

21st Annual Street Festival returns Sunday

By Brock Weir

Over 500 vendors will be putting their best foot forward this Sunday, June 5, for the 21st annual Aurora Street Festival, hosted by the Aurora Chamber of Commerce.

Yonge Street will be closed to traffic on Sunday and open for hours of revelry from Wellington Street to Murray Drive for a day of shopping, food, music, and family fun.

"We are just once again thrilled to be presenting the 21st annual Street Festival," says Sandra Watson of the Aurora Chamber of Commerce, who is spending the days leading up to the big event making sure last minute details are in place, and last minute vendor applications are processed. "We are excited to have a number of returning vendors who continue to see value in participating year over year and we have vendors that come from as far away as Ottawa and London for this event."

In addition to the vendors, two stages will be set up with local bands, including The Coyotes and Willin' & Abel performing throughout the day, as well as displays from roaming buskers and the Ace Firebirds Cheerleading Squad.

Community organizations are also taking the opportunity to get the word out on some unique events coming up, including the Queen's York Rangers Army Cadets, who will be stationed on the east side of Yonge Street between Kennedy and Church selling Freezies for a dollar apiece to raise funds for their trip to France next year commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Battle of Vimy Ridge.

Donations will also be accepted "from a Loonie or a "Vimy", so called for the depiction of the monument on the back of the Twenty " in exchange for adding your own nametag to a wreath the Cadets will be taking with them to the commemorations.

The Aurora Sports Hall of Fame will also be on the street handing out autographed cards from the 52 Pick Me Up deck, which celebrates Aurora's sports heroes and sporting achievements, as well as staffing a "Speaker's Corner" to collect your own sports stories.

"This has proven to be one of the best community events out there and it is a chance for people to meet friends on the street, experience a number of different food vendors, and we think we have one of the best varieties of food vendors out there," says Ms. Watson. "You can get anything your heart desires. It is just a great opportunity for people to come out and enjoy the nice weather, walk the streets, and enjoy the sights!"

The Festival runs from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.