



NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release: August 20, 2019

Finalists for the 2019 BC Food and Beverage Awards Announced Celebrating the Best of BC's top manufacturing industry.

Vancouver, BC – The BC Food Processors Association is pleased to unveil the list of the 2019 BC Food and Beverage Award Finalists. These finalists represent the companies, products, and leaders who inspire impactful initiatives that reflect our award categories. BC Food Processors Association will commend these achievements at the Awards Gala on September 17 at the Westin Bayshore Hotel in Vancouver.

‘We are amazed at both the quality and the quantity of nominations for the BC Food & Beverage Awards this year’ said James Donaldson, CEO of the BC Food Processors Association, which hosts the Awards. ‘The judges had a more challenging time determining the award finalists this year than I’ve ever seen, and I think selecting a winner for each award will prove just as difficult. It’s really a testament to the great things going on in the food and beverage industry in BC.’

Finalists were selected in eight award categories by an independent judging panel. This year’s finalists are:

Innovation Award

- Organika
- DeeBee’s Organics
- SmartSweets

Leadership Award

- Craig Ogilvie of Gardein
- Silvio Lettrari of Kaslo Sourdough Pasta
- Kimberly Chamberlain of Big Mountain Foods

Rising Star

- Dionne Baker of DeeBee’s Organics
- Mellisa Mills of Spread’em Kitchen
- Jill Van Gyn of Fatso Peanut Butter

People First Award

- EWOS
- Que Pasa Mexican Food
- Sleeman Breweries

Sustainability Award

- Pasture to Plate Natural Products
- Naked Coconuts
- Farafena Foods

Export Award

- Organika
- Big Mountain Foods
- Rogers Foods

The flagship award is the Product of the Year. This year's competition, held at FoodProWest on June 3, included 36 companies that presented an amazing assortment of unique BC products to our panel of judges in a 'Dragon's Den' style format. Gold, Silver and Bronze Awards will be presented at the Gala.

The 2019 Product of the Year Nominees are:

Infusion Soy Sauces	Route 18 Real Food Co. Ltd.	Triple Smoked Foods
Culture Kefir Co.	Sugarplum Desserts	The Phamily Table
Goodly Foods	Nu-Tea	Truffle Pig Chocolates
West Coast Wild Foods	St. Jean's	Chasers Fresh Juice
Left Coast Naturals	Aji Gourmet Foods Ltd.	52 ° North
DUPISCHAI	Juvalicious	Enercheez
Quesava	Naturally Splendid	Caramoomel Products Inc.
FATSO Peanut Butter	Blume	Spread'em Kitchen
Lita's Mexican Foods	Western Sage Honey	Gardein
NUME Holistic Nutrition	Moonshine Mama's Kitchen	Herband Naturals Inc.
Paracanna	Golden Ears Cheesecrafters	Maison Mulnati
Hunter Browns	Say Hello Sweets	

In addition to celebrating these Award Finalists, we will also honour the 2019 inductee to the Hall of Fame and the BCFPA Associate and Processor Member of the Year.

Awards Gala guests will enjoy a cocktail reception and a three-course meal composed of BCFPA member products, along with ample time to connect and network with professionals in the Food and Beverage industry, the leading manufacturing sector, surpassing forestry. The Awards Gala is open to all. Tickets are available at www.bcfpa.ca

Videos of finalists will be shown at the Gala on September 17. "Watching those videos makes you so proud of being a BC company. I'm really proud that we can be a part of bringing BC products to the world. We have some amazing products here. It's amazing to have an event like this... to show how beautiful our province is."

- Shane Sondermann, SunRype, 2018 Export Award Winner

To purchase Gala tickets, please visit our website: <https://www.bcfpa.ca/events/bc-food-and-beverage-awards-gala-2019>

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Photographs, videos and more will be posted on our website: www.bcfpa.ca

For media inquiries and to request media tickets, please email Sandra Lee at Sandra@bcfpa.ca

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