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Hants County Exhibition

TWO
WEEKEND
SCHEDULE &
EVENT INFO
INSIDE



SEPTEMBER 12-14 & 19-21, 2025



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2025 Admission Rates

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SATURDAYS

Adults (14+)	\$20.00
Children (5-13)	\$5.00
Seniors (65+)	\$15.00
Children (under 5)	FREE

SUNDAYS

Adults (14+)	\$15.00
Children (5-13)	\$5.00
Seniors (65+)	\$10.00
Children (under 5)	FREE

PASSES

Adults (14+)	\$45.00/weekend
Children (5-13)	\$15.00/weekend
Seniors (65+)	\$30.00/weekend
Children (under 5)	FREE

Any 3 Days Pass \$45.00 (A) | \$35.00 (S)
Best value if you plan to attend both Saturdays

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Tickets: \$1.50/each

5 rides for \$25

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PARKING

All Day Pass \$5

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Prices include HST | Credit card transactions are subject to a convenience fee
Passes can be purchased in advance online or on-site: HCEx Office-221 Wentworth Road
Online Sales: <https://events.frontdoor.plus/event/1253>



WWW.HANTSCOUNTYEX.COM

902 798-0000 / info@hantscountyex.com

EXIT 5A, HWY.101 IN WINDSOR JUST 40 MINS FROM HRM

HCEx Dog Policy

If your furry friend is well behaved and remains on leash, we will permit them on the grounds. However, for the enjoyment of other patrons, we ask that you please leave your dog at home, where they will be most comfortable. The HCEx is a busy, noisy environment and that can be stressful for dogs. Please consider your best friend's comfort before bringing them to the Fairgrounds. Owners must clean up any messes.

Please respect our staff if they need to enforce our policies.





On behalf of the Government of Nova Scotia and the Department of Agriculture, I'd like to welcome you to the 260th Hants County Exhibition – the longest running Agricultural Fair in North America.

260 years of promoting agriculture at its finest and celebrating the best of farming, food, and fun. Thank you to

the team who are dedicated to putting the Exhibition together. Your dedication to celebrating rural life, raising agricultural awareness, and creating cherished memories is truly commendable.

Here's to another spectacular year of traditions, triumphs, and building community spirit. May the 260th Hants County Exhibition be your most successful yet!

Sincerely,
Honourable Greg Morrow
Minister



KODY BLOIS

Member of Parliament for Kings-Hants

*Welcome to the 260th Hants
County Exhibition! Have fun and
good luck to all participants!*

902-542-4010
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West Hants
something inspiring awaits

On behalf of the Council and staff at West Hants Regional Municipality, we're thrilled to welcome you to our amazing community and North America's oldest agricultural fair: the Hants County Exhibition!

This year marks 260 years of celebrating our agricultural roots, rich traditions, and the incredible people who make this event so special. From horse shows and ox pulls to 4-H displays, antique tractors, local crafts, animals, and hands-on learning experiences for all ages — something inspiring awaits everyone.

A heartfelt thank you goes out to all the amazing volunteers and dedicated staff who work tirelessly to bring the Exhibition to life each year. You welcome visitors from near and far and treat them like family. Your commitment means everything to our region. The Exhibition keeps getting bigger and better — and it's all thanks to you!

Whether you're a resident or a visitor, we encourage you to take time to explore West Hants. We're a vibrant, four-season community filled with charming local shops, delicious restaurants, cozy cafés and accommodations, wineries, breweries, and scenic parks and trails. Every season brings its own excitement — from festivals and markets to hockey games, giant pumpkins, and stories of shipbuilding and soaring tides.

We hope your visit to West Hants becomes a cherished tradition — one that brings you back year after year, always feeling welcome and inspired.

Cheers to 260 years of the Hants County Exhibition — and to many more memorable moments ahead!

Mayor Abraham Zebian
www.westhants.ca



260 years of
FOOD, FUN & FAIR



Hants County is proud to be home
to North America's
Oldest Agricultural Fair
Please join us!



Melissa Sheehy-Richard
MLA, Hants West
902.798.0121 58 Gerrish St.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE
Windsor Agricultural Society

Welcome to the 260th annual Hants County Exhibition!

On behalf of the Windsor Agricultural Society, I extend you a warm welcome! For 260 years, this Exhibition has been a cornerstone of our community — a gathering place to celebrate our agricultural heritage, showcase local talent, and connect generations. Our fairgoers, sponsors, volunteers, exhibitors and staff have always been and remain instrumental to the longevity and sustainability of this great event. What began as a modest fair rooted in farm life has flourished into a vibrant celebration that reflects the evolving spirit of our region. Our Exhibition strives to, and succeeds at, offering something for everyone.

As with anything, there are always stumbling blocks along the way and our arena upgrade project is one of those. Our project has experienced a temporary delay and although this is disappointing, we are committed to having shovels in the ground in late September. We thank the public for their patience, support and understanding.

Enjoy the sights, sounds, and stories of this milestone year. May it be filled with celebration, laughter, and memories. We have an extraordinary history and it's one to be proud of.

Sincerely,

Rod Corkum

Windsor Agricultural Society President



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PRESIDENT: Rod Corkum **VICE PRESIDENT:** Jason Casey **PAST PRESIDENT:** Joel Rafuse

WAS DIRECTORS: Bailey Burgess, Jody Crowell, Alyson Bremner, Janet Redden, Jonathan Strum, Nicole Oulton, Scott Spidle, Megan Whitehead, Jasper Lunn, Jacob Greenough

Windsor Agricultural Society / Hants County Exhibition Staff

GENERAL MANAGER: Sheri Donovan

OFFICE MANAGER: Debbie Watson **FACILITY SUPERVISOR:** Al MacDonald

HCEX GROUNDS STAFF: Kevin McKenzie, Stephen McKenzie, Terry Sanford, Emily Noble

Hants County Exhibition Committees

ARTS & CRAFTS: Pat Ward (Chair), Valarie Harvey, Elizabeth Dolliver, Heather d'Entremont

FLOWERS: Jane Kerr (Chair), Linda Benedict, Carolyn Crawford, Sue Coneybeare, Molly Snow, Terri Bowlby-Chiasson, Traci Curry, Laura Mounce, Tracey Martin

MOTORSPORTS: Jasper Lunn, Travis Swinamer, Brad Hood, Rod Corkum

HORSE PULL: Sandi Powell (Chair), Ryan Daniels, Stephen Rafuse

HEMOCRAFTS: Evelyn Caldwell (Chair), Lorna Hazel, Norma Waugh, June Mumford, Dwight Caldwell, Barb Keddy, Jordan Eyamie, Mary Jane Johnson

LIGHT HORSE: Jennifer Lindsay, Barb Creelman, Allison Kelland-Wells, Barb Rockwell, Sandi Powell, Kathy Smith, Lisa Pothier.

