

**REGIONAL QUALIFIER FOR THE CANADIAN  
CULINARY CHAMPIONSHIP**

Providing young Canadians the opportunity to be extraordinary through sport, music and food.



**RELEASE**

**November 10, 2022**

**Canada's Great Kitchen Regional Qualifier  
Che David Vatcher's Crowned St. John's Champion!**

***Chef David Vatcher – Best Coast Restaurant Qualified for the Canadian Culinary Championship***

Canada's Great Kitchen Party St. John's is proud to announce the gold medalist of the St. John's regional culinary competition held today at **Sheraton Newfoundland Hotel**, 115 Cavendish Square, St. Johns, Newfoundland and Labrador.

The Great Kitchen Party in St. John's was the seventh to be held among the 9 competing cities, from coast to coast. 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 in St. John's 2022 Kitchen Party regional competition were: **David Vatcher** – Best Coast Restaurant; **Brennen Tower-Bowering** – Slainte Whisky and Wine; **Stephen Quinton** – Personal Chef; **Michael Wozney** – Manuels River Catering; and **Dan Butler** – The Wilds at Salmonier.

Deliberating over each chef's dish were a group of six judges, led by national Kitchen Party Head Judge **James Chatto** -Toronto Life, Food and Drink Award-winning writer on food, wine and travel. **Roary Macpherson** - Senior Judge - father, husband, culinary ambassador, promotes all things Newfoundland! **Roger Andrews** - Husband, Dad, Chef Instructor, Coach, Retired Competitor. **Ron Delaney** - Tourism Director, Blogger, Critic, Radio Host, Life Student of Food. **Angie Ryan** - Wife, mother, cooked at the James Beard House 6 times, Culinary Olympian, operations manager School Lunch Association and 2019 KP Gold Medalist **Kyle Puddester** - Fork Restaurant, Mobile, NL. Following the tasting of each dish and accompanying beverage, presented and described by each competing chef, Chef **David Vatcher** was chosen as the gold medalist for his dish Pan Seared Scallop with Truffle Hollandaise. Braised Pork Belly with Partridgeberry and Chimichurri Duck Confit, Goat Cheese and Potato Pavé with Veal Demi Sous Vide Halibut with Olive Oil, Lemon, Garlic and Parsley, Curry Aioli, Sesame and Soy Bakeapple CaviarCrisp Parsnip. His dish was paired with a Benjamin Bridge 2021 Riesling, Gaspereau Valley, Wolfville, NS.

Finishing in 2nd spot was Chef **Daniel Butler** – **The Wilds at Salmonier** paired with Wayne Gretzky No. 99 2019 Riesling, Niagara Peninsula, ON and in 3rd position, Chef **Michael Wozney** – **Manuels River Catering** paired with Ninepenny Brewing MR-1, Conception Bay South, NL.

"Each Chef went out of their way to create seven exciting and unique dishes that made us all appreciate the complexity of Newfoundland unique flavours," said National Head Judge James Chatto, "Their dishes were well presented with expertly paired beverages. It was a tough decision, but in the end, Chef David Vatcher dish 'out tasted' the others by scoring high in taste and presentation."

Chef **Michael Wozney** took home the People's Choice Award for his Local Cod, Salt Beef Bacon, Root Vegetable Brunoise, House Mad Pickle, Roasted Beet Gastrique, Pot Liquor Espuma, voted on by the guests in attendance.

**REGIONAL QUALIFIER FOR THE CANADIAN  
CULINARY CHAMPIONSHIP**

Providing young Canadians the opportunity to be extraordinary through sport, music and food.



Chef David Vatcher will now represent St. John's at the Canadian Culinary Championship held in Ottawa on February 3-4th. He will compete against representatives from 8 other Canadian cities. "It feels great to win", David said, "and we look forward to competing in Ottawa and representing Newfoundland."

"We were thrilled to bring back our culinary competition to St. John's said Co-Chair Scott Giannou. The quality and originality of the dishes we tasted continue to be outstanding; we are privileged to have such excellent culinary offerings. We wish Chef David Vatcher all the best as he prepares to represent St. John's in Ottawa."

In addition to tonight's culinary competition, funds were raised for one national beneficiary and one local charity: **MusiCounts** - which provides musical instruments to schools and Newfoundland & Labrador the **Kids Eat Smart** School Lunch Program.

Stephen Leckie, CEO of Canada's Great Kitchen Party, was thrilled to participate in the event and said: "What a great event and a continuation of Newfoundland reputation as a serious culinary community. We are also proud that Canada's Great Kitchen Party has raised over 17 million dollars as we continue to provide Canadian youth with the opportunity to be extraordinary in sport, music and food."

The Canadian Culinary Championship (CCC) will host the gold medalist chefs from 9 cities in the nation's capital next February 3-4, 2023. Next up KP Saskatoon on Wednesday November 23, 2022. For information on the CCC: Lisa Pasin at 780-448-5945 or [lpasin@greatkitchenparty.com](mailto:lpasin@greatkitchenparty.com)

For more information on St. John's qualifier or for interview requests, please contact:

Karen Blair  
COO and Media Director  
Canada's Great Kitchen Party - National  
647-267-6530  
[kblair@greatkitchenparty.com](mailto:kblair@greatkitchenparty.com)

Lorraine Quartaro  
Media Contact  
Canada's Great Kitchen Party – St. John's  
416-433-7232  
[lorraine@theprq.com](mailto:lorraine@theprq.com)

**ABOUT CANADA'S GREAT KITCHEN PARTY**

Canada's Great Kitchen Party is a social enterprise dedicated to "Building a Better Canada" by elevating and celebrating Canadian excellence through food, sport and music. 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 with 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 most extensive exposition of Canadian wines, over 200 wineries and local breweries and spirit companies are profiled at our events. For more information, visit [greatkitchenparty.com](http://greatkitchenparty.com)