

Tourism Advisory Panel – Request for Funding Application (Tourism Event)



Applicant Information	
Organization	GANANOQUE INTERNATIONAL FOOD FESTIVAL
Contact Name	OLGA LAZOR
Title	COORDINATOR
Address	808-510 CANATARA CRT. KINGSTON
Phone #	613-770-7951
Email	babciagofish@gmail.com
Event Website	
Event Information	
Event Name	GANANOQUE INTERNATIONAL FOOD FESTIVAL
Event Dates	SEPTEMBER 19, 2026
Event Organizer Name	OLGA LAZOR
Event Organizer Phone #	613-770-7951
Event Organizer Email	babciagofish@gmail.com
Funding Amount Requested	\$ 2,500.00

Tourism Advisory Panel – Request for Funding Application (Tourism Event) Continued



Please provide a description of event (300 words).

If there is not enough space, please answer the question on a separate page.

Local food testing festival involving local food restaurants and vendors in Gananoque & area. Visitors have the opportunity to taste test food when they buy a ticket for \$3.00 for a sample. We are planning on having around 3,000 visitors for this festival. We are also planning on having artisans, crafters, local musicians and dancers. Restaurants can also sell food or preserves give visitors samples, discounts, and coupons. Farmers would sell vegetables, fruits, maple syrup, honey, cheese, baked goods and so on. The festival is planning to involve multicultural food; Indian, Vietnamese, Ukrainian, Iranian, Mexican, Jamaican. Organizers are planning to involve volunteers from Gananoque Secondary School and the Gananoque Seniors Association.

Additional items to be attached to the application:

- List of Board of Directors or Event Organizing Committee including emails and phone numbers
- Full Schedule of Events
- Detailed Event Budget/Financial Plan
- Please provide 2 letters of support from organizations and partners that support the project.
- The Town of Gananoque reserves the right to ask for copies of receipts validating expense claims.

Tourism Advisory Panel – Request for Funding Application (Tourism Event) Continued



If there is not enough space, please answer the questions below on a separate page.

1. Has this event been hosted before? If yes, when and where?

Yes, last year in Town Park. It was very successful.

2. Who is your target market/audience?

Local, visitors, tourists, foodies. Target boat line, golf clubs, Army Base, Kingston, Ottawa, Toronto area tourist organizations. Also USA Water town and upper New York State.

3. Estimated # of tourists/visitors your event will attract to Gananoque (from 40+km away)

3,000 + local


4. How and where will the event be advertised/marketed?

Facebook, Instagram, Radio, Posters, 401 billboard



You agree that the information provide in this application is accurate. This is an application for funding and does not guarantee funding approval. Should the TAP and Council approve funding to your event, a funding agreement outlining the details of the funding and any associated recognition will be signed by both the Town of Gananoque and the organization receiving the funding.

Date: June 2, 2026 Title: COORDINATOR

Name: Olga LAZOR Signature: 

Completed application (with all requested attachments) to be submitted to:

Attention: Tourism Advisory Panel

30 King St. East, Gananoque, ON K7G 1E9

Phone: 613-382-2149 ext. 1125

Email: businesscoordinator@gananoque.ca

Jennifer Baril
Tourism & Event Development Coordinator
Town of Gananoque
jbaril@gananoque.ca
613-888-3623

June 2, 2026

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the Local Food Tasting Multicultural Festival, taking place on September 19th in Gananoque Town Park. This vibrant event offers a unique opportunity to celebrate the diverse cultures that enrich our community through food, music, art, and storytelling.

As someone who is deeply committed to fostering inclusivity, tourism, and community spirit in Gananoque and the 1000 Islands region, I believe this festival will play a meaningful role in bringing people together, encouraging cultural exchange, and supporting local food vendors and artisans. Events like this not only build stronger community connections but also contribute to the local economy and highlight the region as a welcoming destination for residents and visitors alike.

I commend the organizers for their vision and dedication to celebrating multiculturalism in such a delicious and engaging way, and I look forward to seeing the positive impact this festival will have on our town.

