



MEDIA ADVISORY

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

November 16, 2009

Ten of Toronto'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 Thursday, November 19, 2009. With only 99 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. This year, Geddy Lee, one of Canada's most well known rockers and well known for his refined palate, will be a part of the judging panel. The gold medal winning chef from Toronto will go on to compete at the Canadian Culinary Championships held November 27 – 28, 2009 in the host city of the 2010 Olympic Winter Games, Vancouver, BC. Guests are in for a treat this year

Competing chefs are:

Jason Bangerter, Auberge du Pommier
Teddy Corrado, C5
Anne Yarymowich, FRANK
Lorenzo Loseto, George
John Kwan, Lai Toh Heen

Jonathan Gushue, Langdon Hall
Donna Dooher, Mildred's Temple Kitchen
Mark McEwan, North 44
David Lee, Nota Bene
Jake Rujevic & Marco Zandona, Via Allegro Ristorante

Olympic and Paralympic athletes in attendance include:

Adam van Koeverden (Canoe/Kayak), Simon Whitfield (Triathlon), Adam Kreek (Rowing), Marnie McBean (Rowing), Curt Harnett (Cycling), Billy Bridges (Sledge Hockey), Brian Stemmler (Alpine Skiing), Jason Burnett (Trampoline), and 15 others

Entertainment: Steven Page, former front man of the Barenaked Ladies, wowed the crowds at Gold Medal Plates Vancouver to standing ovations and great applause! His upcoming performance at Gold Medal Plates Toronto on November 19 is creating a great buzz of anticipation!

Date: Thursday, November 19th – The final event in a series of seven events!

Location: The Metro Toronto Convention Centre, South Building Hall F & G

Timing: 5:15 - 6:00 p.m. VIP Reception – Interviews with chefs and athletes – Foyer outside Hall F & G
6:00 – 7:30 p.m. Culinary competition and rare wine auction– Stand up dinner - Hall F
7:45 – 10:00 p.m. Speeches, entertainment, live auction–Hall G
9:30 p.m. Toronto's gold, silver & bronze medal culinary winners announced – Hall G

Gold Medal Plates' regional competitions have currently taken place in six cities. Now it is Toronto's chance to shine and support the athletes in their quest to Own the Podium! Other events have already occurred in Edmonton, Vancouver, Ottawa, Montreal, Calgary and St. John's. 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).