Agricultural fairs have always been an important part of my life. I spent most of my fall weekends as a child and into adulthood exhibiting livestock at these events. Moreover, I owe my genesis to the Canadian National Exhibition, where my parents met while exhibiting cattle, so I see this study as a chance to give back to the institution without which I might not have existed! I also wish to acknowledge the agricultural society members who volunteer so much of their time and other resources to ensuring that these valuable rural institutions not just continue, but flourish. A special thank you to the fair women who are the subject of this study, especially those who shared their stories with me.

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