CLASSIC HERITAGE BEEF: Victor Oulton (Chair), Bob Best

OXEN: Stephen Rafuse, Ralph Swinamer, Brenda Starratt, Gary Ross, Barb Rockwell

ROOTS, VEGETABLES & FRUIT: Monique Butler (Chair), Bill MacNeil, Norma Waugh, Jen Wilson, Donnie Wilson, A.D. Alexander-McNeil, Pat Ward, Danny Davison

POULTRY: Wayne Oulton, Cheryl Williams, Ryan Ward, Peter Postma, Jamie Carson

TUG-OF-WAR: Colin Chambers **GYMKHANA:** Jessie Taylor

A special THANK YOU to Barb Rockwell and Charlie Levy for their support in the HCEX office and for their endless dedication and passion!



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Three barrels, two hearts, one dream—let's go!



September 12-14 (Weekend One)



The fastest in the Maritimes will be runnin' for the money Friday, Saturday, and Sunday - weekend one! Hants County Exhibition has the largest western racing show of any exhibition or fair on the circuit.

You won't want to miss any of the action - MBRA Barrels or Nova International Open Poles. The youngest of the racers will be showing off their skills in the Little Dodge Challengers Saturday and Sunday.

Join us weekend two for OK Tire Novice Barrels and Poles to cheer on up and coming partnerships!



Photos: Ulli Hoeger

RAM Rodeo Barrels & GFL Open Poles

Friday, Saturday & Sunday!

Little Dodge Challengers

Saturday and Sunday

RAM Rodeo \$1000 TOP TEN

Dash 4 Cash Saturday 9:00pm (Barrels)

\$1000 TOP TEN

Dash 4 Cash Sunday 2:15pm (Poles)

****OK Tire Novice Barrels & Poles - weekend two****

Saturday Sept. 20 & Sunday Sept. 21

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HCEx Motorsports!



Modified **Truck & Tractor Pull**

Start your engines! Many different truck and tractor categories featured. Final classes will be determined based on number of entries in each division. We're expecting a big, bold show at the 260th Hants County Exhibition! Entries are on-line and we encourage folks to enter in advance, to help us plan the day.

**Saturday,
September 13
@ 11:00 am!**
(Raindate Sept 14)



Smash Up Derby!

Come to HCEx on September 20 for a smashing good time!

To register to take part, go to Coldbrook & District Lions Club webpage under club projects for more information.
coldbrooklions.com

**Saturday,
September 20
@ 1:00 pm!**
(Raindate Sept 21)

These events would not be possible without the support of our major motorsport sponsors:





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Halifax Lancers Musical Ride

*Come enjoy the pageantry, sportsmanship,
and art of the Musical Ride! A great finale to the 260th!*



Sunday September 21 indoors at Exhibition Arena

The Musical Ride was the genesis of Halifax Lancers. The Musical Ride was started by Dick Zwicker in 1936 as Canada's first youth equestrian "drill team" performing precise choreographed shapes and figures to music. From both the 16 horses and junior riders, the Musical Ride requires great technical skill and ability but also patience, character, dedication, and determination. The Musical Ride scarlet uniforms are a defining feature and are unique to the Lancers.

The Musical Ride is a wonderful showcase of the horse's adaptability and skill, as it is only one of the many roles they play at Lancers. The Musical ride is put together each year with the help of many dedicated volunteers.

About the Halifax Lancers

Canada's only non-profit, urban riding school was established in 1936 to enable "city-children" to experience the benefits of riding horses. All 27 Horses of Halifax are owned and cared for by Halifax Lancers and have played an important role in the life of Halifax for over eight decades.

PROUD TO SPONSOR THE MUSICAL RIDE PERFORMANCE!



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Mark Davidson photo

DEXTER

Draft Horse Showcase

September 13 & 14

The first weekend will feature a **Draft Horse Showcase** that includes educational sessions in the Cattle Barn, photo ops and demonstrations in the arena on Saturday and Sunday. For those who miss seeing these majestic animals, we are putting the spotlight on their strength, skill, training, and elegance for your enjoyment and education.



Ox Pulls

September 12-14 & Sunday, September 21

Thank you to our major Ox Pull sponsors:

Brian Giswold photo



Jim Ivey photo

Horse Pulls

Friday and Saturday
September 12 & 13

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Tug-O-War

Mens & Womens Preliminary Pulls Sunday Sept. 21 @ 11:00am
 Finals @ 2:00pm HCEX Arena

Jim Ivey photo

Classic Heritage Beef Show September 19-21

The Hants County Exhibition **Classic Heritage Beef Show** has brought back the tradition of encouraging communication and education within the beef farming community. It celebrates the efforts of a farmer's hard work and dedication to their livestock. The resurrection of the professional showing of beef cattle at the Hants County Exhibition does much to ensure the future of beef farming and agriculture in Atlantic Canada. Over 250 head are expected from across Eastern Canada, featuring: Charolais, Simmental, Commercial/crossbreds, Hereford, Angus, and Shorthorn.



Beef Show schedule:

Friday, Sept 19:

1:00pm - Angus Futurity
 2:00pm - Hereford Futurity
 4:30pm - Commercial
 6:00pm - Charolais
 7:00pm - Simmental

Saturday, Sept 20:

11:00am - Angus
 12:30pm - Shorthorns
 2:00pm - Herefords
 6:00pm - Supreme Class

Classes offered

Heifer calves
 Yearlings Heifers
 Two year old cows with calves
 Mature cows with calves
 Bull calves
 Yearling bulls



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CANADA
4-H Nova Scotia

Hants County 4-H Weekend September 12-14, 2025

Please visit: www.4hnovascotia.ca

In 2025 Hants County has six 4-H Clubs with a total enrollment of 220 members and cloverbuds, and 111 generous and dedicated leaders and volunteers. Hants County members enroll in a wide variety of projects with over 27 different livestock and life skills projects completed in 2025.

