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2nd Annual Cooking for KidSport Raises \$18,000!



The 2nd Annual Cooking for KidSport fundraising event was held on April 12th and raised \$18,000. After two previous postponements due to weather related issues, the 200 attendees were treated to a fantastic dining experience and some unique entertainment featuring some local celebrities showcasing some of their culinary skills.

With April 12th being Humboldt Jersey Day, attendees were given the option of wearing their favourite jersey in honour of Humboldt and many people took advantage of the opportunity to sport the colours of their favorite team. Mike Shannon of Newcap Radio and Ryan MacDonald of Key Murray Law (co-presenting sponsors) paid tribute to Humboldt and asked the attendees to join them in a moment of silence for the terrible tragedy.

After a somewhat somber start, emcee Zack Bell then introduced the celebrity chefs with “We Will Rock You” pumping in the background! The Holland Hurricanes, sponsored by ServiceMaster PEI were in the leadoff spot featuring Lori-Beth Dwyer, Ibrah Sanoh and Albert Roche. Next up came the defending champion UPEI Panthers, sponsored by Irving Oil, featuring Stephanie Knickle, Kiera Rigby and Gerard Murphy of Ocean 100.3. The Charlottetown Islanders, sponsored by Century 21 Colonial Realty were announced next with Craig Foster, Jason MacLean and Ashley Bee of Hot 105.5. The final team was a single entry with well-known Islander Jeff Ellsworth pinch hitting for the Summerside Western Capitals team, sponsored by the City of Summerside. The Caps were unable to participate due to scheduling conflicts. Jeff is a KidSport Ambassador



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and was excited to fill in and take on the challenge. The Island Storm, sponsored by Sports Centre Physiotherapy were also unable to participate due to a playoff game happening at the same time.

Once the celebrity teams were announced, a free agent signing was announced. The Holland Hurricanes brought volleyball athlete Philicia Johnson on their team. Sports can be a tough business sometimes so one member of the team had to be cut, and this was Athletic Director Albert Roche. Luckily Jeff Ellsworth welcomed Albert to his team for the evening. It was then determined that one more participant was needed to fill in the teams...so a volunteer was sought from the audience. In one of the highlights of the night, a VERY enthusiastic gentleman wanted badly to be a part of the event...and after quite an extensive and entertaining few moments of cartwheels, backflips and handstands, well know gymnast Scott Chandler was announced as the final member of the team. It was now time to get the evening underway!

Four culinary competitions would be undertaken by each of the celebrity chef teams. Up first and running throughout the evening would be the creation of a signature burger...each team was provided with a box of ingredients that they could use to create their masterpiece. In addition, each team was faced with three other "culinary" expertise challenges. Each team was tasked with creating a signature sports drink, a cake decorating contest, and to keep things interesting and to show their prowess on the sports field, each team was given the task of the longest egg toss!

After all of the activities were undertaken throughout the evening, and a lot of fun and interaction with guests, the top culinary team was announced...and the Holland Hurricanes took home the title for 2018!

Also happening throughout the evening were many draws for raffle prizes and silent auction items that were up for grabs. The grand prize raffle item was airfare for 2 anywhere WestJet flies and the lucky winner was Nadine Moore! Many attendees walked away with some great prizes and some fantastic silent auction items.

The big winner on the night however was KidSport PEI...with a whopping \$18,000 raised for the organization. After two years, the event has now raised over \$34,000! KidSport PEI helps remove the financial barriers that limit some children from participating in sport in PEI and the funds raised will be put to use right away.

KidSport PEI believes all Island children should have the opportunity to experience the positive benefits that sport offers. Organized sport teaches children important life skills, such as leadership, commitment, teamwork and self-confidence. Staying physically active is important for everyone, and playing sports helps develop healthy lifestyles for children across Prince Edward Island.

By all accounts, the evening was once again a tremendous success and plans are already underway for next year!



For More Information, contact:

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Cooking for KidSport – A Culinary Extravaganza!

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