

## **Biography**

Roy Hickling is a seventh generation farmer who along with wife Sue, and daughter Lydia, lives on a family farm just north of Barrie. He attended the University of Guelph and after completing a Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture, with honours in 1980, he came home to full time beef farming. The farm shifted to cash cropping in 1991 and although Roy recently retired after nineteen years of selling seed, he continues to farm.

Roy's interest in the arts has evolved through his association with the MacLaren Art Centre where he curated MacLaren Against the Grain: The Fafard Field Project in 1997. It combined his expertise in agriculture and his interest in art in a very successful project that received national media attention and critical acclaim and was also the impetus for Roy to begin showing his own work. He has exhibited regularly since 2000 in both public and private galleries and his work can be found at the Mad & Noisy Gallery in Creemore, Ridge West Oro Medonte, at Life's Inspirations Art Gallery in Hanover and at his studio at the Double Doors Studios and Gallery, Anten Mills.

While Roy has been playing guitar and song writing for over thirty years, the last decade has seen a renewed interest and commitment to his music. He has been performing locally including at the 2006 Barrie Folk: Roots Music Festival and has recently released his debut CD *a little time*.