.....
Tentative Schedule (**Members check Hants Co 4-H FB page and email for accurate schedule**)

Bovine Ring *Friday Sept 12*

- 7:00pm – Jr/Sr Poultry Showmanship
- 7:10pm – Jr/Sr Waterfowl Showmanship (Followed by Champion)
- 7:20pm – Goat Showmanship Jr, Sr & Champ.
- 7:40pm – Goat Conformation
- 8:30pm – Sheep Clipping Comp. / Showmanship

Other Locations *Friday Sept 12*

- 4:00pm – Draw for Clipping Comp. Animals
- 6:00pm – Sheep Clipping Comp. Starts

Bovine Ring *Saturday Sept 13*

- 8:00am – Junior Beef Showmanship
- 9:00am – Senior Beef Showmanship
- 10:00am – Champion Beef Showmanship
- 10:15pm – Beef Conformation
- 1:30pm – Junior Dairy Showmanship
- 1:45pm – Senior Dairy Showmanship
- 2:15pm – Champion Dairy Showmanship
- 2:30pm – Dairy Conformation Classes
- 4:30pm – Group of Three (Dairy)
- 5:00pm – Cloverbud Classes
- 5:30pm – Junior Cavy Showmanship & Champ.
- 5:45pm – Cavy Conformation
- 6:00pm – Junior Rabbit Showmanship
- 6:20pm – Senior Rabbit Showmanship
- 6:35pm – Champion Rabbit Showmanship
- 6:45pm – Rabbit Conformation
- 7:00pm – Beef & Dairy Clipping Competition Showmanship

Jamieson Stage *Saturday Sept 13*

- 10:00am – Lifeskills Competitions
- 2:00pm – Lifeskills Competitions
- 6:00pm – Lifeskills Competitions

Bovine Ring *Sunday Sept 14*

- 8:00am – Junior Sheep Showmanship
- 8:20am – Senior Sheep Showmanship
- 8:30am – Champion Sheep Showmanship
- 8:40am – Sheep Conformation
- 11:00am – Costume Class

Main Arena *Sunday Sept 14*

- 9:00am – Tug of War Weigh Ins
- 10:00am – Tug of War Preliminaries
- 1:30pm – Grand Champion Livestock Showmanship
- 5:00pm – Tug of War Finals
- 5:45pm – Parade of Champions

Harvest Hall

Industrial Building (both weekends)
Life Skills are projects members have been working on since December! These projects consist of anything from welding to foods, and even sewing. Members are able to get hands on experience in different trades through learning.

4-H Lumbersports Competition



Sunday, September 14, 11:00am

The 2025 Hants County 4-H Lumbersport Event will see 4-H members, both local and from other counties competing in five events, including sawing events (single pulp cut, double pulp cut and double cross cut); water boil; and a special event with a Hants County twist. Come out and cheer on these kids in what should be an exciting event.

Thank you to our sponsor:



Weekend One September 12-14 (Buildings open @10 / Midway @ noon)

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 12

CATTLE BARN & BOVINE RING

5:00 pm - Steer / Ox judging (4-H follows/ sched page 23)

EXHIBITION ARENA

9:00am - Mini Horse - Turnout
9:15am - **J & K Towing** Light Weight Ox Pull
11:15am - **St. Croix Sheet Metal** Medium Ox Pull
1:15pm - **Hughes Excavating** Heavy Ox Pull
3:15pm - Mini Horse - Barrels
3:45pm - Mini Horse - Poles
4:15pm - **Payzant Home Hardware** Horse Pull (Heaviest Load)
7:00pm - **Opening ceremonies**
8:00pm - Arena prep
8:30pm - HCEX Friday Night at the Races
MBRA Ram Rodeo Tour Open Barrels #1 & **GFL** Open Poles #1

JAMIESON STAGE (Presented by Sunly)

12:00pm & 3:15pm - Ian Stewart Chainsaw Juggler
4:30 pm - 6:30pm - Leona Burkey
6:30 pm - 8:30pm - John Snyder

O'BRIEN BUILDING

7:00am - 10:00am - Hot Breakfast served!
11:00am-7:00pm - Senior's Sit n' Social / Little Kids Zone
3:00pm - Hodge Podge & Hot Buttered Corn

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 13

EXHIBITION ARENA

8:30am - Prepare arena for pulls
9:00am - **Central Equipment** Three Horse Pull
11:30am - **Ocean Contractors Ltd.** Championship Ox Pull
2:00pm - Pony Club Demonstration
2:20pm - Mini Horse Roadster
3:45pm - **Dexter Construction** Draft Horse Showcase
4:15pm - Mini Horse Reinsmanship
4:35pm - Mini Horse Obstacle
5:00pm - Prepare arena for western racing
5:15pm - HCEX Saturday at the Races
Little Dodge Challengers Barrels #1
MBRA Ram Rodeo Tour Open Barrels #2
7:00 pm - Little Dodge Challengers Poles #1 & **GFL** Open Poles #2
9:00 pm - **Ram Rodeo**
TOP TEN \$1000 DASH for CASH Barrels

JAMIESON STAGE (Presented by Sunly)

10:00am/2:00pm/6:00pm - 4-H Lifeskills
12:15pm - Mad Science
3:30pm - Ian Stewart Chainsaw Juggler
4:30pm - 5:30pm - Nicholas Langille

OUTDOOR STAGE

7:30pm - 9:30pm - Fisherlings

O'BRIEN BUILDING

7:00am - 10:00am - Hot Breakfast served!
11:00am - 7:00pm - Senior's Sit n' Social / Little Kids Zone
Noon / 5:00pm - Hot Buttered Corn / Hot Turkey Dinner
9:00pm - midnight - HCEX Dance (\$10 cover)

SATURDAY (continued)

HCEX MOTORSPORT TRACK

11:00am - Modified Truck & Tractor Pull
(Raindate Sept 14)

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 14

CATTLE BARN & BOVINE RING

(4-H schedule page 23)

EXHIBITION ARENA

7:30am - Prepare arena for ox pull
8:00am - **JES Mechanical** Steer Pull
10:00am - 4-H Tug of War preliminary pulls
11:00am - Prepare Ring for racing
11:20am - HCEX Sunday Morning at the Races
Little Dodge Challengers Barrels #2
MBRA Ram Rodeo Tour Barrel Racing presents
Open Barrels #3 & High Point Presentation
1:30pm - 4-H Grand Champion Livestock
2:15 pm - HCEX Sunday Afternoon at the Races
TOP TEN \$1000 DASH 4 CASH Poles
3:00pm - Little Dodge Challengers Poles #2 & High Point Presentation.
GFL Open Poles #3 & High Point presentation
5:00pm - 4-H Tug of War finals
5:45pm - 4-H Parade of Champions
6:00pm - **Dexter Construction**
Draft Horse Showcase- Weekend Finale

