

# Howell's Fish

Tom Howell is the second generation owner of Howell's Fish on Division Street in Warton. Tom's father and grandfather were both commercial fishermen and his father, Lloyd, started the fish store in 1952 when Tom was only a year old.

The business plays an important role in our local fishery providing small-scale fishermen from the Bruce Peninsula with a market for their catch. The fishermen, many from the Cape Croker Indian Reserve, deliver fresh fish to his door and Tom supplies them with ice and gives them a fair price for their product. Most of the product is whitefish and lake trout, and occasionally some pickerel and catfish. If Tom has orders for rainbow trout, perch, or salmon he ships in from elsewhere.



Howell's Fish has seen a lot of hard times, including the mercury pollution scare in the late sixties, other environmental phenomena affecting the fish population, and also the time way back in the early days that his Dad lost the business on a poker bet (his mother was later able to recover the business). These days Tom estimates that he sells about 100,000 pounds of fillets per year. In 1983 he started doing fish fry fundraisers which involves cooking a few hundred pieces of fish for special events in legion halls, church basements, and community centres. He cooks the fish on site from the back of his van using a giant frying pan and estimates that, with the help of his staff, he does about 250 fish fries per year around the province.

Howell's sells fish at the Owen Sound Farmers' Market and has been doing so since 1958, making them the longest standing market member. You can also buy from their retail store. **51 Division Street, Warton ON N0H 2T0 • 519-534-0850**