

AURORA CHAMBER STREET FESTIVAL - FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. What is the Aurora Chamber of Commerce?

The Aurora Chamber of Commerce is a non-profit organization that supports and promotes business, facilitates innovative and professional business practices, creates opportunities for peer interaction, increases the profile of its members, and provides services to enable them to succeed. The Chamber has over 550 businesses as members and welcomes all business in and around Aurora to join. Membership information can be found at www.aurorachamber.on.ca or by calling our office at 905-727-7262. In addition to many other benefits, members receive a significant discount on the cost of a booth at the Street Festival.

The Aurora Chamber has organized the Street Festival since its inception, over 25 years ago. Interestingly, the Festival originally began as a community garage sale. It has grown significantly and is now York Region's largest community event with live performances, unique vendors, great food and more.

2. What is the Aurora Chamber Street Festival?

The Aurora Chamber Street Festival is a one-day event that happens annually on the first Sunday in June. Yonge Street in Aurora is closed to traffic allowing walking on Yonge Street. The event is open to the public. There is no admission fee and parking is free in the surrounding area. The event happens rain or shine.

Vendors sell their goods from booths at ground level, along the curb lane on both sides (east and west) of Yonge Street. There are scheduled professional performers throughout the day at various locations.

3. Where does the Festival take place?

The Festival takes place directly on Yonge Street in the heart of Aurora. Yonge Street is closed from Wellington Street (north end) to Murray Drive (south end). There is no designated entrance or exit and visitors access the Festival from the side streets.

4. What time is the Festival?

The Festival opens at 11:00 am and closes at 5:00 pm.

5. How many people attend the Aurora Chamber Street Festival?

30,000 +

6. Do I have to be an official 'business' to sell at the Festival?

Not necessarily. The Festival is open to anyone who wishes to promote their services or products. It is also open to businesses and non-profits, as well as vendors, artisans and crafters who wish to display and sell their unique items.

7. How do I become a vendor at the Street Festival?

You can complete the vendor application package available on the website at www.aurorachamber.on.ca/street_festival. Please ensure it is complete and is returned with full payment. Once your application has been accepted and processed, you will receive an email confirmation.

8. When can I set-up and when can I take-down my display?

Yonge Street closes at 10:00 am to allow vendors to set-up. Set-up is one hour only from 10:00 am to 11:00 am. It is recommended that all vendors deliver their items to their booth, unload, and park their vehicle before setting-up.

Tear-down begins at 5:00 pm. Yonge Street re-opens at 6:00 pm. Everything **MUST** be removed from Yonge Street by 6:00 pm.

9. Is there assigned parking?

There is no assigned parking at the Street Festival. Please park on side streets. We ask that you please respect neighbouring homes and businesses.

10. Can I sell or give away food?

Yes, however you must comply with all York Region Public Health rules and regulations. Info is available at www.york.ca/Services/Public+Health+and+Safety/Food+Safety/FoodSafetySpecialEvents.htm. If you are cooking on site you must pay the food vendor booth price as indicated on the application.

11. Can I hand out marketing material at my booth?

Yes, however please limit the amount of paper you hand out. Consider an item with a 'shelf life' rather than something someone will throw away. Papers and flyers left behind after the Festival can leave unnecessary litter.

12. Can I play music at my booth?

The Festival is noisy. You are welcome to play music at your booth, however, if other vendors are bothered by the volume it must be turned down or off.

The Aurora Chamber provides live music at two locations on Yonge Street for the entire day: at the intersection of Golf Links Drive (and Yonge Street) and at the intersection of Church Street (and Yonge Street).

13. How will I know where my booth is located?

A few weeks prior to the Festival, you will be **emailed** a package that will outline all of the necessary information. **Please ensure you indicate your preferred location on the application.** You will be assigned a block and booth number. Booths are numbered even on the west side of Yonge Street and odd on the east side.

14. What if I need more than one booth?

If you require more than 10 x 10 feet of space, you can purchase multiple booths. You can request them to be side-by-side or in another location. When you receive the information package prior to the Festival, remember that booths are numbered 'every-other' depending on whether you are on the east or west side of Yonge Street. If you have requested your booths to be side-by-side, this is usually no problem.

15. How much does a booth cost at the Street Festival?

We have five different pricing categories to select from and have described what each category includes. Please refer to the 2023 AURORA CHAMBER STREET FESTIVAL APPLICATION FOR BOOTH SPACE.

Please take advantage of the early bird price (before April 3, 2023).

16. What is included with my booth?

You are provided with 10 feet (wide) x 10 feet (deep) of space only. You are responsible for tables, chairs, garbage bins, canopies, signs, water and power. Your canopy MUST be held down with weighted items.

17. Can I choose my booth location?

You can indicate your location preference on your application. We will do our best to accommodate your request but reserve the right to place you where there is available space. We suggest purchasing your space as soon as possible, if you have a preferred location.

18. What if I need power at my booth?

You are welcome to bring a generator however; it must be classified as 'low noise'. You can rent generators at area hardware or tool rental stores. Check our Business Directory for options: www.aurorachamber.on.ca. Please bring an extension cord so that the generator can be moved as far back as possible to reduce noise.

19. What if it is raining on the day of the Festival?

The Festival happens rain or shine and goes ahead regardless of the weather. There are no refunds and all vendors are encouraged to still participate even if the weather forecast is not favourable.

20. What if I have questions or need assistance at the event?

Volunteers are on site at the Street Festival throughout the day. In the early morning, 'Block Captains' will mark the curb along Yonge Street with booth numbers indicating where vendors are to set up. These volunteers can be identified with bright yellow t-shirts. During the event Aurora Chamber of Commerce staff will be set-up in two locations: Yonge and Church Street on the east side, in front of the Aurora Public Library and Yonge and Brookland Avenue on the west side, in front of the LCBO.

21. When can I book my booth for the 2024 Aurora Chamber Street Festival?

Festival applications and information are available in January. Please visit www.aurorachamber.on.ca to take advantage of early-bird rates.

We look forward to having you join us at the Festival.