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Record crowds showed up for this year's Taste of Manotick event hosted by the Manotick BIA Sat., Sept. 13. For more on the event and photos, see pages 12-13.



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# Taste of Manotick a record-breaking celebration

BY KELLY BELAIR  
MANOTICK BIA

Main Street came alive on Saturday, September 13, as thousands gathered for the 2025 edition of Taste of Manotick. The annual open-air street party drew record-breaking crowds, transforming the heart of the village into a bustling showcase of food, music, shopping, and community spirit. From local restaurants and boutiques to lively performers and family-friendly activities, the event once again highlighted the strength and vibrancy of Manotick's business community.

This year's celebration featured more than 60 participating businesses, each bringing something special to the table. Guests strolled the closed streets, sampling signature dishes, exploring unique retail finds, and connecting with



Greg Newton and Manotick BIA photo

**Taste of Manotick gives local residents and visitors a chance to celebrate Manotick and to see what services and businesses have to offer.**

business owners.

The \$3 sampling tickets proved especially popular, with one dollar from each ticket going to ROSSS Meals on Wheels and local school breakfast programs — ensuring the event not only entertained but also gave back. Thanks to the generosity of attendees, more than \$12,000 was raised for local charities,

making this year's festival one of the most impactful yet.

Volunteers played a vital role in making the day a success. The Manotick Village Community Association (MVCA) partnered with the Manotick BIA to support ticket sales and provide friendly faces throughout the festival.

BIA, SEE PAGE 13



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BIA, FROM PAGE 12

Ottawa Fire Services and Ottawa Police were on hand to engage with visitors, while a special thank-you goes to Ken Gordon Holdings for their generous support.

The Ottawa Mission also benefited, thanks to Hannah Hempinstall, car show organizer for the Shay Way Memorial Car Show — a powerful reminder that Taste of Manotick is about community as much as flavour.

Entertainment abounded across Main Street. Live performances, interactive activities, and family zones ensured that there was something for

everyone.

- Pet lovers flocked to the Pucci Parlour Dog Show.
- Car enthusiasts admired gleaming classics in the Shay Way Memorial Car Show.
- Children joined obstacle courses and games led by local groups.

For many, the joy came from simply walking down Main Street, seeing familiar faces, and meeting new ones in a festive and welcoming atmosphere.

A highlight of this year's celebration was the One Ticket Challenge, where festival-goers voted for their favourite sample item from participating restaurants.

After many ballots were cast, the competition Black Dog Bistro earned top honours, winning the inaugural Golden Ticket Award. It was a close and spirited contest, receiving overwhelming support from guests.

Support from local sponsors and partners helped bring the event to life. Businesses such as Manotick Garage, with thanks to Tom Hilliard, lent their backing, while Bobby B Productions contributed to the event atmosphere.

The collaboration between business owners, volunteers, residents, and visitors created the unique sense of connection that Taste of Manotick

has become known for.

The turnout was nothing short of extraordinary. Organizers estimate that this year's attendance set a new record, underscoring the appetite for events that bring people together to celebrate local talent, food, and culture.

The epic crowd reflected both the growing reputation of Taste of Manotick and the commitment of the entire community to making it an unforgettable day.

Taste of Manotick will return next year, promising even more opportunities to explore, taste, and connect. Until then, the impact of this year's record-breaking event will



Greg Newton and Manotick BIA photo

**There was music, food, dancing, a classic car show and entertainment on the streets as a record crowd turned up for the Manotick BIA's annual A Taste of Manotick event.**

linger — in the new connections formed, the local causes supported, and the memories created along Main Street.

Stay tuned for details on the next Manotick BIA celebration: Women's Day, coming November 1, 2025.

## For more than 160 years, Indigenous children were forced into Indian Residential Schools.

September 30 is National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, a day to learn about the 150,000 childhoods lost to Canada's Indian Residential School system.

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