HWY 101 OX TRACK

2:00 pm - Gary "Duke" Myles Consolation Ox Pull

JAMIESON STAGE (Presented by Sunly)

11:00am - Mad Science
12:15pm- 1:15pm - Tyler Salsman
1:30pm & 4:00pm - Ian Stewart Chainsaw Juggler
2:30pm - 4:00pm - Brad McGoey Family Entertainment

O'BRIEN BUILDING

7:00am - 10:00am - Hot Breakfast served!
11:00am-7:00pm - Senior's Sit n' Social / HCEX Little Kids Zone
12:00pm - Hot Buttered Corn served

DEXTER CONST. MARY HENRY EQUI-CENTRE

12:30pm - Mini Horse Working

O'BRIEN BUILDING FRONT LAWN

11:00am - **Iron Maple Construction**
Lumbersports Competition

ALL WEEKEND

HARVEST HALL - Arts, Crafts, Homecrafts, Horticulture Competitions; 4-H Lifeskills Projects

O'BRIEN BUILDING- School Displays

POULTRY BARN

HCEX Poultry & Waterfowl Show

ANTIQUE ENGINE & TRACTORS

Displays & Demos

VENDOR HALLWAY

Bond the Balloon Builder - 11:00am - 5:00pm
(No show September 14)

Weekend Two September 19-21 (Buildings open @10 / Midway @ noon)

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 19

EXHIBITION ARENA

HUNTERS: Start time TBD

18" Hunter #1 & #2

2' Hunter #1 & #2

2'3" Hunter #1 & #2

2'6" Hunter #1 & #2

2'9" Hunter #1 & #2

Mary Henry Memorial Pony Hunter #1 & #2

(Lg/med/sm)

12:00pm - Evangeline Kennel Club

Working Dog Demos

12:30pm - Set arena for Derby

1:00pm HCEX Hunter Derby presented by

Chronicle Herald

Clear arena

Lead line; Walk/Trot (Eq & Pleasure);

Walk/Trot/Canter (Eq & Pleasure);

Under Saddles & Hunter Champion Presentations

- Pony Hunters; 18"; 2'; 2'3"; 2'6"; 2'9"

Prince Phillip Games Demo (Pony Club)

MBS Radio presentation of Top Hunter over Fences

Presentation of **Matt's Towing** Turnout Award

Liberty Demonstration

6:00 pm - JUMPERS - set course

7:00 pm - Pony Club Jumper

Jumpers: 0.75m; 0.85m; 0.9m; 1.0m

Speed - 1.0m; 0.9m; 0.85m; 0.75m

JAMIESON STAGE (Presented by Sunly)

4:30pm - 6:30pm - BJ MacKay & Lucas Whitehead

6:30pm - 8:30pm - Fisherking's

O'BRIEN BUILDING

7:00am - 10:00am - Hot Breakfast served!

11:00am-7:00pm - Senior's Sit n' Social /

Little Kids Zone

3:00pm - Corn Beef Dinner & Hot Buttered Corn

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 20

EXHIBITION ARENA

JUMPERS: Start time TBD

Mini Prix - 0.75m; 0.85m; 0.9m; 1.0m

Championship (high point) Jumper Award

Tim Hortons Intertownship Jumper Challenge

Hooves, Paws & Boots Relay

Presentation of **R & G MacDonald**

Security Sportmanship Award

(Clear ring)

5:30pm - **Spence Aggregates**

Tug O War Preliminary Pulls

Prep arena for racing

7:15pm - **OK Tire** HCEX Novice Barrels #1

8:15 pm - **OK Tire** HCEX Novice Poles #1

JAMIESON STAGE (Presented by Sunly)

11:00am & 3:30pm - Patrick Drake Magician

1:15pm - 3:15pm - Jordan Chowen & Band

4:45pm - 5:45pm - Oliver Bray

6:00pm - 8:00pm - Lisa Richard Duo

OUTDOOR STAGE

8:00pm - 10:00pm - Lonewolf

SATURDAY (continued)

O'BRIEN BUILDING

7:00am - 10:00am - Hot Breakfast served!

11:00am-7:00pm - Senior's Sit n' Social /

Little Kids Zone

12:00pm / 5:00pm - Hot Buttered Corn /

Hot Roast Beef Dinner

O'BRIEN BUILDING FRONT LAWN

12:00pm - 3:00 pm - Evangeline Performance Team

Hot Dogs (Catch the Hot Dogs in the main

arena for Hooves, Paws & Boots Challenge)

HCEX MOTORSPORT TRACK

1:00 pm - Smash Up Derby

(Raindate Sept 21)

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 21

EXHIBITION ARENA

8:30am - Halifax Lancers Musical Ride Rehearsal

9:30am - **OK Tire** HCEX Novice Barrels #2

& High Point Presentation

10:15am - **OK Tire** HCEX Novice Poles #2

& High Point Presentation

11:00 am - **Spence Aggregates**

Tug-O-War Preliminary Pulls

1:30pm - Halifax Lancers Musical Ride

2:00pm - **Spence Aggregates** Tug-O-War Finals -

Mens & Womens

3:00pm - **Conrad Brothers**

Freeman & Frances Swinamer Memorial Ox Pull

JAMIESON STAGE (Presented by Sunly)

11:30am & 3:00pm - Patrick Drake Magician

1:00 pm - 3:00 pm - George Wolf

O'BRIEN BUILDING

7:00am - 10:00am - Hot Breakfast served!

