

**Experience Garlic in the 60s, (1860s)
at the
7th Annual
TORONTO GARLIC FESTIVAL
Sunday, September 17, 2017
Artscape Wychwood Barns
601 Christie Street, Toronto**

(Toronto - June 28, 2017) Experience Garlic in the 60s, (1860s) at the 7th annual Toronto Garlic Festival. The humble garlic bulb has come a long way in Ontario's history. Indeed garlic's Toronto history can be traced from the gardens outside the mess kitchen at Fort York in the 19th century to the post war slums of The Ward and out of the suitcases of the 1970s immigrant wave to Toronto. This sturdy and determined bulb, garlic, is now the unlikely star of its own annual celebration taking place this year at Artscape Wychwood Barns on Sunday, September 17, 2017.

Because its 2017, the year of Canada's 150th Anniversary of Confederation, special programming has been curated to enlighten garlic lovers on the history surrounding the mystery of garlic. In the Speakers' Corner, talks like Garlic Taste and Temperance in the City of York, 19thC and, Wild Garlic from the POV of The First Nations and European explorers, will discuss the use of wild garlic by First Nations in 18th and 19th century Canada and the restrictive European use of garlic as a tonic until post-war immigration helped to create a wider appreciation of garlic in cooking. On the Music Stage, a curated series of artists will perform songs from many of the cultures that spread their appreciation of garlic across Toronto, Ontario and beyond.

Getting back to the future, a 360 Virtual Reality Farm Tour returns this year to immerse visitors in a cathartic garlic harvesting experience and in real life the celebrity of the festival - Ontario garlic - will be available in spades to be purchased directly from Ontario farmers and purveyors, along with garlic jams, jellies, preserves, sauces, spirits and Ontario wine and beer.

Festival founder, author and garlic farmer Peter McClusky proudly proclaimed, "Garlic-laden dishes prepared at this year's festival will include wild garlic bannock, bison and garlic sausage, even a wild garlic and berry ice-cream and are creations that are just not available at other garlic festivals around the world." McClusky continued, "With an increasing number of festival visitors attending from outside the province, we're pleased to offer garlic inspired cuisine and merchandise that reflects the rich diversity of not only garlic, but of those who grow, harvest and produce value-add garlic products in Ontario."

Other festival activities include the infamous Garlic Breath Contest, the popular Raw Garlic Shot Station, Garlic Braiding and Art Workshops, cooking demos, film screenings Symphony of the Soil, Dance Me Outside & The Don Francks & Family Documentary Freedom Family; special

guest appearances by Chef Justin Cournoyer, ecologist Sarah Hargreaves, and food advocate David Cohlmeier, among others.

This year the Festival is excited to have NOW Magazine as the Volunteer Team sponsor. Members of the NOW Magazine Festival Volunteer Team will be on hand all day to answer visitor questions and point out Festival highlights.

Sunday, September 17, 2017 from 9 am to 5 pm.

Artscape Wychwood Barns is located at 601 Christie Street, Toronto, ON M6G 4C7, less than 10 minute walk west from the St. Clair West Subway station.

Street and metred parking nearby. Wheelchair accessible.

Admission is \$5.00 per adult. Children 12 and under are free.

<http://www.TorontoGarlicFestival.ca>

Facebook: Toronto Garlic Festival

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Get images and logo at <http://www.torontogarlicfestival.ca/toronto-garlic-festival-logo/>

For more info, set up interviews, enquire about media accreditation:

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