



Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest Celebrates Glockenspiel Unveiling

DATE & TIME: Monday, October 5, 2015 - 11:30 am
PLACE: Speaker's Corner (Corner of Benton and King Street)
Kitchener, ON

Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest will proudly unveil the refurbished Glockenspiel, on Monday, October 5, 2015 at 11:30 am. The event will take place at Speaker's Corner, across from festival headquarters, at Charles and Benton Streets in Kitchener.

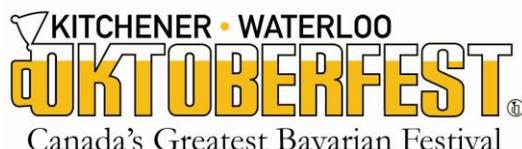
President of Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest, Alfred Lowrick, proclaims that, "the return of our Glockenspiel brings Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest immense joy and pride! It is a symbol of our community's rich German Heritage, which is an underpinning of our organization's mission statement. Canada's Greatest Bavarian Festival will be further enhanced by the ringing of its bells and the magnificent presentation of its animated characters. We deeply thank the City of Kitchener and the many contributors for their financial and in-kind support allowing K-W Oktoberfest Inc. to make this dream a reality."

The original 23-bell Glockenspiel was delivered from Holland in 1976 to the City of Kitchener and K-W Oktoberfest Inc. It was a structure situated 20 feet off the ground and attached to the former Canada Permanent Trust building at Speaker's Corner, in Kitchener, and featured an animatronic show depicting the fairy tale Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs. In 2009, the new owners of the former Canada Permanent Trust building required Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest to relocate the unit away from their premises; while, at the same time, the City of Kitchener was redesigning Speaker's Corner. The City, in co-operation with Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest, removed and stored the Glockenspiel with the intention of resurrecting it at a later date.

The Glockenspiel spent 6 years in storage, and underwent months of refurbishment by a Cincinnati, Ohio Firm. The newly refurbished Glockenspiel will once again be situated at Speaker's Corner, but this time will be mounted on a four metre-high, free-standing superstructure built by local contracting firm and Oktoberfest partner Melloul-Blamey. While the original Glockenspiel could play a single song, after the update, it will be able to perform a variety of songs. Its animated show will run once per day throughout the year, and hourly throughout the festival. Programmed seasonal music and lighting will keep audiences interested all year long. It will feature a refurbishment of the 23 bells, a new enclosure facade, a computerized control system, sound baffling, electrical service, landscaping, and a maintenance program.

About Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest

Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest is a not-for-profit Bavarian festival founded in 1969 by a group of volunteers committed to contributing to the social and economic vitality of Kitchener-Waterloo, Canada twin cities with German heritage. Canada's Greatest Bavarian Festival celebrates German heritage, food, music and festivities and is supported by more than 50 not-for-profit organizations. The festival is operated by eight year-round full-time staff, over 480 volunteers and 1,300 community and service club volunteers that stage the nine-day festival



each October promoting a unique German cultural experience. As well as the economic boost the festival gives the local economy during the international festival, over \$1.5 million is raised each year by the not-for-profit organizations associated with Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest, one of the top three most recognized event brands in Canada.

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For additional information:

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