Markdale Agricultural Society

August 22nd-23rd, 2025

Ambassador Program Booklet

Markdale Fall Fair Location: 75 Walker Street, Markdale, ON

Written By: Megan Teeter, Ambassador Committee Chair, MAS Executive Director

Markdale Fall Fair 2025

Ambassador FRIDAY Schedule

Please arrive no later than 4pm, on Friday, August 22nd, 2025
to the King Edward Park complex.
Location: 75 Walker Street, Markdale, ON

4pm - Arrive at the arena

430pm - Interviews will start. You will meet with the judges to discuss yourself, the fair, community involvement, etc. Questions will be based off your biography answers and information given from the online registration form.

5pm - After all contestants have been interviewed, judges, contestants and a few MAS board members will attend a dinner, location TBC. Mode of transportation will be walking or provided by MAS board members.

630pm - The group will return from dinner, giving contestants time for outfit changes, speech run throughs and releasing last minute jitters before heading upstairs for the 167th Markdale Fall Fair Opening Ceremonies.

7pm – Opening Ceremonies!
The ceremony includes:
-community intros
-contestants intros and speeches
-entertainment/music
-farewell speeches
-crowning of new ambassadors (includes quick thank you's and photos)

Markdale Fall Fair 2025

Ambassador SATURDAY Schedule

Saturday, August 23rd, 2025
Location: 75 Walker Street, Markdale, ON

9am to 10pm - Arrive back to the Arena for the Saturday events
Saturday includes:
-horse show
-cattle show
-dog show
-pet show
-line dancing
-touch the truck
-obstacle course
-inflatables
-fair draws
-exhibits
-live music
and so much more!

Remember to bring:
- Sash and Crown
- Sunscreen/Sunglasses/Hat
- Change of clothes (weather changes)
- Closed-toe shoes/boots (could be helping at cow and horse shows)
- Smiles!

You will be walking around the grounds, taking photos, talking to the public, handing ribbons, pulling tickets for draws and more!

Markdale Fall Fair 2025

Ambassador Information

Ambassador Speeches Information

Topic:
The ambassador competition speech topics must relate to the year's Fall Fair theme.

2025 - "Celebrating the Bounty of Grey County"

Junior Speech topic: How has Grey County helped you grow, meet friends, learn more about agriculture?

Senior Speech topic: The benefits of agriculture education in public school systems (primary and secondary, into post-secondary), the importance of learning agriculture from a young age.

Duration:
Junior: 3-5 minutes
Senior: 6-8 minutes

Tips:
-Practice! Practice! Practice! Go over your speech multiple times to practice length and word pronunciation.
-Use cue cards! Have point form notes about your topics and refer to them to keep you on track.
-Eye contact! Take a look around the audience while your talking, it keeps everyone engaged in your speech.
-Keep your speech interesting! Use personal stories, hooks, and interesting facts to keep the audience interested.
-Introduce yourself! Within the first few sentences, introduce yourself and your background.
-Avoid using ChatGPT and AI technology. The speech should be personal to your experiences and knowledge. Write about your involvement towards the topic/how it applies to and impacts your life positively.

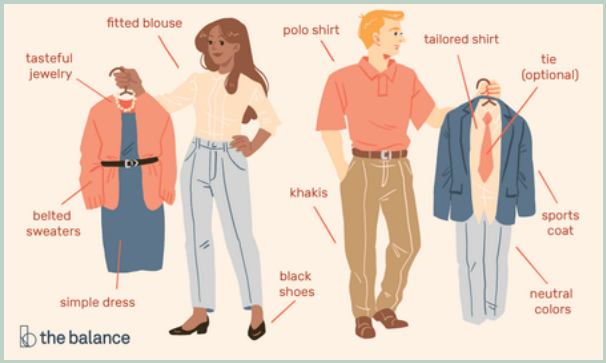
Links to help write your speech:
https://ca.indeed.com/career-advice/career-development/speech-writing
https://www.grammarly.com/blog/how-to-write-a-speech/
https://www.toastmasters.org/magazine/magazine-issues/2019/oct/prep-talk

Markdale Ag Society Ambassador Information

Outfit Tips and Tricks

Outfits:

Friday: Interviews: Business Casual



Opening Ceremonies: Dressier/Fancy

Saturday: Weather permitted, Walking/Photos at the fair: Business Casual

- Pick outfits that present yourself in a business/professional way. Your clothes will help you feel confident during your interview and time on stage.
- Pick shoes that are comfortable yet professional. If your clothes/dress show your shoes, then be aware they will be seen on stage and in photos.
- Do not wear blue jeans to the interview portion. Avoid destressed pants with rips and patterns. Neutral-coloured dress pants, skirts and slacks are more professional.

Markdale Ag Society Ambassador Information

Frequently Asked Questions:

What is an ambassador?
An ambassador is a youth leader for an Agricultural Society, and they represent their fair and community for the year they hold the title. They attend various local events and fundraising throughout the year.

Who could be a fair ambassador?
Competitors can be male or female, thus allowing all young people the chance to experience this wonderful program. Everyone has an equally chance to be ambassador, regardless of Agricultural experience. The individual should have a passion for leadership, volunteering, and community involvement.

What are the Age Requirements to be an ambassador?
- Junior Ambassador 9-15
- Senior Ambassador 17-23 (18 years to attend CNE)

Senior Ambassador receives a $1000 bursary. 50% awarded Friday of the fair, 50% awarded August of the following year.

What are the roles of the ambassador?
- Represent your Ag Society with pride
- You are the Youth face of the fair – smile, take pictures, talk with people at the fair and don't hesitate to lend a hand in activities at the fair and events you attend.
- Attend events within your community for pictures
- Handing out ribbons, prizes during shows at the fair

What are events you could attend during the year:
- Markdale Fall Fair weekend
- Markdale Santa Claus Parade
- Markdale Classic Car Show
- District Spring and Fall Meetings
- Fundraising events within the community
- Local fairs and parades (by invitation)
- Senior Ambassador Extra Events: OAAS, CNE

School always comes first. Most events are not strictly required but offered to the ambassador at their own schedule

What are the future opportunities after becoming an ambassador?
- Looks great on a resume
- Take-away many interactions and public speaking confidence
- Building lifelong friendships
- Become a part of one of the longest events in the history of Markdale
- Opportunity to join the Agricultural Society board and volunteer in future fairs