

Maple Madness marks Mulmur's 175th anniversary



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A community pancake breakfast celebrating 175 years of the Township of Mulmur drew a strong turnout as part of the municipality's ongoing anniversary events – combining local food, agricultural education and family activities under the "Maple Madness" banner.

On April 11, at 4M (Mikoliew Mach Mulmur Maple Company), guests were treated to a locally supported pancake breakfast event, as part of the ongoing 175 celebrations.

Held at the local farm, the event featured a maple-themed breakfast made with locally produced syrup, along with tours of a working sugar bush and sugar shack.

Caroline Mach, an organizer behind Maple Madness, said that the day was a truly collaborative experience between farmers and the township.

"We produced maple syrup at our farm," she said. "They brought cooks and supplies and made pancakes, and we supplied maple syrup. We had somebody making maple taffy, and we were giving tours of both the sugar shack and the operation in the bush with the syrup lines."

She said attendees could see firsthand how maple syrup is collected and processed, highlighting the agricultural roots that continue to define much of the area.

The favourable weather played a role in a very strong turnout. It was estimated that approximately hundreds of people attended throughout the day, a number that exceeded expectations and required additional supplies to be brought in as demand grew.

"We were extremely lucky, because it was probably the only sunny day we've had in the last two weeks," Mach said. "It was raining cats and dogs on Friday before that, and it was raining cats and dogs on Sunday after that. So that definitely played a significant part in the success of the event."

"We ended up having probably around 250 people come out. The township actually had to get more plates and more pancake mix

because they ran out. So that was incredible, really a wonderful problem to have.?

In addition to the meal and tours, the event included a number of family-friendly elements. Members of the Ontario Provincial Police were present in a community engagement capacity, interacting with attendees and providing a vehicle display for children.

A township booth offered merchandise tied to the anniversary, including clothing and memorabilia, while face painting added to the event's appeal for younger visitors.

Municipal representatives were also in attendance, including Mulmur Mayor Janet Horner and council members who assisted with food preparation for the breakfast.

The event drew not only local residents but also visitors from outside the township, reflecting broader regional interest in local, community-focused experiences.

With a combination of strong attendance, community involvement and favourable conditions, organizers are viewing the Maple Madness breakfast as a successful contribution to the township's anniversary celebrations.

The breakfast is one of several initiatives planned throughout the year to mark Mulmur's 175th anniversary, following earlier programming such as a Family Day event.

Additional events, including a planned market later in the spring, are expected to build on that momentum as Mulmur continues marking its 175-year anniversary.