



## **You Can Have Your Cake and Feel Good Too**

*Second Harvest hosts 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Toronto Taste fundraiser event*

**Toronto, ON – May 26, 2008** – Come feast in good conscience at Toronto Taste, Second Harvest's annual summer fundraiser. This must-attend culinary extravaganza features the talents of Toronto's most sought-after chefs and raises over half a million dollars each year.

Over 50 top Toronto chefs will have mouths watering with everything from caviar to Strawberry and Cream Cookies and dishes from JP Challet to Jamie Kennedy Wine Bar. Silent, fine wine and live auctions and the brew of over 30 vintners, brewers and wine merchants will top off the evening's indulgence.

"Toronto Taste provides the very rare opportunity for people to enjoy dishes from Toronto's top chefs in one place, at one time – and all for a good cause," says Mark McEwan, chef/owner of celebrated restaurants North 44°, Bymark and One. "But while Toronto Taste is only one night of indulgence, guests can take comfort in knowing that the money raised allows Second Harvest to feed those in need for months."

Toronto Taste features a variety of chefs to satisfy even the most discerning palate, by showcasing the talents of such established notables as Mark McEwan, or rising stars like Ben Heaton. Known not just for his culinary artistry but also for turning up *The Heat* as host of his own reality show on Food Network Canada, Chef McEwan will mix classic with contemporary in sumptuous concoctions not to be missed. Ben Heaton, the Executive Chef at Globe Bistro who sharpened his skills at Michelin-rated restaurants in the UK, will highlight his passion for locallygrown ingredients by creating regionally-inspired dishes.

Stressing "waste not, want not", Second Harvest has been delivering donated fresh food to those in need since 1985. Toronto Taste alone helps Second Harvest provide approximately half a million meals to Torontonians in need, 40 per cent of which are for children.

Second Harvest is supported by a variety of local organizations, including the Toronto Taste Presenting Sponsor, The Daniels Corporation. For the past 13 years, Second Harvest and Daniels have been working together to build a foundation for those less fortunate in Toronto. Where one provides nourishment, the other provides shelter – fulfilling the essential needs for every man, woman and child.

Indulgence becomes a virtue on Sunday, June 8<sup>th</sup>, when guests will flock to the beautifully decorated Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre to savour culinary delicacies. Tickets can be purchased for \$225 each (tax receipt for \$125) and obtained by calling 416-408-2594 or visiting [www.secondharvest.ca](http://www.secondharvest.ca).

### **About Second Harvest**

Toronto Taste is a fundraising event in support of Second Harvest, a not-for-profit charity. Every day, Second Harvest picks up donated fresh food, which would otherwise have gone to waste, and delivers that food to social service programs in the Greater Toronto Area. Second Harvest currently provides food for about 14,000 meals a day to children in breakfast programs, seniors on fixed incomes, women fleeing domestic abuse, psychiatric patients, homeless people, and many others who have fallen on hard times. Forty per cent of Second Harvest's recipients are children and youth.

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### ***For more information and to arrange interviews please contact:***

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