

Revised April 2010



Background & Operating Rules

The Bulkley Valley Farmers' Market Association operates the Bulkley Valley Farmers' Market each summer in Smithers. The association has the exclusive use of the Central Park Building parking lot at 1425 Main St. (at the corner of Highway 16) on **Saturdays from 8am to 12 pm**. The Town of Smithers requires all vendors on the site during that period to follow the BVFMA rules.

Mission Statement

The Bulkley Valley Farmers' Market Association provides an opportunity for people to buy and sell products that have been locally made, baked or grown; and enjoy a quality experience that facilitates community education and development.

Our vision is a community in which:

- A vibrant, well-organized, year-round market is fully supported by the community;
- Local production is economically viable and meets local needs; and
- Locally produced goods are people's first choice.

The objective of the market is to educate and encourage local production by providing an outlet for local farm produce, crafts and products of cottage industry.

The Association charges membership and stall rental fees which pay for liability insurance, a business license, promotion, special events, musicians, canopies, a part-time manager and membership in the B.C. Association of Farmers' Markets.



The Market hosts special events such as Kid's Day.

Vendor Rules and Guidelines...

Make, Bake, or Grow It

1. Products sold at the market must be grown, raised, made or baked by the vendor. Each vendor will display a sign showing the name of the farmer, farm or craftsperson and its location.
2. The BVFMA reserves the right to refuse vendors selling items not suiting the flavour or theme of the market.
3. Vendors are encouraged to offer high quality produce and crafts.
4. Stall sharing is acceptable for vendors from neighbouring farms which do not have enough produce to justify renting their own stalls.
5. Produce sold as Certified Organic must be produced at a farm certified under the BC Food Choice and Disclosure Act Organic Agricultural Products Regulations.
6. Used goods of any sort will not be sold at the market.
7. Vendors of food are advised that health regulations may apply to their products. Guidelines are available from the Market Manager.
8. Collusion among vendors to raise or lower prices or to pressure other vendors to raise or lower prices is forbidden.
9. Anyone interested in coming to the market with educational materials (compatible with the market objectives) must book one week ahead with the market manager. A stall near the centre will be allocated for this purpose. No petitions, raffle tickets, etc. will be permitted.

Operation of the Market...



Bedding plant and other starters are available at the market.

10. The market operates each Saturday morning from early May (Mother's Day weekend) until the end of September. The first market will be on May 8th this year.
11. Vendors should expect to set-up any time after 6:45am.
12. Selling will start at 8am (**no early sales please so that all vendors have the opportunity to set up, vehicles can be removed from public area and reduce danger to customers**).
13. The market ends at noon, when a vendor is sold out, or rain forces closure. Vendors who intend to leave before noon should ask to be located near the market entrance so she/he can leave without interfering with the operation of the market. No vehicles are allowed to enter or leave the inner market area between 8am and noon. Vendors located away from the entrance area who wish to leave early must carry out their stand etc.

Stall and Canopy Rental...

14. Vendors requiring canopies must pick them up from the market trailer on the site and erect and dismantle them themselves. **Erecting and dismantling canopies without risking damage requires two people.** Please help your neighbour and she/he will probably help you. Also, please take care when storing canopies.
15. Vendors who pay stall rental fees in advance for a minimum of four consecutive weeks will have specific space and canopies reserved for them. Reserved space not in use by 8am on market day will be allocated to occasional vendors. The BVFMA appreciates that vendors with reserved space who are unable to be at a market notify the manager so the market layout can be adjusted and the canopies re-allocated.
16. All space not reserved under rule #4 is available on a first-come-first served basis to eligible vendors.
17. The market manager will direct the placement of vendors and collect fees. Do not set up your stand until the stall spaces have been marked out and a site assigned to you.
18. Vendors will keep their sales areas clean and tidy and remove all equipment, produce, trimmings, wrappings, containers etc. when vacating them.

2010 Executive:

President:

Manfred Wittwer (846-5168)

Vice-President:

Mark Fisher (846-9045)

Secretary-Treasurer:

Megan D'Arcy (847-8832)

Directors:

Arlene Huisman (847-4537)

Nancy Duursma (846-5311)

Alicen Keamarden (847-4119)

Franzi Cody (846-5436)

Bob Chapman (847-3719)

Carli Heinrichs (846-5985)



Fresh, locally grown produce is available at the market.

We're on the Web!

www.bvfarmersmarket.com

Renting Stalls at the BVFMA

All vendors products must fit the 'make, bake, or grow' theme of the market as required by the BVFMA membership in the BC Association of Farmers Markets. Vendors must therefore have personally made, baked, or grown their products. A vendor may also sell some products that were made, baked, or grown by a personal friend, family member, or member in the same organization as the vendor.

Vendors who own their own business may sell at the market if their business is based from their home or farm, and if they are in compliance with the make, bake or grow rule.

Community groups and/or non-profit associations may sell at the

market if they meet the make, bake or grow criteria and hold at least one BVFMA membership.

Information tables: Anyone interested in coming to the market with educational materials must be compatible with the market objectives. Information tables must therefore promoting farming, local food production and distribution, local artisans, crafts, other local cottage industry in some way. No petitions, raffle tickets, etc. will be permitted. This rule is interpreted and applied by the current market manager. A stall near the centre will be allocated for this purpose and can be booked one week in advance with the market manager.

Membership & Rental Fees...

The Benefits of Joining the BVFMA...

- participate in setting rules and policies and making decisions on the Market's future
- increased exposure for advertising
- coverage under the general liability insurance for the Farmers' Market and access to reasonably priced product liability insurance (individual membership to the BC Association of Farmers' Markets is also required)

Membership in the BVFMA:

\$25.00 per year ending April 30, 2009 – **required for all vendors** (voting membership)

\$15.00 per year ending April 30, 2009 for associate members (community-based, non-voting)

Market Stall Space Rental:

BVFMA members \$15.00 week

Canopies: \$15.00 per week (members have first priority, otherwise canopies are allocated on a first-come-first-served basis)

Plug rental: \$3.00 per plug per week

Children under the age of 16 with products meeting the criteria in #13 may share space at the centre of the market for \$5 each, first-come-first-served as space is available.

Community groups selling items meeting the market rules pay 1/2 price if they take a space remaining vacant at 8am. By paying the full rental rate they can rent any unreserved market space

General Rules for Vendors & Customers:

No dogs are permitted within the market area.

Selling or giving away dogs, cats or any type of livestock at the market is not permitted.



Tomatoes & other greenhouse produce are abundant throughout the season.