



MEDIA RELEASE

Golden Entertainers Headline the Gold Medal Plates Canadian Culinary Championships
Colin James, Barney Bentall and gold medal athletes Adam Kreek and Maelle Ricker lend their star power to Gold Medal Plates Competition.

February 1, 2011 Kelowna B.C. - Competition fires up as eight of Canada's best chefs compete for top honours during the coveted Gold Medal Plates' Canadian Culinary Championships February 18 and 19, 2011 in Kelowna, B.C. The competition for tickets will also be tough as both the Friday night Mystery Wine Dinner and Saturday morning Black Box events are sold out! And tickets for the grand finale on February 19 are going fast with the event 85 per cent sold out.

The event at the Delta Grand Okanagan will be the hottest ticket in town with Colin James and Barney Bentall headlining the entertainment. Olympic gold medalist Adam Kreek (Rowing, 2008) and Maelle Ricker (Snowboard, 2010) will be there to hand out the prizes. Guests who are lucky enough to grab one of the remaining tickets to the grand finale Saturday night, will have the opportunity to taste some of the most exquisitely prepared food in Canada, as competing chefs create their finest dish for guests to sample before Canada's best chef of 2011 is crowned.

Competing chefs with partnered winery

MONTREAL - Martin Juneau, Newtown: Paired with La Face Cachee de la Pomme Cidery, QC.

EDMONTON - Andrew Fung, Blackhawk Golf Club: Paired with Road 13 Vineyards, B.C.

SASKATOON - Dan Walker, Weczeria Food: Paired with Road 13 Vineyards, B.C.

VANCOUVER - Robert Clark, C Restaurant: Paired with Black Hills Estate Winery, B.C.

CALGARY - Duncan Ly, Hotel Arts: Paired with Tantalus Vineyards, B.C.,

OTTAWA - Michael Moffatt, Beckta Dining & Wine: Paired with Fielding Estates Winery, ON

TORONTO - Frank Dodd, Hillebrand Winery Restaurant (Niagara): Paired with Hillebrand Winery, ON

ST. JOHN'S - Jeremy Charles, Raymonds: Paired with Ravine Vineyard, ON

"To see chefs, who are at the top of their game, truly challenged in each of the competitions is very exciting!" says Stephen Leckie, CEO and co-founder of Gold Medal Plates. "It gets better and more intense every year."

"This year, more than ever, it's anyone's game—a powder keg mix of experienced veterans and eager young blood," says James Chatto, Gold Medal Plates national culinary advisor and head judge. "The regional campaign was so strong with Saskatchewan leaping into the arena and St. John's raising the bar sky high, the other cities have their work cut out. At this level, the slightest lapse in concentration means disaster."

As well as indulging in amazing food and wine Saturday night guests will be able to compete themselves. The live auction will offer up to the highest bidder one of a kind trips and experiences hosted by Olympians and performer; including the World's Greatest Pub Crawl to the Yorkshire Dales with gold medal Olympian Jon Montgomery and comedian Ron James, Wining and Dining in Napa with gold medal Olympians Catriona Le May Doan, Jenn Heil and performer Colin James.

This memorable two day event will be held in Kelowna for the next five years with proceeds from the Canadian Culinary Championships given to the Canadian Olympic Foundation to support high performance athletes.

-30-

Media Inquiries: Holly J Wood mediadiva@mac.com Phone: 1.250. 938. 0911
Tickets Sales: Lisa Pasin lisa@comlinks.ca Phone 1.877.255.0707

About Gold Medal Plates

Gold Medal Plates is the ultimate celebration of Canadian Excellence in cuisine, wine, entertainment and athletic achievement. Celebrating in eight cities across Canada in 2010, Gold Medal Plates will feature superb wines and the premier chefs in each city, paired with Canadian Olympic and Paralympic athletes, in a competition to crown a gold, silver and bronze medal culinary team in each city, and subsequently nation-wide at the Canadian Culinary Championships.

Founded in 2003, the goal of Gold Medal Plates is to raise substantial funds for Canada's high performance athletes, while celebrating Canadian excellence. Since 2004, this event has received tremendous support and accolades all across Canada, and generated a combined net total of \$5 million for Canada's Olympic and Paralympic athletes! For more information, visit the Gold Medal Plates website www.goldmedalplates.com.

The Canadian Olympic Foundation – Beneficiary of the Events

Net proceeds from Gold Medal Plates are given to the Canadian Olympic Foundation to support athletes through high performance programs such as Own the Podium. To learn more about the foundation and the programs it funds, please visit www.olympicfoundation.ca.