

## MEDIA RELEASE

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### Introducing the 2024 Canadian Culinary Championship Participating Chefs!

#### *Ten Chefs From Across Canada Qualified Through Kitchen Party Regional Events*

Canada's Great Kitchen Party is proud to announce the participating Chefs for the 2024 Canadian Culinary Championship (CCC), which will be held in Ottawa February 2-3, 2024.

Regional competitions were held in 10 competing cities in the Fall of 2023, from St. John's, NL to Vancouver, BC, with each gold medal winning chef qualifying for the Canadian Culinary Championship which will be comprised of 3 events: Mystery Wine Competition, Black Box and Grand Finale. Reigning Canadian Culinary Champion Briana Kim of Alice Restaurant in Ottawa will also be featured during the Grand Finale, presenting a dish for the VIP guests.

The ten regional Chefs who have qualified for the 2024 CCC are:

Region	Chef	Restaurant	Wine Pairing
Okanagan	Neil Taylor	Home Block at CedarCreek Estate Winery	Cedar Creek 2020 Naramata Ranch Pinot Noir, Okanagan Valley, BC
Vancouver	Jasper Cruickshank	Wild Blue Restaurant + Bar, Whistler BC	Roche Wines - 2021 Tradition Pinot Gris, Naramata Bench, Okanagan Valley, BC
Edmonton	JP Dublado	Red Deer Resort and Casino, Red Deer AB	Frind 2020 Chardonnay VQA, Okanagan Valley, BC
Calgary	Rupert Garcia	Hawthorn @ The Fairmont Palliser	Monte Creek 2021 Hands Up Red, Thompson Valley, BC
Saskatoon	Garrett Thienes	Harvest Eatery, Shaunavon SK	Screaming Frenzy 2020 Pinot Noir, West Kelowna, BC
Winnipeg	Kristopher Kuras	deer + almond	Pearl Morissette, 2021

			Vintage "Racines du Ciel" Cabernet Fran
<b>Ottawa</b>	Raghav Chaudhary	Aiana	Stratus 2021 White, Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON
<b>Toronto</b>	Frank Parhizgar	FK	Closson Chase 2021 Churchside Pinot Noir, Prince Edward County
<b>Montreal</b>	Thomas Deschamps	LesTêtes Brûlées, Mascouche QC	Château des Charmes 2019 Pinot Noir Cuvée Michèle, Niagara Peninsula, ON
<b>St. John's</b>	Kyle Puddester	Fork, Mobile NL	Mercator 2022 Compass Rosé, Nova Scotia

Chefs JP Dublado of Edmonton and Kyle Puddester both competed at the 2020 CCC in Ottawa while Garrett Thienes was a competitor at the 2017 CCC in Kelowna.

The CCC's two-day competition will start with the "Mystery Wine Competition" on Friday where chefs will be tasked with creating a dish that they feel perfectly pairs with the unlabelled wine they will have received less than 24 hours before. The second competition will be the "Black Box Competition" held at the La Cité Culinary School Saturday morning. The "Grand Finale" event on Saturday night at the Shaw Centre will be the hottest ticket in town and is over 80% sold out! 550 guests will be on hand not only to sample the chefs' dishes but also to mingle with celebrity guests and enjoy the music of some of Canada's most iconic musicians. The evening will be capped with the crowning of the 2024 Canadian Culinary Champion.

"We are excited to host our third Canadian Culinary Championship in the nation's capital next February", said Karen Blair, COO of Canada's Great Kitchen Party. With four Canadian Culinary Championship titles coming from the Ottawa-Gatineau Region (Marc Lépine twice, Yannick LaSalle and Briana Kim) the city's culinary scene is very strong! We look forward to bringing the best chefs from across Canada to experience this scene as we celebrate the best of Canadian excellence in the culinary arts, sport and music. And we are very proud that so far, over 17 million dollars has been raised by Canada's Great Kitchen Party as we work to ensure Canadian youth have equitable access to sport opportunities, music education and food security."

For information and/or tickets for the Canadian Culinary Championship, please contact:  
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NATIONAL FINALE OF CANADA'S GREAT KITCHEN PARTY  
LA GRANDE FINALE DU GRAND PARTY DE CUISINE CANADIEN



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**ABOUT CANADIAN CULINARY CHAMPIONSHIP (CCC)** | [The Canadian Culinary Championship](#) is an annual national event in Ottawa. The winning chefs from ten different regional qualifiers (called Canada's Great Kitchen Party) are flown in to compete in three challenging and entertaining competitions: Mystery Wine, Black Box, and the Finale. To be invited to compete locally is a notch in the belt. To win regional gold and be on the podium is a significant achievement. To be eligible to compete against each regional gold winner at the national competition the following year is a thrill. To be crowned the top chef in Canada at the Canadian Culinary Championship is a career changer!

**ABOUT CANADA'S GREAT KITCHEN PARTY** | [Canada's Great Kitchen Party](#) is a social enterprise dedicated to "Building a More Inclusive Canada" by elevating and celebrating Canadian cultural excellence. Staged in ten cities across the country, each event is a regional culinary competition that qualifies the winning chefs to move on to compete at the Canadian Culinary Championship on February 2 and 3, 2024, in Ottawa. Chefs, musicians, business leaders, and philanthropists all come together for a spectacular experience and to ensure Canadian youth have equitable music education, sports, and food security opportunities. We proudly contribute to the following beneficiaries: [MusiCounts, Spirit North and a local food charity](#). As the most extensive exposition of Canadian wines, over 200 wineries, local breweries and spirit companies are profiled at our events. For more information, visit [greatkitchenparty.com](http://greatkitchenparty.com).