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Lakefield Farmers'



MARKET

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## Lakefield Farmers' Market

*Vendors' Handbook of  
Rules and Regulations*

## Welcome to the Lakefield Farmers' Market!

Planning for this market began in the spring of 2009, spearheaded by two residents of Smith-Ennismore-Lakefield, Susan Chan and Judith Hyland.

Their vision was to create a vehicle for bringing together local food producers and consumers in a friendly, community-building atmosphere.

They recognize the growing awareness that globalization, urbanization and other factors have slowly eroded the local infrastructures that our parents and grandparents took for granted. It has become difficult for the average consumer to buy their food locally or to even know where their food comes from and how it is grown.

As climate change and other environmental issues become more prominent in our collective consciousness, it is not surprising that we are looking more closely at our ability, as a community, to feed ourselves.

For these reasons there has been a renaissance of local Farmers' Markets in recent years. We want to help revive some of the lost infrastructure that brings food producers and consumers together in a mutually beneficial way.

To that end, this market is primarily for local growers who sell the products they themselves grow. To add variety, a portion of craft and food court vendors will be allowed, with priority given to those who source their materials or ingredients locally.

This handbook spells out the guidelines under which the market will operate. Any issue not covered here will be dealt with by the Steering Committee.

Thank you for being part of this exciting local initiative. May you have a season of plenty!

*Judy Hyland and Susan Chan*  
Co-founders, Lakefield Farmers' Market

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

### 1. ORGANIZATION

- Governance
- Management

### 2. MARKET LOCATION & SEASON

- Location
- Season

### 3. MEMBERSHIP

- Eligibility
- Vendor Type
- Product Categories

### 4. PRICING

- Membership Fees
- Application Fees
- Attendance Fees
- Stall Fees

### 5. INSURANCE

### 6. MARKET DAY

- Space Allocation
- Signs
- Displays and Safety
- Advertising and Promotion
- Market Manager
- Sales Information
- Arrival Time
- Absenteeism
- Problem Resolution

## **1. Organization**

### Governance:

The Lakefield Farmers' Market initially took form under the leadership of an ad hoc Steering Committee comprised of Sherry Boyce-Found (Kawartha Lakes Chamber of Commerce, Eastern Region), Susan Chan (acting Secretary/Treasurer), Suzanne Evans (potential craft vendor), Judith Hyland (acting Chair), Anita Locke (SEL councillor, Lakefield Ward), Jessy Ludwig, Mary Smith (Deputy Reeve, SEL council) and Jeannette Thompson (Economic Development Officer, SEL).

The current market is governed by a management team consisting of elected vendor members and members from the community at large. Supportive ties to the local merchant community and the Township are being maintained by liaisons to the Chamber of Commerce and Municipal Economic Development Office.

### Management:

On-site, the Lakefield Farmers' Market is managed by a Market Manager, contracted by the Management Team for the season. The market manager is not a vendor and reports directly to the Management Team.

## **2. Market Location & Season**

### Location:

The Market is located in the large parking lot behind the Smith-Lakefield Community Centre (the arena) and beside Isabel Morris Park in the Village of Lakefield, Ontario.

### Season:

The Market season consists of between 20 and 22 market days depending on the year. Beginning in mid-May and extending into October, the Market runs every Thursday, from 9:00am – 1:00pm.

## 3. Membership

### Eligibility:

The Lakefield Farmers' Market is a producers-only market, whether agricultural vendors, prepared food vendors, or craft vendors. **Resellers are not eligible for membership in the Lakefield Farmers' Market.** All products offered for sale must be grown or produced by the vendor applicant (member). For member voting rights, the vendor is defined as the applicant or the applicant's spouse, sibling, child, parent or partner, who assists substantially in the cultivation of the crops, or in the production of the agricultural, value-added or craft products, or a designated employee representing the vendor. The sale of items grown or produced by anyone other than the vendor, as defined above, shall not be permitted. Vendors must reside within a 100 km radius of Lakefield. Exceptions to these eligibility criteria may only be made at the discretion of the Management Team on a case-by-case basis.

Vendors may only sell products for which they have received Board approval as described on their original application. Vendors must seek Board approval with at least 7 days' notice if they wish to add further items throughout the season.

