



CESAROTTO TOP CANADIAN PIZZA MAKER OF THE YEAR AT CANADIAN PIZZA SHOW

Edmonton, October 27, 2017 - Matteo Cesarotto, pizzaiolo at BUCO Pizzeria + Vino Bar, said he never dreamed he'd go home Canadian Pizza Chef of the Year, and he never imagined he'd be facing pal Giuseppe Cortinovis, from Vancouver, in a final bake-off that capped a day of networking at the Canadian Pizza Show in Mississauga on October 16, 2017.

But that's just what happened as Cesarotto's "Mush 'n Boar" pizza, featuring wild boar sausage and portobello mushrooms, edged out Cortinovis' "Garden" pizza topped with plum prosecco lime and chili preserve, and smoked Maldon.

The two friends won trips to Las Vegas to compete in the 2018 International Pizza Challenge at Pizza Expo. In addition, as Chef of the Year, Cesarotto picked up \$1,000.

Criteria for the pizza creations were based on:

DOUGH	CREATIVITY (innovation in ingredients, preparation & use. WOW factor)
TWO TOPPINGS	BAKE (not burnt, undercooked, etc.)
CHEESE BLEND & SPICES	PRESENTATION (visual appearance)
CRUST (texture, flavour, appearance, crumb, etc.)	
TOPPINGS (did the flavours complement each other)	

Judges for the Pizza Chef of the Year competitions were current pizzaiolo of the year, Carlo Raillo, award-winning pizza chef Marina Rondinelli; Giorgio Taverniti, owner of Frank's Pizza House in Toronto; and 2009 Chef of the Year Tom Stankiewicz, owner of Bondi's Pizza in London, Ont.

The Canadian Pizza Show played host to some 30 exhibitors as well as pizzeria owners, employees and entrepreneurs thinking of opening a pizza business. Attendees perused ingredients, equipment and services specifically curated to meet their needs. Sponsors of the annual trade-only event are Saputo Foodservice (Diamond), Marsal Pizza Ovens (Gold) and Ardent Mills (Gold). Sponsors for the Chef of the Year competitions are Saputo Foodservice, Moretti Forni and Escalon Premier Brands.

ABOUT: BUCO Pizzeria + Vino Bar is more than just a great pizzeria. BUCO is known for our unique "Assaggini" (Little Tastes) which are great to tease your appetite and for sharing! The menu specializes in fresh, modern Italian entrées, pasta, grilled dishes, desserts and neopolitan-style pizza. BUCO is located at: The Shops of Boudreau, 105 Bellerose Drive, St. Albert, Alberta.

In Edmonton, 2 more BUCO Pizzeria + Vino Bar are coming up in 2018! BUCO Windermere in Edmonton will launch in January and BUCO Downtown, in the EPCOR Tower, in February.

BUCO Pizzeria + Vino Bar is a division of the Sorrentino's Restaurant Group.

