

McKellar Farm Producers' Market

End of season vendors meeting → October 24, 2010
Strawhouse Gallery
Pot Luck Lunch

The general sense of the vendors present was that the market was extremely successful as a first year endeavour. Those with booths at other markets such as Orillia, Rosseau, and Parry Sound indicated that the returns from this market rivaled their returns from the other more established markets.

Overall, there was an indication that this market was more enjoyable and was chosen over others for that particular reason.

Suggestions and recommendations that came out of the discussion;

- The hours for the market will be changed to: 9am – 1pm.
- A communal table will be set up for community members having a small amount of produce that is not worth selling yet they do not want to waste it. Items can be donated, marked with prices comparable to other vendors and the proceeds go to Harvest Share.
- Make an effort next year to get the outhouses cleaned before, not during, the market! Either early morning or the day before. When the wind was right this really put a damper on buying fresh food!!!!
- Have the roads crew level some of the hole in the park. Some are deep enough to trip people.
- Consider signage on the dock.
- Be sure to have signage at the Fair on Fair day.
- Consider moving under the rink roof on rain days and having clear signage to indicate such a rain day position. Also, such a move may be considered for September. But, general consensus was that Minerva park is ideal.
- A need to find more produce vendors is critical to keep momentum going.
- Put up a notice in Bying Inlet to attract blueberry sellers.
- Nice to have coffee for sale on site, or local sausages cooked.
- Students needing community volunteer hours may be used for collecting stats on numbers and origins of customers.
- Invite food vendors to be on jury for craft vendors.