



## Greater Niagara Fishing Expo moving to February 2021

Date change in response to COVID-19

The Greater Niagara Fishing and Outdoor Expo, one of the largest pure-fishing shows in the Great Lakes, is postponing its popular event at the Conference and Event Center Niagara Falls due to COVID-19. Conference Center officials are following New York state guidelines, as well as Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommendations, regarding what protocols need to be followed in an effort to keep attendees, vendors and Conference Center staff safe.

The new date for the show is Feb. 19-21, 2021, although hosting the expo on these dates is contingent upon a number of factors related to COVID-19, including state approvals, recommended protocols and allowable numbers of people in the facility.

"We are meeting daily and actively monitoring COVID-19 guidelines and recommendations in hopes of putting on a safe show for everyone," said Melissa Gearhart, director of sales for the Conference Center and show manager for the expo. "Our fingers are crossed that we'll have enough time to put together the expo and hit the pre-2021 fishing season window. Our goal is to present one of the best fishing shows in the Great Lakes as we all need something positive to look forward to given the challenges that we all endured in 2020."

The Greater Niagara Fishing Expo is not just another outdoor trade show. "Teaching Fishing" is what this show was built around and what makes it unique. The



File photo

show facility provides a unique blend of a spacious exhibitor event center and a multitude of seminar rooms, all utilizing state-of-the-art technology. The show, in its eighth year, utilizes these rooms to deliver up to 18 classes concurrently, each targeting different topics for various levels of expertise.

The rescheduled February date also includes the Lake Ontario Trout and Salmon Association's Salmon School, which will be altering its date from Jan. 16 to Feb. 20. For a list of featured speakers, visit [www.lotsa1.org](http://www.lotsa1.org).

With uncertainties revolving around the opening of the Canadian border and required quarantines for those traveling from states that have a significant degree of communitywide spread of COVID-19, as well as predicting where the virus will be in four to five months, the Conference

Center is taking a conservative approach in the interest of safety.

"This decision is not taken lightly," Conference Center General Manager Jason Murgia said. "The Greater Niagara Fishing and Outdoor Expo is a massive economic catalyst for our local community during the winter, putting heads on beds and people in the local restaurants."

For more information on the Greater Niagara Fishing and Outdoor Expo, visit [www.niagarafishingexpo.com](http://www.niagarafishingexpo.com) or follow on Facebook.

Destination Niagara USA works to ensure Niagara County is a preferred international destination for group and leisure travel. It supports a mission to expand the economic prosperity of Niagara County by generating individual and group visitation. For more information, visit [www.NiagaraFallUSA.com](http://www.NiagaraFallUSA.com).

## Heart, Love & Soul receives donation from Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints



Pam Dixon runs the forklift moving the donation of food made to Heart, Love & Soul by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

On Wednesday, Heart, Love & Soul Executive Director Mark Baetzhold and Assistant Executive Director Pam Dixon received a donation of 4,500 pounds of non-perishable canned and dried food commodities from The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Delivery assistance came from the local Niagara Falls ward and its members, and the team from Buffalo Tungsten, which has been housing and distributing the food deliveries in Western New York.

Heart, Love & Soul, located at 939 Ontario Ave., Niagara Falls, serves hundreds of clients each month, especially in its dining room (which is presently takeout-only) and pantry.

Baetzhold and Dixon both expressed gratitude for the generous gift of food and said it would be put to good use feeding those

in need.

The ninth and final food delivery was in commemoration of the 200th anniversary of the first vision of Joseph Smith, who became the founder of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. This donation was given commemorating the contribution the state of New York made as the "cradle" to The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

The church states Smith's first vision took place in Palmyra – about 90 miles from Niagara Falls – in early April 1820.

The donation to Heart, Love & Soul was one of 200 made throughout New York. More than 1.6 million pounds was donated statewide to 200 found pantries. The products given included chili, green beans, salsa, spaghetti sauce, macaroni, spaghetti and dried mashed potatoes.

The chapel for the Niagara Falls ward is located at 754 Scovell Drive, Lewiston. Its bishop, Jared Beggs, helped to organize the delivery to Heart, Love & Soul.

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