VITCHENER · WATERLOO

INAUGURAL OKTOBERFEST BLOCK PARTY

• Canadian Country Rock Band The Road Hammers Hit the Stage

• Featuring The Golden Keys, The Western Swing Authority and German sensation Dorfrocker

In Support of Oktoberfest Cares

August 1, 2023 – KITCHENER, ON – <u>Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest</u> is pleased to announce its inaugural <u>Oktoberfest</u> <u>Block Party</u>, complete with an entertaining mix of German and country live performances.

Mark your calendars for October 5th, break out your cowboy boots and bring your friends and family downtown to the Willkommen Platz (new location at the Gaukel Block) as <u>The Road Hammers</u> hit the stage! That said, don't forget to don your lederhosen and dirndls too, as this amazing event will feature authentic German entertainment from the <u>Golden Keys</u> and local favourite, <u>The Western Swing Authority</u>. Plus, some surprise guests will be making special appearances including, <u>Dorfrocker</u>, all the way from Germany – you won't want to miss out!

"So many incredible memories are waiting to happen at this year's Block Party!" shares new Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest Executive Director, Tracy Van Kalsbeek. "You'll be able to raise your stein with Craft and German biers in the Willkommen Platz Biergarten, savour authentic German cuisine from our food vendors, shop at our local vendor market, all the while singing along in front of the stage with these wunderbar bands – Oktoberfest is bringing the best of it to DTK!"

The Oktoberfest Block Party's presenting radio partner, Country106.7, will be hosting contest opportunities with "meet and greet" passes with The Road Hammers – including their front man Jason McCoy who was recently inducted into the <u>Canadian Country Music Hall of Fame</u>.

"For 55 years, K-W Oktoberfest has celebrated this Region's Bavarian roots through food, music and festivities," adds Allan Cayenne, Board President of Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest. "As our Festival turns an eye to the future, we remain true to our Bavarian theme and look to share and celebrate our diverse and local culture through welcoming and inclusive events for locals and visitors – just like this one."

TICKET INFORMATION

DATE: Thursday, October 5, 2023 TIME: 4:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m. LOCATION: Willkommen Platz Biergarten at the Gaukel Block (44 Gaukel Street, Kitchener) TICKETS ON SALE NOW: at early bird prices of \$22.00 <u>https://www.oktoberfest.ca/tickets/</u> *This event is 19 years+. The <u>Oktoberfest Block Party</u> is being hosted in support of <u>Oktoberfest Cares</u>*

PHOTOS ENCLOSED OF THE ROAD HAMMERS, GOLDEN KEYS, DORFROCKER AND THE WESTERN SWING AUTHORITY

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About Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest

The first Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest was celebrated in 1969 at Concordia Club in Kitchener, organized by a group of dedicated founders. The keg was tapped and history was made. Since then, Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest has developed its own traditions, becoming one of the largest Bavarian festivals outside of Germany. Hundreds of thousands of visitors celebrate annually in our Festhallen, at local restaurants and by attending one of our several family and cultural events, including the annual Willkommen Platz and the Thanksgiving Day Parade. More than just biergartens, Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest is committed to supporting the cultural, economic and social vitality of Waterloo Region, bringing millions of dollars in economic benefit to the region each year. Through the Oktoberfest Cares initiative, the festival supports local charities and other not-for-profit organizations, partners with over 50 local hospitality businesses, and raises funds to donate meals to the Waterloo Region Food Bank through the Onkel Hans Food Drive. For more information visit oktoberfest.ca.

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