



K-W Oktoberfest Announces New Executive Leadership

- **Chef D takes on Board President Role**

March 28, 2025 – KITCHENER, ON – [Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest](#) (KWO) is pleased to announce Darryl Fletcher (Chef D) as their new Board President.

He replaces Allan Cayenne, who has been in the role since 2022. “It is a great honour to become President of Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest,” shares Darryl. “I am thrilled to be working with a great team of people. Importantly, I would like to give a huge shout out to Allan for giving his ‘everything’ to the Festival for the past three years. We would not be in the positive position we are, without his hard work, dedication and passion for our organization and Festhallen partners. I am so looking forward to celebrating the 2025 Festival with everyone!”

At a meeting held last night after KWO’s annual general meeting, the Board elected a new executive leadership team including:

- President, Darryl Fletcher, Owner of [ChefD](#) Catering and Events
- Vice President, Rob Hesch, Vice President of Sales and Merchandising at [Brand Momentum](#)
- Second Vice President, Tim Hattle, Owner of [Hattle Framing](#)
- Treasurer, JoAnne McCormick, CEO of [CFO Partners](#)

Ex-Officio to the Executive leadership team is Past President, Allan Cayenne, Realtor at [eXp Realty](#) and Secretary, Tracy Van Kalsbeek, KWO’s Executive Director.

“K-W Oktoberfest has been, and will always be, a big part of my life,” shares Allan. “I’m incredibly proud of what we’ve accomplished together. As I transition out of this role, I am confident that the new leadership team will continue the important work of growing the Festival and elevating it to new and exciting heights.”

Enclosed: photo of Darryl Fletcher (Chef D).

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About [Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest](#)

The first Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest was celebrated in 1969 at Concordia Club in Kitchener, organized by a group of dedicated founders. The keg was tapped and history was made. Since then, Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest has developed its own traditions, becoming one of the largest Bavarian Festivals outside of Germany. Tens of thousands of visitors celebrate annually in our Festhallen, at local restaurants and by attending one of our many family and cultural events. More than just biergartens, Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest is committed to supporting the cultural, economic and social vitality of Waterloo Region, bringing millions of dollars in economic benefit to the Region each year. *Oktoberfest Cares* provides funding for charitable partners and supports Festival initiatives that enrich our community such as the Onkel Hans Food Drive and keep admission costs low or free for favourites including the Women of the Year celebration and family-friendly events like KIDtoberfest, Willkommen Platz and the Thanksgiving Day Parade. For more information visit www.oktoberfest.ca.

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