

## Media Advisory - Canada's leading chefs team with Olympians and Paralympians for Canada's ultimate culinary competition in Whistler February 1-3, 2007

WHISTLER, BC, Jan. 30 /CNW/ - Years of intensive training, perseverance and unwavering dedication best exemplify what it takes to get to the podium - as an elite athlete or leading Canadian chef. Seven of Canada's best chefs will compete in the intense three-day Gold Medal Plates finals, supported by Olympians and Paralympians. Through a series of three rigorous culinary events, chefs will be challenged to use their culinary skills to overcome the competition. The winner will be crowned the Canadian culinary champion.

<<

Event hosts: Steve Podborski, bronze medallist, alpine ski, Lake Placid 1980 Olympic Winter Games Ross Rebagliati, gold medallist, snowboard, Nagano 1998 Olympic Winter Games as well as Paul Rosen, gold medallist, ice sledge hockey, Torino 2006 Paralympic Winter Games

Dates and Times: Thursday, February 1, 2007  
8:00 - 9 p.m. - Welcoming Reception

Friday, February 2, 2007  
9:45 a.m. - 12 p.m.- Morning Black Box Competition (Mystery Ingredients)

Saturday, February 3, 2007  
9:30 a.m. - 11 a.m. - Blind Wine Pairing Competition

Saturday, February 3, 2007  
7:00 - 8:30 p.m. - Final Competition

Competing Chefs: Halifax: Ray Bear, Gio  
Ottawa: Michael Blackie, Brookstreet  
Toronto: Mark McEwan, North 44  
Winnipeg: Makoto Ono, Gluttons  
Edmonton: Michael Brown, Westin  
Calgary: Michael Lyon, Giorgio's

Trattoria, Banff  
Vancouver: Robert Clark, C

Location: Hilton Whistler Resort & Spa  
Whistler, British Columbia

Interview Opportunities: There are several opportunities to interview competing chefs and athletes, and event hosts over the weekend.

>>

About Gold Medal Plates ([www.goldmedalplates.com](http://www.goldmedalplates.com)):

Established in 2003, this premiere event celebrates Canadian excellence and culture in support of Olympic and Paralympic athletes. Since its inception, more than \$1.5 million has been raised to help elite winter (through Own the Podium - 2010) and summer athletes (through the Road to Excellence fund) succeed in their pursuits.

VANOC is responsible for the planning, organizing, financing and staging of the XXI Olympic Winter Games and the X Paralympic Winter Games in 2010. The 2010 Olympic Winter Games will be staged in Vancouver and Whistler from February 12 to 28, 2010. Vancouver and Whistler will host the Paralympic Winter Games from March 12 to 21, 2010. [www.vancouver2010.com](http://www.vancouver2010.com)

The Canadian Olympic Committee 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. [www.olympic.ca](http://www.olympic.ca).

<<

Media: All events are open to media. Credentials are required. On-site filing available.

>>

For further information: Media Inquiries: Karen Petcoff, (416) 275-6844, [kvpet@rogers.com](mailto:kvpet@rogers.com)