



NANAIMO MUSEUM

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Media Release

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Chowder Fest Returns

After a one year hiatus, Nanaimo Museum's Chowder Fest is back on the front burner.

Scheduled for Saturday, Aug. 7 from 3:30-5:30 pm, this popular fundraiser for the museum is moving from its old location on Pioneer Waterfront Plaza to Maffeo Sutton Park to run in conjunction with the Symphony in the Harbour.

"After taking a year off to focus all of our attention on the new museum, we are back on track with our biggest fundraiser of the year," says organizer Mark Corbett. "The big news though is our new partnership with the Symphony in the Harbour."

While Chowder Fest has traditionally happened on the same day as the Symphony in the Harbour, usually the first Saturday after the August long weekend, there was a disconnect between the two because of the timing of both events and the physical distance between them. That's all changed by moving Chowder Fest to Maffeo Sutton where people can now enjoy some of the best chowder on the West Coast and then take in the concert all in the same location.

Competing in this year's event will be some of Nanaimo's most popular independent restaurants including The Bold Knight, Dinghy Dock Pub, Amazing Thai Restaurant, Old City Station Pub, Acme Food Company, Longwood Brew Pub, Lighthouse Bistro, Miller's Pub, Gabriele's Café and the Oxy Pub.

As a culinary competition, the winning chowder is chosen by passport holders who vote for their favourite after trying all the entries. The People's Choice Award winner receives a trophy and bragging rights for the year, but there is also the Silver and Bronze Ladle Award, Museum's Choice Award and Best Table Display.

Sponsoring this year's Chowder Fest are the Downtown Nanaimo Business Improvement Association, St. Jean's Cannery, Island Farms, Nanaimo Toyota, Thrifty Foods and Harbour Chandler as well as the museum's major sponsors the City of Nanaimo and Nanaimo Port Authority.

Tickets to Chowder Fest are just \$15 and are available at Nanaimo Museum, the Wharfinger's Office in the Boat Basin, at participating restaurants and at the gate. There are a limited number of tickets available though, so people are encouraged to get them early.

For more information, call the Nanaimo Museum at 250-753-1821 or visit www.nanaimomuseum.ca.

