

# THE VANCOUVER SUN

## Side Dish: Chef scholarship contest heats up

BY MIA STAINSBY, VANCOUVER SUN    OCTOBER 22, 2013

Red Seal chefs under 28 years old compete to win \$10,000 and a practicum in a restaurant of choice, anywhere in the world (insofar as it can be arranged) at the first Hawksworth Young Chef Scholarship, founded by Vancouver's revered chef, David Hawksworth, and his wife Annabel. The smackdown takes place on Oct. 27 at the Pacific Institute of Culinary Arts. Ten young Canadian chefs will go head-to-head in the first round of cooking.

The top three continue to the second round, cooking several courses for the Canadian celebrity judges, who include Mark McEwan (star of Top Chef Canada), Jacob Richler (award-winning food writer), Anthony Walsh (executive chef of Oliver & Bonacini Restaurants), Normand Laprise (chef, co-owner of Toque!), Scott Jaeger (Pear Tree restaurant) Vikram Vij (Vij's) and Hawksworth and Kristian Eligh (Hawksworth restaurant).

Aside from helping out young, talented chefs, Hawksworth wanted to draw attention to the importance of the federally run Red Seal chef's certificate.

"It's important to have the qualifications and provides a good foundation," Hawksworth said.

"I don't know what's happened, but it doesn't seem to be important these days. It's nice to be able to get people thinking about it.

"You wouldn't believe the number of high-calibre restaurants that didn't have Red Seal chefs or apprentices (training for Red Seal)."

During the event, the three finalists will be advised and critiqued by a panel of top Canadian chefs and critics.

"This will assist the winner in developing their professional skill set and will undoubtedly place them at the forefront of the culinary industry, allowing them to secure positions in reputable Canadian or internationally recognized restaurants," Hawksworth said.

The annual competition is open to Red Seal Canadian chefs working full-time in a professional kitchen. Rules and more information are available on the official website: [www.hawksworthscholarship.com](http://www.hawksworthscholarship.com).

A fundraising dinner will be held on the evening of the competition at Hawksworth Restaurant with the judges cooking a five-course dinner (\$140 or \$218 with wine pairings).

For reservations and more information, call 604-673-7000.