11:00am-7:00pm - Senior's Sit n' Social /

HCEX Little Kids Zone

3:00pm - Hot Buttered Corn served

O'BRIEN BUILDING FRONT LAWN

12:00pm - 3:00pm - Evangeline Performance

Team Hot Dogs

ALL WEEKEND

HARVEST HALL - Arts, Crafts, Homecrafts,

Horticulture Competitions; 4-H Lifeskills Projects;

Avon Valley Floral Workshops Sat & Sun @ 11:30am

CATTLE BARN - Classic Heritage Beef Show

proudly supported by **Nova International**

O'BRIEN BUILDING - School Displays

ANTIQUE ENGINE & TRACTORS

Displays & Demos

O'BRIEN BUILDING COURTYARD

Hatfield Farm Petting Zoo

10:00am - 3:00pm

VENDOR HALLWAY

Bob the Balloon Builder

11:00am - 5:00pm

Site
map on
page 47

EAST COAST
AMUSEMENTS
CARNIVAL
Both Weekends

Darwin Event Group
VENDOR
MARKET
Both Weekends

Celebrating Live Music

On the **Jamieson Stage** and **Outdoor Stage**

Thank you to our music stage sponsor 

Leona Burkey, ECMA & Music NS nominated singer-songwriter brings her signature Cape Breton troubadour style back to the big hall at Hants County Ex! You'll hear fresh folkrock, classic canadiana and a selection of the finest old country gems of all time from a well-worn old stack of her dad's records.

Friday, Sept. 12, 4:30 - 6:30 pm



John Snyder started singing and playing guitar at sixteen. In the late 1980s, John fronted 'Fandango' a popular club band who performed around the province for twenty-one years and opened for several national touring bands during that time. Recently inducted into the N.S. Country Music Hall of Fame, John has also recorded several classical country CDs. **Friday, Sept. 12, 6:30 - 8:30 pm**

Nicholas Langille is a 15-year-old singer and multi-instrumentalist making waves across Eastern Canada and the U.S. In 2025, he earned both Horizon Entertainer and Horizon Vocalist awards at the NACMAI competition in Tennessee. He is also a nominee for a Josie Award as "Vocalist of the Year (U18). Nicholas blends traditional and modern country styles, with influences from a wide range of genres.

Saturday, Sept. 13, 4:30-5:30 pm



The FisherKings, a talented duo/trio from Halifax Metro will keep you rocking out with their electrifying sounds! With decades of experience and a unique blend of 70s to 90s, sea shanties, and country influences, their music captivates audiences across N.S. and beyond!

Saturday Sept. 13, 7:30pm-9:30pm (Outdoor Stage)

Friday Sept. 19, 6:30pm-8:30pm (Jamieson Stage)

Keven Daken is a singer-songwriter who has penned over 20 songs recorded by Canadian artists. Keven gained major attention with his 2023 single "Living Inside of Lonely," which broke into the Top 10 on the Canadian Indie Countdown and has surpassed 118,000 streams on Spotify. Keven's current single, "Country Soon" has garnered over 175,000 streams.

Feature Band for the O'Brien Building HCEX Dance:

Saturday Sept. 13, 9:00pm-Midnight (\$10 cover)



Tyler Salsman is a local country singer/songwriter who discovered his love of country music during weekend drives with his grandfather, listening to the classics on backroads. With an impressive stage presence and natural charisma, Tyler is a rising star to watch! He captures his audience with comparisons to George Canyon, George Strait and Toby Keith. **Sunday Sept. 14, 12:15pm-1:15pm**



DANCE
FEATURE BAND



Brad McGoey is a multi-instrumentalist and community-focused artist based in Nova Scotia. He's known for his creative approach to music, blending guitar, bass, and ukulele with a passion for community engagement and musical exploration. His work centres around creative repurposing, place-making, and community music. **Sunday Sept. 14, 2:30pm-4:00pm**

BJ Mackay grew up in a musical family on a farm in Manitoba. Her dad played old time fiddle and when she was 13, they started a family band which ended up paying for the farm. Now in Nova Scotia, she experiences the same music she grew up with and is lucky enough to play with such great talent like Lucas Whitehead who keeps the classic country music alive. **Friday Sept. 19, 4:30pm-6:30pm with Lucas Whitehead**



Lucas Whitehead is an 18 year-old rising star with a passion for county and bluegrass. He has accumulated a number of accolades including NACMAI 2019 International Male Vocalist and Male Entertainer of the year, and 2nd place in the ECCMA's East Coast Country Star Search. Lucas has performed at many jamborees across Nova Scotia and is part of a country bluegrass band called County Connection. **Friday Sept. 19, 4:30pm-6:30pm with BJ Mackay**

Oliver Bray is an emerging country artist known for his powerful vocals and raw, emotional delivery. Oliver has already carved out a space in the country music scene, captivating crowds with his high-energy performances and heartfelt songwriting. Influenced by artists like Zach Bryan, Chris Stapleton, and Luke Combs, he brings together the grit of Rock and the soul of Roots Country. **Saturday Sept. 20, 4:45pm-5:45pm**



Lisa Richard and Warren Robert are teaming up for an unforgettable evening of music and storytelling. This dynamic acoustic duo delivers a soul-stirring performance filled with emotion, charm, and high-energy musicianship. With original songs that have taken them across Europe, throughout Atlantic Canada—including stages at the ECMAs and Music Nova Scotia—and all the way to the CCMAs and Nashville. **Saturday Sept. 20, 6:00pm-8:00pm**

Lonewolf Country (George Wolf, Thomas Majcan, and Cameron Palmer) combine their experience and musical influences to blow the doors off any venue. They're fan and staff favorites at multiple venues in Halifax, when they're not busy backing up some of the East Coast's best recording artists. They recently released their second all-original album (Life Goes On, 2023) with airplay across the Maritimes and internationally. **Saturday Sept. 20, 8:00pm-10:00pm (Outdoor Stage)**



George Wolf is an accomplished songwriter, bassist and singer, fronting his own band LONEWOLF as well as playing bass for various Canadian recording artists. He has worked with award winning artists such as Aaron Pritchett, Brent Lee, Kenny Hess, Damian Marshall, Ken McCoy, Tom Barlow and many others. He has appeared on original studio works by Guy Paul Thibeault, Jesse Patrick, and Jon Hines. His second album, "Life Goes On", was released in the summer of 2023. **Sunday Sept. 21, 1:00pm-3:00pm**

Two weekends of fun



Ian Stewart Chainsaw Juggler & Magician

Ian Stewart has broken over 20 Guinness World Records, and he'll be here to show off the amazing skills that have taken him around the world! Ian has appeared on such television programs as Americas Got Talent, Penn & Teller Fool Us, The Late Show, The Tonight Show and many others.

You'll see tricks with chainsaws, fire and a straitjacket. You never know, you may even see Ian attempt to break another Guinness record!

