoundfarmersmarket.ca

519.371.3433

VENDOR INFORMATION PACKAGE & APPLICATION



Owen Sound Farmers' Market
114 8th Street East
Owen Sound, Ontario
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General Information

Welcome and thanks for your interest in the Owen Sound and District Farmers' Market.

Established around 1845 the Owen Sound Market has been a weekly gathering place for over 150 years.

Under threat of closure in 1970, the vendors rallied and formed the Owen Sound and District Farmers' Market Vendors Association. The Association was founded along the lines of a co-operative. A volunteer organization run by the vendors for the vendors. The Association assumed responsibility of the formerly municipally administered Market. Despite initial struggles the Association met its commitments and prospered. The foundational efforts by those early vendors and the ongoing efforts of the current membership have resulted in almost half century of successful stewardship of the weekly Market.



Contributing to the Association's ongoing success is the propitious partnership with the City of Owen Sound, its staff and council.

Through a partnership agreement the City allows the Association the use of its building and property for the weekly Market and other community events.

The enthusiastic support and patronage of the customers of Owen Sound and region are also paramount to the success of Market.





Administration

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Market is administered by a volunteer Board of Directors, made up of twelve vendors. The Board has three officers, President, Secretary, and Treasurer. The Directors are responsible for all aspects of the weekly Market. This includes vendor recruitment, advertising and promotional activities, fundraising, and maintenance of the city owned heritage building, etc.

The Board meets quarterly, or at the call of the chair. Board meetings are open to all members. Various committees such as property, fundraising and promotion and advertising report ongoing efforts to the Board. An Annual General Meeting is held once a year to review before the membership at large the efforts of the previous year and to approve proposed actions for the coming year. All members of the Association have voting rights.

MARKET MANAGER

The Manager is responsible for the day to day administration of the Market and is appointed by the Board of Directors. It is the Manager's responsibility to implement the decisions and mandates as set out by the Board of Directors.





Vendors

There are two forms of vendor membership, *daily* and *annual*.

Daily

All members start as a daily vendor. Daily vendors pay weekly for their stall fees and are not guaranteed space. If a daily is coming on a regular basis, efforts will be made to have a regular space. Upon completion of one year or one season at Market, Daily vendors may apply to become an annual vendor. Status for Annual membership is reviewed prior to the yearly Annual General Meeting. Space restrictions, and vendor participation are elements considered by the Board of Directors.

Annual

Annual vendors have established themselves within the Market community and are expected to contribute in meaningful ways to the ongoing success of the Association. Space is assigned as determined by the Manager. Annuals fees reflect by comparison to daily fees the expectation of active participation. Annual fees are paid yearly within thirty days of the Annual General Meeting.



Non Profit and Community Groups

The Market makes space available for local community and non profit groups free of charge throughout the year to promote and raise funds for their various activities.

The Market Board reserves the right to revoke or suspend membership from the Association. Membership is a responsibility not a right.



VENDOR RESPONSIBILITIES AND REQUIREMENTS

• It is **recommended** that any vendor selling food should undertake to acquire the Safe Food Handling Certificate through the local Health Unit. (*This may become a **requirement** in the near future*)

- All products and produce must be of good quality
- The Market reserves the right to restrict the sale of various products.
- Vendors are required to be at Market and set up on time. Vendors are expected to be at Market by 7:00 and set up by 7:30 at the latest. Our hours of operation are from 7:00-12:30
- Vendors are responsible for keeping their stalls clean and free of refuse each week.
- Vendor parking is in the municipal lot south of the Market next to the river.

It is the responsibility of all vendors and management to create an auspicious atmosphere at the weekly Market. The experience for all vendors visitors and customers should be a positive one.



