

Canada Day in Dufferin?Caledon

As the weather warms up and summer begins, we prepare to celebrate our great country on Canada Day. It is an opportunity for all Canadians to celebrate the achievements and traditions that make our country so special. The Honourable James Moore, Minister of Canadian Heritage, said it well, "Indeed, Canada has a great deal to celebrate. We are leading the G-8 in job creation. We have the lowest taxes in 50 years." In order to help celebrate, Dufferin-Caledon is once again hosting a variety of events to help residents celebrate the holiday.

Residents can celebrate with the Strawberry Festival at Downey's Farm Market. There will be pancakes topped with strawberries starting at 9 a.m. The festival has free parking and admission. The festival runs until 5 p.m. with plenty of fun and activities throughout the day including: musicians, a magician, a rock climbing wall, animals and antique cars. And of course, residents will be able to pick strawberries or buy some already picked. For more information, please visit Downey's Farm Market website at www.downeysfarm.com.

The Caledon Agricultural Society is hosting their 25th Annual Canada Day Strawberry Festival at the Caledon Fairgrounds and Caledon Village Place from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. Festivities include: a strawberry pancake breakfast, silent auction, firefighter demonstration, music, car show, face painting, exhibits in the Heritage Hall, a petting zoo, pony rides, clowns, crafts, and food vendors. The festival has free admission. For more information on this event, please visit the Caledon Agricultural Society's website at www.caledonfairgrounds.ca.

The Orangeville Legion located at 7 John Street will host a barbecue and cake cutting. The barbecue will begin at 11 a.m. I will be there at 2 p.m. to help kick-off the Canada Day Ceremony. There will be a DJ, clown, and face painting for kids all afternoon at the ceremony.

I will be joining the Township of Amaranth when they kick off their Canada Day Celebrations at 1 p.m. The celebration will take place at the Amaranth Municipal Building. There will be festivities to celebrate including games, food, and live demonstrations by the fire department and paramedics. The celebration will run until 4 p.m.

The Town of Orangeville will have a range of activities and events to celebrate Canada Day. Celebrations will run from 7 p.m. until 10:15 p.m. in the playing fields behind the Alder Street Recreation Centre located at 275 Alder Street. There will be a kids parade at 7 p.m. There will be live entertainment, inflatable jousting, rock climbing, cultural demonstrations, arts and crafts, face painting, bouncy castles, a play area, an obstacle course, a Maple Taffy Station, an ice carving demonstration from 7:30 ? 8:30 p.m., a Zumba party from 8:20 until 8:50 p.m., and much more. There will also be food vendors. Fireworks will start at 10 p.m. For more information visit the Rotary Club of Orangeville Highlands' website at www.clubrunner.ca/orangevillehighlands.

The Town of Shelburne also has many celebrations throughout the day at the Centre Dufferin Recreation Complex. There will be a Shelburne's Got Talent Competition, activities for kids, pony rides, a mini-tractor pull, a Kinsmen Beer Garden, and a community barbecue. There will also be fireworks at dusk.

There is also a Canada Day Celebration at the Albion Hills Conservation Area, located at 16500 Regional Road 50, in Palgrave. Admission and parking is free. The celebration runs from 4 ? 11 p.m. There will be a meet and greet with characters Strawberry Shortcake and Om Nom, magic shows, and live music. There are also pedal boat and canoe rentals, guided nature hikes, and a lakeside pool. The night concludes with a firework show at dusk. For more information you can visit <http://www.trca.on.ca/albionhills/>

No matter how you choose to celebrate, I hope you have a safe and happy Canada Day with your family and friends. I also wish you an enjoyable summer!

By David Tilson, MP

