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## ONTARIO'S TOP 13 THEMED SUMMER FESTIVALS ARE BECKONING!

*Family and friends are summoned to flock to Ontario streets, beaches and parks*

ONTARIO (June 22, 2016) There's no better place to frolic this summer than at an Ontario festival. Festivals & Events Ontario (FEO) is happy to expose this summer's subset of FEO's Top100 festivals – each of these themed festival has something distinctive and unique to offer its guests! The kaleidoscope of festivities lying in wait for you range from tennis to telling tales to cacti to sandcastles. It's just so easy to be captivated by anyone of these festivals and events and there's something special for everyone.

This summer's Themed Festival Highlights include:

**Tall Ships Redpath Waterfront Festival presented by Ports Toronto** July 1 – July 3 (Toronto) [tewaterfrontfest.com](http://tewaterfrontfest.com) Awarded Level of Distinction by FEO. Enjoy an entire long weekend with a fleet of tall ships and their crews at the Redpath Waterfront Festival over Canada Day weekend. The festival welcomes the Royal Canadian Navy and international tall ships to Toronto's waterfront.

**Teddy Bear Picnic** July 12 (Thunder Bay) [thunderbay.ca/picnic](http://thunderbay.ca/picnic) Teddy bears and their owners are invited to gather at Vickers Park for the annual Teddy Bears Picnic. Entertainment and activities for children.

**Collingwood Elvis Festival** July 20 – July 24 (Collingwood) [collingwoodelvisfestival.com](http://collingwoodelvisfestival.com) A tourism event celebrating Elvis Presley, all music eras and genres, while offering variety programming for all ages, including concerts, parade, gospel worship service, competitions and vendors.

**Rogers Cup presented by National Bank** July 23 – July 31 (Toronto) [rogerscup.com](http://rogerscup.com) Awarded Level of Distinction and Best Volunteer of the Year Award by FEO. The best women's tennis players in the world return to Toronto for Rogers Cup presented by National Bank, one of the most important tournaments on the ATP calendar. Rexall Centre, York University.

**Brancroft Rockhound Gemboree** July 28 – July 31 (Bancroft) [bancroftdistrict.com](http://bancroftdistrict.com) All things mineral related. 200 vendors - rough rock to fine jewellery. Beginner to serious collectors - speakers demos, unique shopping. Collecting trips. Displays. Fun for all ages.

**Cobourg Sandcastle Festival** July 30 (Cobourg) [cobourgtourism.ca](http://cobourgtourism.ca) Dig up your shovels and pails and get down and dirty in Cobourg this summer for the 10th Annual Sandcastle Festival! Also come and enjoy a free movie on the beach at dusk.

**Kingston Sheep Dog Trials Festival** Aug 5 – Aug 7 (Kingston) [kingstonsheepdogtrials.com](http://kingstonsheepdogtrials.com) Aside from the trials, we invite locals and visitors to enjoy Dock Dogs Agility and other animal attractions including sheep shearing, spinning and craft demos and Sheep 2 Shawl competition. There's also an auction, children's area and much more!

**Dundas Cactus Festival** Aug 19 – Aug 21 (Dundas) [dundascactusfestival.ca](http://dundascactusfestival.ca) Come out and celebrate in historic downtown Dundas at this exciting FREE street festival! Live music on 4 stages, Kids Zone, midway, vendors, arts and inter-actives.

**Tweed Tribute to Elvis Festival** Aug 19 – Aug 21 (Tweed) [tweedelvisfestival.ca](http://tweedelvisfestival.ca) A themed competition for Elvis Tribute Artists plus associated events.

**Great Canadian Kayak Challenge & Festival** Aug 26 – Aug 28 (Timmins) [thegreatcanadiankayakchallenge.ca](http://thegreatcanadiankayakchallenge.ca) 3 days of kayak races/seminars and clinics, live entertainment, fireworks, Family Paddle Shore lunch and rubber duck race. FREE activities for kids, displays, 3 stunt shows by the Summer Water Sports Company.

**Meaford Scarecrow Invasion** Sept 16 – Oct 16 (Meaford) [scarecrowinvasion.ca](http://scarecrowinvasion.ca) “Scarecrows Celebrate 20 Years with Music” is the theme of the Meaford Scarecrow Invasion & Family Festival 2016. Scarecrows invade for a month and Sept. 30 is the famous parade and family festival.

**Telling Tales – A Family Festival of Stories** Sept 20 – Sept 24 (Hamilton) [tellingtales.org](http://tellingtales.org) In its 7th year, this inspiring free family festival celebrates the best of Canadian children's authors and illustrators in a beautiful historic village - for babies to teens.

**International Plowing Match & Rural Expo** Sept 20 – Sept 24 (Harriston) [plowingmatch.org/home-2016](http://plowingmatch.org/home-2016) Awarded Level of Distinction by FEO. Join us for the International Plowing Match with One thousand acres of farmers' field will transform into the Tented City, RV Park, Plowing Competition Fields and parking areas. We look forward to welcoming you!

There's always something to celebrate in Ontario! Visit [www.festivalsandeventsontario.ca](http://www.festivalsandeventsontario.ca) to find a complete listing of this year's Top100 Festivals and Events in Ontario and more.

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**About Festivals & Events Ontario**

Festivals & Events Ontario (FEO) provides education, marketing and advocacy services and operates Canada's largest dedicated festival and event Conference. FEO also publishes and distributes an annual 225,000 circulation (plus on-line exposure) consumer guide to Ontario festivals & events, another guide to promote its industry supplier goods and services, facilitates industry-leading marketing research, oversees an industry leading awards recognition program., manages a dynamic on-line website, markets a weekly festivals & events industry news-brief with a distribution exceeding 2,500 email recipients and advocates at the provincial and federal level for an improved operating environment within which its members can successfully conduct their business.