

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 1, 2011

Culinaire - Victoria's Premier Food Tasting Experience Presents third annual event at The Crystal Garden

VICTORIA, BC - On Thursday March 22, 2012 Victoria will showcase the rich offerings of our local food and beverage scene at Culinaire - Victoria's Premier Food Tasting Experience at The Crystal Garden.

The third annual Culinaire event will provide locals the opportunity to savour signature menu items and inspired dishes from an abundant selection of restaurants, lounges, pubs, cafes, specialty purveyors, and sip from a fine selection of local and regional wine, cider, and craft beer.

"Culinaire is a food focused event that gives restaurants and producers the opportunity to showcase their culinary vision to a captive audience of Foodies and lovers of great cuisine", said Scott Gurney, creator of Culinaire. "Victoria's food scene is always fresh and exciting, but so vast it can be sometimes daunting. With so many great choices and unique places available, it can be very hard to choose from. This event gives the guest the chance to try an assortment of new foods and restaurants at their pace, and do so in a relaxed environment." added Gurney.

While sampling the wide array of items on hand, guests interact with chefs and restaurateurs and get first hand information about the business, the menu, and location. In 2011 over 1500 people attended the event.

Over 50 exhibitors will be showcased at the 2012 event. The \$32 (tax incl.) admission includes 10 generous tastings from presenters. Additional tastings are available at a cost of only \$1 per item. The event also supports students and workers in the hospitality industry as partial proceeds from the event provide scholarship awards to the Camosun College Culinary Arts Program and a donation is made each year to the BC Hospitality Foundation.

Tickets for last years' event sold out quickly. Tickets for this year's event are available now on-line at www.ticketrocket.org or in person at **The Bard & Banker Scottish Pub**-1022 Government St, **Phillips Brewing Company**-2010 Government St, or **The Penny Farthing Pub**-2228 Oak Bay Avenue.

For full event details and a current list of who will be presenting visit www.culinairevictoria.com
For information on exhibiting at the event please email: info@culinairevictoria.com
Or call 250-516-9797

For further media information please contact: Scott Gurney at scott@culinairevictoria.com or phone 250-516-9797

BACKGROUNDER

The Culinaire showcase in Victoria is the brainchild of food and beverage professional Scott Gurney. Scott has almost 18 years of experience in the food and beverage sector at restaurants hotels, and entertainment venues.

Scott's knowledge and experience in the Victoria food scene coupled with his passion for promoting the excellent offerings in his own community led to the development of Culinaire. Culinaire is a food tasting extravaganza where restaurants and fine food establishments can interact directly with the Victoria public to showcase their finest foods.

Victoria has gained a reputation of excellence as a food destination both in terms of the quality and variety and also as a location which seeks to promote Vancouver Island produce and specialties. The vision for Culinaire is to broaden the guest's overall food experience through tastings at the show and to encourage people to look for and try locally owned and operated food establishments.

While sampling different restaurants, visitors will gather information about the business, the chef, the menu, and location.

Over 50 exhibitors will be showcased at the Crystal Garden on Thursday March 22, 2012 in a relaxed hospitable atmosphere.

For further information on attending or exhibiting at the event please visit the website:

www.culinairevictoria.com

Or contact:

Scott Gurney, Event Producer

Culinaire, Victoria's Premier Food Tasting Experience

scott@culinairevictoria.com

250.516.9797