September 12-14

FOR
FAMILY EVENT
SHOWTIMES
VISIT PAGE
24 & 25



Mad Science

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September 13 & 14



Evangeline Performance Team Hot Dogs!

Evangeline Performance Team dogs and handlers alike, are ready to entertain at the Hot Dog Show Ring for Mini Shows and Pat N Chats **Saturday** and **Sunday noon- 3:00 p.m.**

Don't miss the Evangeline Performance Team teaming up with riders on horseback, along with a runner on foot, for the always exciting and fast paced relay competition - **Hooves, Paws & Boots Relay** on Saturday afternoon.

September 21 & 22

for the whole family!



Patrick Drake, Magician

Seven-time performer at Halifax International Busker's Festival with over 200 shows. He has been performing magic professionally all over the world for over 25 years. In 2005 he was crowned Canada's National Champion in the Canadian Association of Magician's National Magic Competition. He was also selected the People's Choice award winner from the over 300 magicians in attendance. (Schedule page 25)

September 20 & 21



Jordan Chwen

Jordan Chwen is a dancer and musician from PEI now living in Windsor. Jordan started step dancing when he was just seven years old. His parents quickly noticed his passion when he'd rather be dancing on the soccer field than playing the game. That love for dance led him to local competitions, and later to performances across the Maritimes, Canada, and Europe.

Saturday September 20



Hatfield Farm Petting Zoo

Get ready to get up close and personal with the friendliest farm animals around! We've teamed up with Hatfield Farm to bring you a fun-filled weekend of adventure for this year's HCEX! Perfect for kids and animal lovers of all ages, this interactive experience lets you meet, feed, and cuddle goats, donkeys, and alpacas. It's fun, educational, and the ideal way to create unforgettable memories—one furry hug at a time. Visit us in the O'Brien Building Courtyard: **September 19-21 10:00am-3:00pm**

Bob the Balloon Builder

Bob the Balloon Builder will be on site down the Vendor Hallway to delight children of all ages with his creative balloon designs!

**Both weekends from 11am-5pm
(no show Sunday September 14th)**



****More Family Fun featured on pages 38 & 39****



FUN ON THE MIDWAY!

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See page 2 for pricing

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Shuttle Service Rafuse Golf Cars and a team of dedicated volunteers are available to get you to the gate!



With the support of **Rafuse Golf Cars**, a dedicated group of community volunteers is at it again helping people get from their cars to the fairgrounds entrance gates and back.

Hants County is home to a vibrant volunteer community that plays an important role in everything from education and emergency services to cultural events and community wellness.

Giving back to the community and assisting organizations in need is at the heart of what they do and the Hants County Exhibition appreciates their involvement!

Parking Lot Shuttles

SATURDAYS: 11:30am - 7:30pm

SUNDAYS: noon - 6:00pm



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Owner/Fleet Sales/Rentals
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Family Comfort Room

If you are looking for a quiet place to change and feed your baby or child, dressing room #7 in Hants Exhibition Arena will be set up for this purpose. It's not fancy but will be clean and offer a quiet break from the sights and sounds of exhibition.



Need a little help getting around?

Thank you to the Windsor Lions Club for providing wheelchairs to those who may face mobility challenges. The Hants County Exhibition is for everyone and we appreciate the Windsor Lions Club taking care of our fairgoers!



HCEX Light Horse Show

September 19-20

The Equestrian Nova Scotia Series light horse show features hunter/ jumper classes as well as HCEX Novice Barrels and Poles.

This grassroots competition offers a fun yet challenging opportunity for riders and horses of all levels to have a good showing experience in an indoor venue.

A number of special classes are featured on

the schedule including the HCEX Hunter Derby, the Pony Club Jumper Challenge and Intertownship Jumper Challenge. Back again is Hooves, Paws and Boots and new for 2025 are the Prince Phillip Games Demo and the Liberty Demo! The HCEX Light Horse Show is recognized as fun and entertaining for exhibitors and spectators alike.

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Harvest Hall

(Both weekends)

Harvest Hall bursts with colour and creativity during the HCEX! Be sure to visit the 4-H life skills projects. Each project is a chance for members to demonstrate their learning, creativity, and dedication. Alongside, take in the abundant array of fresh fruits and vegetables grown with local pride. Fairgoers are treated to artfully arranged displays of produce—from plump

tomatoes to gleaming apples. Also showcased are handmade crafts, flowers and more! Each reflects the community's skill and spirit. It's a vibrant celebration of rural life and harvest traditions.

Avon Valley Floral Competitions & Flower Arranging Workshops!

September 20-21 at 11:30am

Explore the art of combining blooms, textures, and colors to craft stunning floral designs.

Guided by a skilled florist, you'll learn basic techniques and seasonal tips to create your own botanical works of art!



HCEX Poultry & Waterfowl Show

September 12-14

HCEX is proud to be hosting a small poultry and waterfowl show this year. Public entry to the poultry barn will be off Exhibition Main Street, near the Antique Engine Displays and Exhibits.

Please note: The show will be closed to the public for judging on Saturday morning.



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Darwin Event Vendor Market!

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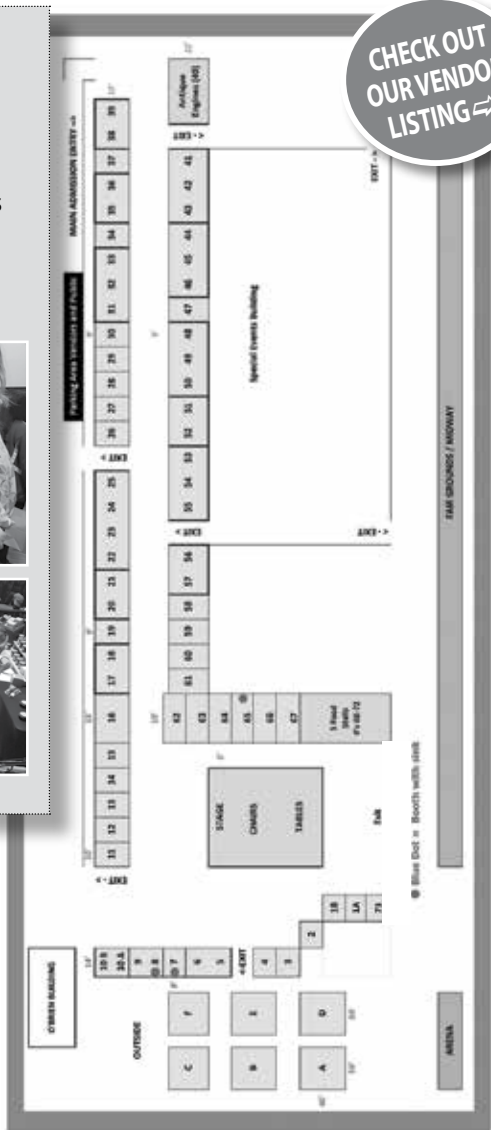
75+ Vendor Booths!

