



Local Ellen fans get ready to get their chicken dance on!

Kitchener, ON – June 16, 2010 – With 26,000 Facebook fans showing their support for talk show host Ellen DeGeneres to come to Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest as the Thanksgiving Day Parade Grand Marshal, local Ellen fans want to know- what else will it take to bring Ellen to Canada's Greatest Bavarian Festival.

A couple of weeks ago, the idea may have seemed like a far-fetched dream for Canadian Ellen DeGeneres fans but thanks to a short appearance on The Ellen Show and a steadily growing Facebook Fan Page, this far-fetched wish has people pulling their lederhosen out of the closet early in support of the campaign.

On Monday, May 10, the Kitchener Waterloo Oktoberfest Thanksgiving Day Parade made a short appearance on The Ellen Show during her "What's Wrong With This Photo" segment. The photo sent in by Sherri Douven from Kingston, Ontario, was taken at last year's Thanksgiving Day Parade and shows the back of a parade float with a rather phallic appearance.

Almost immediately a fanpage appeared on Facebook suggesting the funniest woman in daytime television see the float for herself at the 2010 Parade.

And now, local Ellen fans are ready to do more than just join a Facebook page; they will be taking it to the streets to get their chicken dance on in hopes of getting Ellen's attention to bring her to this year's Thanksgiving Day Parade.

On Thursday, June 24, all Ellen fans are invited to join a mass chicken dance taking place in front of Kitchener City Hall on King Street. The public is encouraged to wear their Oktoberfest gear, make signs to encourage Ellen to come and definitely bring their cameras.

- What:** Mass Chicken Dance in Support of Ellen DeGeneres for Parade Marshall of the 2010 Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest Thanksgiving Day Parade
- When:** Thursday, June 24, 2010 - 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.
(The event will go rain or shine, but will be cancelled if there are severe thunderstorms.)
- Where:** In front of Kitchener City Hall
- Who:** Some of the special guests include: Carlos and Adele from 91.5 The Beat, Onkel Hans, The Monkey Vault Stunt Team, Neil Aitchison, Mike Fischer on the accordion, local Bavarian Dance Groups, the now famous Lion's Club Lion Float and the new Beaver float.

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 435 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 \$21.1M annual 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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