### Vendor Type:

There are two types of vendors at the Lakefield Farmers' Market:

**Full Season Vendors:** attend the Market on a full-time basis from May to October

- In exchange for their full season commitment to the market, Full Season Vendors receive a discounted weekly stall rate

**Daily Vendors:** attend the Market on a day-by-day basis, scheduled at least one week in advance.

## Product Categories:

### Agricultural

Including, but not limited to:

Consumable

- Fruit and vegetables, edible plants/flowers, sprouts, honey, maple syrup, preserves, sauces, vinegar, meat, fish, poultry and eggs, soap, dried soup and other mixes, grains, livestock.

Non-Consumable

- Soap, soils, manure, firewood, fleece, wool, fenceposts, animal feed, shrubs, trees, flowers, plants
- As a growers-only market, the Lakefield Farmers' Market requires that all agricultural vendors be MyPick verified. This is a non-invasive process which verifies that all agricultural products at the Market are sold by the farmers who produce them.

### Prepared Food

Including, but not limited to:

- Homemade, ready-to-eat items, or items for consumption at the Market.
- Baked goods such as: Bread, rolls, buns, muffins, cookies, fruit pies, cakes, pastries, meat pies.
- Prepared food vendors are required to use some local agricultural ingredients. Those whose applications show the use of high quantities of local ingredients will be given preference by the Management Team.
- Vendors in this category will be required to provide a current Food Premises Inspection Certificate and Food Handler's Certificate from the Peterborough Public Health prior to final approval

### Artisanal

Including, but not limited to:

- Hand-made items by the Vendor using his or her own skill, artistry, and training to produce a new, unique and original product (no reselling is allowed).
- Preference will be given to artisanal vendors who demonstrate that their wares contain natural/recycled/locally sourced materials.
- All artisanal wares will be evaluated for market suitability by the Lakefield Farmers' Market artisanal jury.
- Due to limited space and to allow the maximum number of craftspeople to participate in the Market, artisanal vendors may not be eligible for full season membership.

## 4. Pricing:

Payments can be made by cash, cheque, or an e-transfer to [accounts@lakefieldfarmersmarket.net](mailto:accounts@lakefieldfarmersmarket.net)

### Membership Fee

The annual, non-refundable membership fee is \$25.00. This fee must be paid by all Full Season vendors and entitles them to vote in the Annual General Meeting (AGM) on items concerning market operations. If vendors are sharing a stall, each must pay an individual \$25.00 membership fee. "Daily" vendors are not eligible to be voting members.

### **Application Fee**

There is a \$25.00 non-refundable application fee for all new and returning vendors that must be submitted with the application/re-application.

### **Attendance Deposit**

There will be a \$40.00 attendance deposit for all Full-Season. The attendance deposit is non-refundable to vendors with 2 or more unannounced absences at the end of the Market season. An "unannounced absence" is defined as failure to provide the market manager with 7 days' notice of absence (barring personal/family/medical emergencies).

### **Stall Fees**

- Full Season: \$315.00 for the entire Market season (\$15/week for 21 weeks). At least 50% of stall fees are due upon acceptance into the Market. The remainder are due upon the first market day of the season. Full season stall fees are non-refundable.
- Daily: \$33.00/week, due upon arrival each Market day. Daily stall fees are non-refundable.

	<b>Full Season</b>	<b>Daily</b>
<b>Stall Fee</b>	\$315/season (\$15/week)	\$33/week
<b>Application Fee</b>	\$25	\$25
<b>Membership Fee</b>	\$25	N/A
<b>Attendance Deposit (Refundable)</b>	\$40	N/A

## 5. Insurance

All vendors who have a registered business with a physical business location other than the Lakefield Farmers Market are required to provide valid Proof of Insurance prior to final approval as a Lakefield Farmers Market Vendor.

## 6. Market Day

### Space Allocation:

The Market Manager will be responsible for assigning stall spaces. The Market is an outdoor seasonal market located in the arena parking lot at 20 Concession St adjacent to Isabel Morris Park.

- Fees are per single space of approximately 10' X 20' (i.e. one parking space). Vendors may have more than one space, if required and available, paying full fees for each space.
- Seasonal spaces will be assigned by the Market Manager at the beginning of the season, taking into account the arrangement of vendor types and the market's opportunity for effective, abundant and colourful display.
- While it is important that vendors remain in the same location from week to week, some adjustments to site layout might be done from day to day based on vendor absenteeism. If a vendor is absent on a given day, their usual space will be used as deemed necessary by the market manager.
- Daily vendors will be allotted a space on Market day.
- Returning seasonal vendors have the right of first refusal on their previous year's location.
- Two vendors may share a space, provided that they are seasonal vendors, they hold individual memberships, and the products of both must be on display at all times.
- Vendors may not sell, sub-let, or rent Market space to other Vendors.