See list Including:

- ✓ food, candy & treats
- ✓ alcohol sampling and sales
- ✓ local businesses & products
- ✓ crafts, jewellery & leathers
- ✓ clothing & pet supplies
- ✓ AND MORE!



CHECK OUT OUR VENDOR LISTING →



DARWIN EVENT GROUP
www.darwineventgroup.com
 902-679-7177 or
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Amethyst Boutique	63, 64
Annapolis Valley Reg. School Board	28
Barbara Lynn's Gifts	11, 12
Bardo Shop - Glass + Prints	5
BeaverTails	Food truck
Bell Aliant	43*
B.O.S.S. Farms	34
Brig & Barq /Moonrise Ridge	1B
Calm Sea Pottery	10A,B
Central Equipment	Outside
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East Coast Farm Life/ High Tide Branding	4
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Mama Pita	Food truck
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Windsor Curling Club	58
Wolf Spirit Accessories	41,42,43**
XL Truck & Equipment Services	Outside

* **WEEKEND ONE:** Sept. 12-14

** **WEEKEND TWO:** Sept. 19-21



Fair Family of the Day!

On Saturday September 13 and Saturday September 20 we will randomly select a family to get into the fair for **FREE** as part of our **Nova Scotia Power Fair Family of the Day!**

An adult in the group will be asked to consent to having the photo shared with the public.

The very happy Garrett family from Tantallon were the 2024 'NS Power Fair Family of the Day'.

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Antique Engine & Tractor

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Also don't miss:

Static Displays:
 Antique Tractors
 Engines
 100's of Hand Tools
 Household items
 Plow
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 Forestry Tram Wagon

Small Theatre:
 - *History & Repair of Equipment Movies*
 More Historical Displays in the Industrial Building

Meet "MAC" McCormick A Big, Real Life Farm Tractor who loves to have his picture taken with children. **Come get yours!**



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Future Farmers Friday

Hundreds of school children will be at the HCEx on **Friday September 12** as part of our Future Farmers

Friday program! Please join us in welcoming them as they partake in a day of fun and education. It's a chance for them to learn about food production, sustainability and the importance of agriculture in our daily lives. A big thank you to the teachers and chaperones who make this day possible for the students!



Apple Sauce Productions presents: Good Old-Fashioned Fun with Aurora & Billy Boots!

Howdy, y'all! Saddle up for some good old-fashioned fun with Aurora the cowgirl and Billy Boots the friendly cowboy! Join them for crafts, animal races, a treasure hunt, pin-the-tail-on-the-donkey, music bingo, and more rootin'-tootin' silliness—bringing big-hearted fun for every little buckaroo.

Saturday September 13 & Sunday September 14
HCEx Little Kids Zone @ the O'Brien Building



Want to learn how to easily identify and support local products, businesses, and producers while strengthening community ties? Nova Scotia Loyal ambassadors and vendors will be at the HCEx to help you identify and support local products and make informed purchases. Look for their signature tents onsite!

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Fun for 0-99 in the O'Brien Building!

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Senior's Sit n' Social

We appreciate our seniors! Come and enjoy a quieter place to relax and eat. There will be seating, games, and background music available both weekends. 11am-7pm. We are also planning the following special meals for our Senior's Sunday Social:

- Hot Turkey Sandwiches:** Sunday Sept. 14 (12pm-3pm): \$15
Mashed potatoes, gravy, coleslaw, dessert, coffee/tea
- High Tea-Sunday:** Sunday Sept. 21 (12pm-3pm): \$17
A traditional blend of tea sandwiches, sweet treats and savoury bites, coffee/tea



HCEX Little Kids Zone

Do you have children too young for the midway? Need to offer them a place to play while you relax? Visit the Kid Zone in the O'Brien Building! Colouring, games, toys and more! 11am-7pm.

Home Cooked Meals!

Come feast on delicious meals by Food Fantastique using fresh, local ingredients! See full menu at www.hantscountyx.com

Full Breakfast: Friday, Saturday and Sunday of both weekends (7am-10am) \$12

Traditional Hodge Podge & biscuit:
Friday September 12 (3pm 'til sold out) \$12



Hot Turkey Dinner: Saturday September 13 (5pm 'til sold out) \$25

Corn Beef Dinner: Friday September 19 (3pm 'til sold out): \$20

Hot Roast Beef Dinner: Saturday September 20 (5pm 'til sold out) \$25

Fri/Sat night meals come with sides, desserts, coffee & tea

HOT BUTTERED CORN! Fresh from the pot! Salted and buttered to your desire! \$3/cob
Fri: 3pm-9pm/Sat: 12pm-9pm/Sun:12pm-4pm

CORN ON THE COB!!! BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!

Dance, Dance, Dance!

Get ready to kick up your heels on Saturday night of the first weekend!

As the sun sets and the midway lights glow, the Keven Daken Band will crank up the volume and the floor will come alive with foot stomping good fun!. This is your chance to dance until midnight with friends old and new. Don't miss this toe-tappin' good time!

O'Brien Building HCEX Dance:

Saturday Sept. 13, 9pm-Midnight / \$10 Cover Charge



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HCEX Champion

In memory of David Coombes

David started his career at Hants County Exhibition in 1965. Through much of it, he also managed Atlantic Winter Fair and Nova Scotia Provincial Exhibition. He passed away in 2018 in his 53rd year as Manager of North America's Oldest Agricultural Fair. His passion, commitment, and belief in the importance of agricultural fairs was second to none. In 2019 he was posthumously inducted into the Atlantic Agricultural Hall of Fame.



Longtime volunteer and 2024 recipient Pat McLean accepting her award from David's daughter and former HCEX Manager Lisa Hines.

Since 2018 David's family have honoured his memory by presenting the David Coombes Exhibition Champion Award recognizing long term service and dedication to Hants County Exhibition.

This year's recipient will be announced during the 260th Hants County Exhibition Opening Ceremonies on Friday September 12.

