



MEDIA ADVISORY

GOLD MEDAL PLATES FIRES UP COMPETITION IN THE QUEST TO FIND MONTREAL'S BEST CHEF

November 6, 2009

Ten of Montreal's most celebrated chefs will battle it out to see who will be named the city's best chef during the Gold Medal Plates competition held on Wednesday, October 28, 2009. With only 107 days to the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Winter Games, guests are encouraged to show their Olympic spirit and wear something red and be ready to *Paint the Town Red* – the adopted theme for this year's events across the country!

A celebration of Canadian excellence, Gold Medal Plates brings together the finest chefs, wines and athletes. Olympic and Paralympic athletes assist each competing chef, together creating and serving their signature dish to the 700+ guests attending the event. A panel of culinary judges selects the gold, silver and bronze winners; the gold medal winning chef from Montreal will go on to compete at the Canadian Culinary Championships held this November in Vancouver.

Competing chefs are:

Daren Bergeron, Decca 77
Alexandre Gosselin, Bar et Boeuf
Roland Ménard, Manoir Hovey
Alonso Ortiz, Pintxo
Thierry Rouyé, La Porte

Derek Dammann, DNA
Jean-Philippe Saint-Denis & Matthieu Cloutier, Kitchen Galerie
Mario Navarrete Jr, Raza
Lindsay Petit, La Quintessence
Marc-André Royal, Le St-Urbain

Olympic and Paralympic Athletes in attendance include:

Charles Hamelin (Short Track Speed Skating), Alexandre Bilodeau (Freestyle Skiing) Bryce Davison & Jessica Dube (Figure Skating) Jennifer Heil (Freestyle Skiing) Genvieve Simard (Alpine Skiing) Jean-Luc Brassard (Freestyle Skiing), Emilie Heymans (Diving), Bruny Surin (Athletics), Nathalie Lambert (Short Track Speed Skating), Francois-Louis Tremblay, (Short Track Speed Skating)

Date: Wednesday, October 28 – third of seven events!

Location: Palais des congrès de Montréal

Timing: 5:15-6:00 p.m. VIP Reception – Interviews with chefs and athletes
6 – 7:30 p.m. Culinary competition and rare wine auction
8 – 9:30 p.m. Dessert & entertainment
9:20 p.m. Montreal's gold, silver and bronze medal culinary winners announced

Gold Medal Plates' regional competitions began in October with Edmonton kicking off the cross-country events. Now it is Montreal's chance to shine and support the athletes in their quest to Own the Podium! Other events have already occurred in Edmonton and Vancouver and will follow in Ottawa, Calgary, St. John's and Toronto. Since its inception, Gold Medal Plates has donated more than \$2.8 million to support Canadian Olympic and Paralympic athletes and has elevated the profile of Canadian cuisine and wine. Outstanding team performance extends to the corporate partnerships of GE and EPCOR and title sponsors of Gold Medal Plates, companies that recognize the value of investing in Canadian excellence and achievement. For more information: www.goldmedalplates.com

The Canadian Olympic Committee (COC) is a national, private, not-for-profit organization committed to sport excellence. It is responsible for all aspects of Canada's involvement in the Olympic Movement, including Canada's participation in the Olympic and Pan American Games and a wide variety of programs that promote the Olympic Movement in Canada through cultural and educational means. For news and information, visit the COC website at www.olympic.ca and find the team on both Facebook (Canadian Olympic Team) and Twitter (CDNOlympicTeam).