

**REGIONAL QUALIFIER FOR THE CANADIAN
CULINARY CHAMPIONSHIP**

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RELEASE

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Canada's Great Kitchen Regional Qualifier Briana Kim, of Alice is Crowned Ottawa-Gatineau Champion!

Chef Kim Now Qualified for the Canadian Culinary Championship

Canada's Great Kitchen Party Ottawa is proud to announce the gold medallist of the Ottawa-Gatineau regional culinary competition held today at Le Cordon Bleu Ottawa Culinary Arts Institute.

The Great Kitchen Party in Ottawa was the first to be held among the 9 competing cities, from St. John's, NL to Vancouver, BC. All regional competitions end in late November 2022, with each region's gold medal winning chef qualifying for the Canadian Culinary Championship in Ottawa, February 3-4, 2023.

The five Chefs who competed for Ottawa-Gatineau's 2022 Kitchen Party regional competition were: **Éric Chagnon-Zimmerly**, North & Navy, **Justin Champagne**, Perch, **Dominique Dufour**, Gray Jay, **Briana Kim**, Alice Restaurant and **Wapokunie Riel-Lachapelle**, Nikosi Bistro, Wakefield, QC.

Deliberating over each chef's dish were a group of seven judges, led by national Kitchen Party Head Judge James Chatto and Ottawa Senior Judge Anne DesBrisay. Following the tasting of each dish and accompanying beverage, which were presented and described by competing chefs, Briana Kim of Alice was chosen the gold medalist for her dish of onion tuile, smoked potatoes, rhubarb jerky, maitake, pickled onion, dill sour cream, facto green tomato and koji broth. Her dish was paired with a Pearl Morissette Irreverence 2019 from Niagara Peninsula, ON.

Finishing in 2nd spot was Éric Chagnon-Zimmerly of North & Navy and in 3rd position, Justin Champagne of Perch.

"Overall, there were five exciting and thoughtful dishes that made us all concentrate and think about them and yet they were all so delicious", said National Head Judge James Chatto, "The Chefs were all very courageous; they went out on a limb. The dishes were and looked delicious; the

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beverage matches were uniformly impressive - but in the end Briana's dish shone brighter than anyone else and it was a unanimous decision - it is exciting that it was plant based cuisine as well."

Chef Kim, also winner of tonight's "People's Choice Award" will now go onto represent Ottawa-Gatineau at the Canadian Culinary Championship being held in Ottawa February 3-4th, where she will compete against representatives from 8 other Canadian cities. "It feels great," she said, "and we were really excited to present our dish tonight. We were hoping that the guests would appreciate it as much as the judges, and we couldn't be more happy."

"With events not taking place in 2020 and 2021 due to the pandemic", said Ottawa Co-Chair Mike Taggart, "the appetite was high for Canada's Great Kitchen Party in-person competitions and we were thrilled to be back together tonight. The quality and originality of the dishes we tasted were outstanding; how privileged we are to have such amazing culinary offerings here in the nation's capital. We wish Chef Kim all the best as she prepares to represent Ottawa-Gatineau at the Canadian Culinary Championship next February."

In addition to tonight's event at Le Cordon Bleu being a culinary competition, funds were raised for two national beneficiaries and one local charity: Spirit North, MusiCounts and the Ottawa Boys and Girls Club. Stephen Leckie, CEO of Canada's Great Kitchen Party was thrilled to take part in the sold-out event and said: "What a great event and a continuation of Ottawa's reputation as a serious culinary community. With three Canadian Culinary Champions (Marc Lépine (2) from Atelier and Yannick LaSalle, formally from Les Fougères, now the executive judge for the Supreme Court of Canada) we know the local chefs here are always up to the challenge. And we are also proud that so far, over 17 million dollars has been raised by Canada's Great Kitchen Party as we continue to provide Canadian youth the opportunity to be extraordinary in sport, music and food."

The Canadian Culinary Championship (CCC) will host the gold medallist chefs from 9 cities in the nation's capital next February 3-4, 2023. For information on the CCC: Lisa Pasin at 780-448-5945 or lpasin@greatkitchenparty.com

For more information on Ottawa-Gatineau's qualifier or for interview requests, please contact:

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ABOUT CANADA'S GREAT KITCHEN PARTY

Canada's Great Kitchen Party is a social enterprise dedicated to "Building a Better Canada" through the elevation and celebration of Canadian excellence through food, sport and music.

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Staged in nine cities across the country, each event is a regional culinary competition which qualifies the winning chefs to move on to compete at the Canadian Culinary Championship on February 3 and 4 in Ottawa. Chefs, athletes, musicians and business leaders all come together for a spectacular experience and to provide young Canadians the opportunity to be extraordinary through sport, music and food. We proudly contribute to the following beneficiaries: Spirit North, MusiCounts and a local food charity. As the largest exposition of Canadian wines, over 200 wineries and local breweries and spirit companies are profiled at our events. For more information, visit greatkitchenparty.com