Past honourees include Ron MacDonald, Charlie Levy, Frances and Freeman Swinamer, Mike Jamieson, Debbie Watson, Donnie and Annie Wilson, and Pat McLean.

Windsor Agricultural Society \$1000 Agricultural Scholarship



Carlee Allison is shown accepting the 2024 WAS Scholarship from current WAS President Rod Corkum.

Windsor Agricultural Society has offered the scholarship for over 30 years, supporting Hants County students working towards a career in agriculture. The successful student must be accepted or presently enrolled in a field of study relating to agriculture (College, University or Community College) with aspirations of working in the Agricultural Industry.

The Society is very proud of past scholarship winners, many of whom are successful throughout various sectors of the industry.

The Scholarship will be awarded during the 260th Hants County Exhibition Opening Ceremonies on Friday September 12.

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Gone but not forgotten

HCEx lost a number of important people over the past year, including those on this page. Our sincerest condolences to their families and friends.



Frances Swinamer was a devoted community pillar, beloved mother, and tireless volunteer. Known for her generosity, warmth, and legendary baked beans, she served her community for decades. She was a staple at the Hants County Exhibition cheering on the Ox Pulls and supporting her family members who often competed. Her legacy of kindness, dedication, and love for family lives on in the hearts of all who knew her.

James Arthur Grant "Jim" Bremner was a true community leader and advocate for both the beef and forestry industries. His leadership and steady presence were instrumental in supporting local agriculture. As a former member of the Windsor Agricultural Society, Jim had a deep passion for advancing the mandate of the Society and keeping the annual Exhibition alive and thriving. His legacy lives on throughout the Exhibition grounds, so be sure to tip your hat to Jim when you visit this year.



A description of the first fair - the 21st of May 1765 -

"...cattle, horses, sheep, and hogs; good samples of grain of all sorts; butter, cheese, home-spun cloth, etc. There were premiums and prizes given to encourage industry and agriculture. Forty horses fit for saddle or drought were brought and offered for sale..."

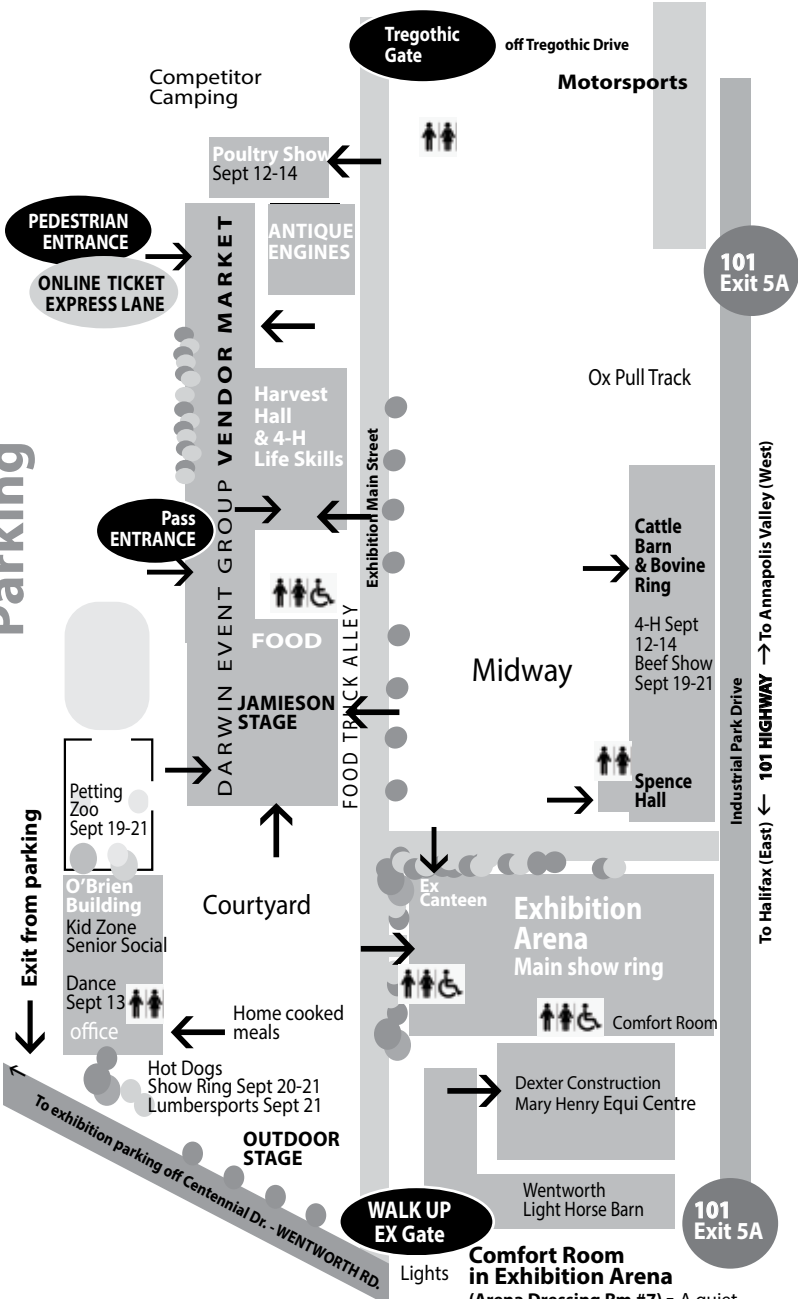
Thom Aylward, local farmer and historian

Since that time what would become the Windsor Agricultural Society has presented the Hants County Exhibition in various forms and locations throughout the area, including Fort Edward. The not for profit Society purchased the current location on Wentworth Road (a former WWII training camp) in 1949.

In addition to the Hants County Exhibition, the 35 acre facility (with 4 acres under cover) is home to many horse show and livestock events, gatherings and reunions, festivals and events. A serviced campground is available for facility users and tourists alike. The Society also offers winter vehicle storage and portable bleacher rentals for festivals and events. **Hantscountyex.com**

The HCEx printed program is subject to change. Please visit **www.hantscountyex.com** for the online version to ensure you have the most up-to-date information before heading to the Exhibition.

Parking



Comfort Room in Exhibition Arena
 (Arena Dressing Rm #7) - A quiet space with a change table, and chair.



Hants County Exhibition would not be possible without the support of our generous sponsors. Please keep them in mind, when making purchases.

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