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OFT NEWSLETTER



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Special points of interest:

- Construction Update
- OFT Backup Generators
- Ontario Food Terminal Facts
- September Tours

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South East End Docks /Compactor Waste Station and Cold Storage Receiving/Shipping Areas Construction

During the month of November, the contractor will be working on conduit and plumbing work for the south east dock extension, new compactor station building and the original cold storage receiving/shipping dock extension. Thereafter, the contractor will pour the concrete dock floors, the new entrance staircase and accessible ramp prior to the cold winter temperatures.



Ontario Food Terminal Backup Generators:

The Board is re-investigating the feasibility of installing diesel powered backup generators at the Terminal. We are examining two options: firstly; a system that would provide power to the entire facility and secondly; a smaller system that would provide minimal operating power for lighting and plate operation.



Stay tuned for further updates!



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DID YOU KNOW? Ontario Food Terminal Facts

- The largest wholesale fruit and produce distribution centre (40 acres) in Canada
- A unique asset and public health jewel of Ontario
- A Self-funding Board Governed Agency of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs
- Your source for fresh quality fruits, vegetables and horticultural products on a wholesale basis only
- Supporting the “BUY LOCAL” movement since 1954
- The terminal site consists of a Farmer’s Market area with 550 stalls, Warehouse units area, office units, a central cold storage that is 100,000 square feet in size, two restaurants and a parking deck providing 550 car-parking spaces while covering 4 acres of Farmers’ Market stalls
- Participants at the Terminal consist of over 5,000 Registered Buyers, 20 Warehouse tenants, 400 Farmers’ Market tenants and 50 Office Tenants
- Over 2 Billion pounds of produce distributed annually which is on average 5.6 million pounds per day
- It is estimated that over one million vehicles enter the Terminal annually
- The OFT is an economic generator, for every dollar of sales, about three dollars was returned to the Ontario Economy
- The existence of the OFT has a direct impact on the price consumers pay for their fresh fruits and vegetables
- For every truckload sold on site, it is estimated that 2 to 3 truckloads are directly delivered to the retailer from the farm or from the warehouse tenant’s offsite warehouse
- With over 5,000 registered buyers employing a minimum of 20 persons per buyer, the facility contributes at least 100,000 direct and indirect jobs to the Ontario Economy, this number does not take into account farm employment of both direct and indirect nor does it include those employed at the Terminal itself or the service jobs that support those businesses at the OFT, the farms or the retailers
- The Terminal is the stock exchange of fruits and vegetables where prices are determined by supply and demand and change daily
- The Terminal supports local farmers, local fruit and vegetable stores, independent and chain supermarkets, retailers, restaurateurs, foodservice, caterers, farmers’ markets, farm gate markets, florists, garden centres, landscapers, convenience stores and institutions
- Farmers come in as far north as Cold Water, from Leamington to the west, from Kingston to the east and Fort Erie to the south
- The Terminal serves buyers all over Ontario, New Brunswick, P.E.I., Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, Quebec, British Columbia, Alberta and Manitoba as well as northeastern US

Tours in October

The Ontario Food Terminal Board welcomed students from the University of Guelph, Durham College, the Canadian Federation of Independent Grocers, and Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs and explained the economic importance of the Ontario Food Terminal and how it operates.