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Basketball takes over Aurora?s cultural district for Open Streets



By Jake Courtepatte

Rather than the sound of car engines on Victoria Street on Sunday, all that could be heard was swished nets and lots of laughter.
While the Aurora Chamber of Commerce Street Festival attracted tens of thousands of visitors one block away on Yonge Street, the area of Victoria Street between Mosley Street and Metcalfe Street saw hundreds of athletes from across the GTA converge for the first annual Court 33 three-on-three basketball tournament.
35 teams signed up for the event, featuring six hoops across all age and skill levels.
?I like playing basketball with my friends,? said Marcus Fora, 9, who came from Newmarket with his father Tony for the day-long tournament. ?It's fun playing against other kids we've never played before.?
With the forecasted rain holding off for much of the day, residents also had the opportunity to run the York Regional Police's obstacle course in the Town Park, or take part in a pickleball demonstration on Mosley Street, all part of the first annual Open Streets Aurora festival.
Members of Activate Aurora were also on hand in their booth to hand out blue and green shoelaces to anyone who would ?take the pledge? to lead a healthier, more active lifestyle.