Warm regards,



Jennifer Baril

Crafts on the River September 27 - 28

Revenue		Expenses	
TAP	\$ 2,500.00	Facility Rental	\$ 200.00
		Insurance & Administration	\$ 800.00
		Entertainment	\$ 4,000.00
<hr/>		<hr/>	
	\$2,500.00		\$ 5,000.00



June 8, 2026

International Food Festival

Dear members of TAP,

I am pleased to provide this letter of support for Olga Lazor's International Food Festival and her efforts to continue growing this outstanding cultural celebration in Gananoque.

The International Food Festival has quickly become a highly anticipated community event that celebrates diversity, culture, and the universal ability of food to bring people together. The festival provides residents and visitors with a unique opportunity to experience a variety of international cuisines while fostering cultural appreciation and community connection in a welcoming and inclusive environment.

The success of last year's event clearly demonstrated the strong demand for this type of programming. With an estimated attendance of more than 1,000 people, the festival attracted a significant audience to Gananoque's waterfront and downtown core. Throughout the day, Town Park was filled with visitors enjoying food, entertainment, and opportunities to learn about different cultures from around the world. Feedback from attendees, vendors, and community members was overwhelmingly positive, highlighting both the quality of the event and its contribution to the vibrancy of our community.

The festival featured more than a dozen food vendors representing a diverse range of cultures, including Jamaica, India, Ukraine, Mexico, Italy, and many others. This rich cultural representation not only creates an exceptional visitor experience but also reflects the diversity that strengthens communities across Ontario and Canada.

From a tourism and economic development perspective, the International Food Festival provides important benefits to Gananoque and the Thousand Islands region. The event attracts visitors to the community, encourages exploration of local businesses and attractions, and contributes to increased spending within the local economy. By activating Town Park and the surrounding downtown area, the festival enhances Gananoque's reputation as a welcoming destination that offers unique cultural experiences throughout the year.

Events such as the International Food Festival play an important role in building community pride, promoting cultural understanding, and creating memorable experiences for residents and visitors alike. Olga Lazor has demonstrated exceptional leadership and dedication in organizing an event that is both impactful and widely embraced by the community.

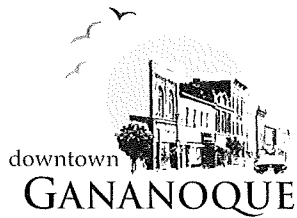
I strongly support this application and believe that continued investment in the International Food Festival will allow it to build on its demonstrated success, expand its reach, and continue delivering significant cultural, tourism, and economic benefits to our region.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Baril

Jennifer Baril
Tourism & Event Development Coordinator
Town of Gananoque



To: Tap Funding Panel

June 17, 2026

To Whom It May Concern,

This letter is provided in support of the funding application for the International Food Festival, scheduled to take place on September 12 in Town Hall Park, Gananoque.


The International Food Festival will celebrate the rich cultural diversity of our community by bringing together local restaurants, food vendors, cultural organizations, and residents for an afternoon of food, entertainment, and community engagement. The event will showcase cuisines from around the world while creating opportunities for cultural exchange, tourism, and economic activity within our downtown core.

The festival is expected to attract both residents and visitors from across the region, increasing foot traffic to downtown businesses and enhancing Gananoque's reputation as a vibrant and welcoming destination. In addition to featuring a variety of international foods, the event will include cultural performances, music, and family-friendly activities designed to appeal to all ages.

Funding through the Tourism Activation Program (TAP) will assist in delivering a high-quality event that supports local businesses, promotes tourism, and contributes to the economic vitality of our community. The festival aligns closely with the program's objectives by creating a unique visitor experience and encouraging increased visitation to Gananoque.

We strongly support this funding request and believe the International Food Festival will become a valued annual event that celebrates diversity, fosters community connections, and generates meaningful economic benefits for the region.

Sincerely,


Sharon Ansell

BIA Coordinator