

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



**2023 FESTIVALS & EVENTS IN ONTARIO  
MUNICIPALITY OF THE YEAR AWARDS ANNOUNCED**

*Provincial organization recognizes Ontario's Best Festival Cities*

**Niagara Falls, Ontario (March 8, 2023)** Festivals and Events Ontario (FEO) is proud to announce the 2023 Municipality of the Year Awards, **presented by OLG**. The Award is intended for the festivals and events industry to openly encourage, support, learn from and recognize positive local environments for festivals and events provincially. Through this special award, FEO is pleased to recognize those municipalities, towns or cities and markets who have worked, through concentrated efforts, to provide an atmosphere beneficial to successful festivals and events.

Submissions from FEO members were received for consideration in the fall of 2022 and were judged by an independent panel of judges. Ontario municipalities and festivals and events within their regions were represented in the submissions. The Municipality of the Year Awards were given out on Wednesday, March 8th during FEO's Annual Conference "CELEBRATE" in Niagara Falls, Ontario.

FEO would like to congratulate the 2023 Municipality of the Year recipients under the following three categories:

*Population less than 50,000*

**Town of Amherstburg**

*Population more than 50,000 and less than 150,000*

**Town of Newmarket**

*Population of 150,000 or more*

**City of Richmond Hill**

The “CELEBRATE” 2023 Festivals & Events Ontario Conference was held in Niagara Falls, Ontario from March 6-8, 2023.

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#### **About Festivals & Events Ontario**

Festivals & Events Ontario (FEO) was established in 1987 as an association devoted to the growth and stability of the festival and event industry in Ontario. FEO supports a lively, engaged and dedicated festival and events industry by sharing knowledge, enabling networking and providing leadership on education, advocacy and promotion. FEO operates Canada’s largest dedicated festival and event Conference, publishes and distributes an annual consumer guide, promotes its industry festival supplier goods and services and oversees an industry-leading awards recognition program. The festivals and events industry in Ontario is estimated to generate in excess of \$2.3 billion annually in contribution to regional GDP, create/sustain approximately 50,000 full-year-equivalent jobs and foster approximately \$1 billion dollars in taxes at all levels of government.