### Signs:

Each Vendor must display a sign in their space indicating their name and address. All agricultural vendors must obtain [MyPick® verification](#) and display this verification clearly at their stalls. All items offered for sale must have prices clearly displayed.

## Displays and Safety:

Vendors will supply all materials required for their display, including canopy, tables, chairs, and garbage can, all of which must be removed at the end of market day. **All vendor canopies must be tethered at all times during Market hours, with a recommended 25-40 lbs per tent leg.** Failure to do so may result in removal from the Market. Vendor displays should be attractive and clean at all times. Provided space is available, vendors may be permitted to store some items in the market shed (subject to approval by the Market Manager). It is the responsibility of vendors to leave their allotted spaces as they found them at the beginning of Market day.

The safety of vendors and customers is paramount and the Lakefield Farmers' Market will implement COVID-19 protocols that are in line with the current Peterborough Public Health's protocols and Farmers' Markets Ontario's (FMO) recommendations. Market protocols related to COVID-19 will be communicated to vendors on an ongoing basis as the situation evolves.

## Advertising and Promotion:

The Lakefield Farmers' Market Management Team will provide visible advertising signage for the Market on every Market day, will promote the market before and during the season, and will work with the vendors to make the Market attractive to shoppers, build bridges with local merchants, organizations, charities, and will work to raise awareness about the food locally available. As members of Farmers' Markets Ontario and the Kawartha Chamber of Commerce, we will take advantage of the promotional opportunities those memberships offer.

## Market Manager:

The Market Manager supervises the on-site operations of the Market. They will apply the rules and regulations of the Market as detailed in the Handbook and report violations to the Management Team.

The duties of the Market Manager include, but are not limited to:

- Collection of daily vendor fees when due followed by prompt deposit of those fees to the bank.
- Allocation of space to vendors based on the guidelines in the Handbook
- Collection of data for management, planning and promotional purposes
- Receiving and processing vendor applications, and applications from community groups for use of the Market's community tables
- Ensuring that the Market is a pleasant, clean, welcoming place for all vendors and shoppers

- Removal of persons should circumstances warrant it by requesting the persons to leave or, if necessary, by calling the police for assistance

## Sales Information:

### Sales Figures

Vendors will be expected to provide the Market Manager with approximate sales figures for each market day at the start of each subsequent market day. This information is anonymous and will be used for market statistical purposes only. We cannot overstate the importance of this collective information as we negotiate with funders and corporate sponsors in the future. Everyone will benefit!

### Waste Reduction

Vendors are strongly encouraged to limit the use of single use plastic and eliminate the use of Styrofoam containers. Please consider more eco-friendly alternatives and customer education that will work for your products and customers.

## Arrival Time:

Vendors will **arrive no later than 8:30 am** and be completely set up and ready to sell not less than **15 minutes prior to market starting**, or you risk forfeiting your space to a daily vendor.

## Absenteeism:

Vendors shall provide the Market Manager with at least 7 days' notice in the event of an expected absence from Market. If a vendor has not provided prior notice and is not set up to sell by **15 minutes prior to the start of Market**, they risk losing their stall to a daily vendor. If a vendor misses 2 or more Market dates on an unannounced basis, the Market Board reserves the right to expel the Vendor from the Market for the remainder of the season. There will be no refund of Vendor fees and the Vendor will forfeit their Attendance Deposit.

## Problem Resolution:

Vendors are encouraged to approach the Market Manager if they encounter a problem. Any issue that requires further attention can be brought to a Management Team meeting. Any discussion of the problems of the Market in front of customers is strongly discouraged. Verbal or physical abuse between Vendors or between Vendors and Customers will not be tolerated. Any Vendor found in contravention of this rule will receive a warning or, if very serious, may be subject to immediate expulsion from the Market and will forfeit all fees. Any such expulsion will be at the discretion of the Market Board. Should the Vendor wish to appeal their expulsion, a written request to appeal must be delivered to the Board. In consultation with a 3<sup>rd</sup> party the Board may void the expulsion or may defer the matter for consideration by the Membership at the AGM.