



**THINK YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES TO COMPETE WITH CANADA'S HOTTEST CHEFS?
JOIN THE INAUGURAL WEST PARK FOUNDATION CULINARY SHOWDOWN!**

Toronto, ON — September 22, 2023— Get ready to turn up the heat and go spatula-to-spatula with some of Canada's most renowned culinary talents at the inaugural West Park Foundation Culinary Showdown! This thrilling event is set to take place on Saturday, October 21, 2023, at the Westin Harbour Castle, and it promises an unforgettable evening of gastronomic excellence, all in support of the life-changing work of West Park Healthcare Centre.

The evolution of the popular Uncork Untap Unwind initiative, West Park Foundation's Culinary Showdown is not just your ordinary cooking competition; it's a culinary extravaganza that brings together renowned chefs [Alvin Leung](#), [Lynn Crawford](#), [Massimo Capra](#), [Michele Forgione](#), [Vikram Vij](#) and 50 of the event's top fundraising foodies for a high-stakes culinary battle reminiscent of your favourite Chopped episodes. Aspiring chefs and food enthusiasts alike will have the opportunity to showcase their culinary skills and vie for the coveted title of Culinary Showdown Champion.

Fundraisers can participate in the Culinary Showdown's lineup of exciting events at different reward levels. The events include the Celebrity Chef School, which runs from 10:30 am to 3:00 pm. Here, celebrity chefs teach qualified participants the tricks of the trade. The Cocktail Reception runs from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm, and eligible participants mingle with celebrity chefs, judges, sponsors, and other fundraisers while enjoying delicious cocktails. The main event, The Culinary Showdown, runs from 7:00 pm to 11:00 pm. During this competition, chefs work with their teams against the clock to deliver the best dishes to the judges in a race to become the Culinary Showdown champion. If someone prefers to experience the event as an observer, they still have the option to be a part of the excitement! They can purchase tickets or explore sponsorship opportunities to witness the culinary magic unfold during the Gala Dinner. Spectators can enjoy a delicious menu inspired by celebrity chefs while rooting for their favourite team.

"I've always had a deep appreciation for the incredible work that West Park Healthcare Centre does. Their mission is close to my heart, and I'm excited to join forces again. The West Park Foundation Culinary Showdown on October 21st promises an evening filled with culinary creativity and compassion, all for a great cause. I eagerly look forward to leading my team to victory." - Chef Lynn Crawford.

By participating in the Culinary Showdown, fundraising participants will not only get the chance to shine in the kitchen but also contribute to the vital work of West Park Healthcare Centre. Their involvement, along with sponsors and partners, will make a difference in the lives of West Park patients as they recover from serious injury and illness..

"We're excited to introduce the West Park Foundation Culinary Showdown, where culinary passion meets philanthropy. This event will be an unforgettable clash of talent in the kitchen, all in support of West Park's Activities of Daily Living programs to help people after a serious injury or illness relearn cooking and other tasks," says Doug Earle, CEO of West Park Foundation. "Join us on October 21 and help support our patients get their lives back."



Whether you're a seasoned chef or simply a lover of good food and a great cause, the West Park Foundation Culinary Showdown is an event you will want to attend. For more information and to get started on this culinary journey, visit www.theculinaryshowdown.com.

For press inquiries or further information, please contact: Lorraine Quartaro | Cell: 416-433-7232

About West Park Healthcare Centre

West Park Healthcare Centre is a national leader in rehabilitation and complex continuing care, located in west Toronto. We help people recover from life-altering illness or injury, regain their independence and get back to their lives. We are transforming our campus, including a new hospital building opening in early 2024, to meet the rising demand for our services and the healthcare challenges of the future. West Park Foundation's \$80 million **Get Your Life Back Campaign** is supporting the capital costs of our redevelopment, helping to ensure our new hospital is well-equipped and able to support the very best patient care, education and research.

Learn more about West Park and its bold transformation at westparkfoundation.ca.