



Les Dames d'Escoffier
British Columbia Chapter

Local Women Benefit from Les Dames d'Escoffier Awards

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 23, 2009 (Vancouver BC) - Les Dames d'Escoffier BC Chapter (LDEI BC) is pleased to announce two local recipients of significant awards from their organisation.

The recipient of the Debra van Ginkel award was presented to **Kim Osborne**, Founder of Chefs for Life. Chefs for Life is a fundraising event featuring Vancouver's top chefs raising money for The Vancouver Friends for Life Society. The Debra van Ginkel award is accompanied by \$5000.00, of which \$2500.00 is presented by LDEI BC and \$2500.00 is donated by Debra's husband, Murray Robinson.

This award is dedicated to the memory of Debra van Ginkel, a Les Dames d'Escoffier member who passed away in January 2008 after a struggle with cancer which she handled with grace, dignity and good humour. A Queen's Council lawyer, she was a valued member of LDEI BC for many years as chapter treasurer, which was a great marrying of Debra's legal and culinary skills. This award is designed to capture the optimism, spirit and compassion with which Debra led her life and which will live on in her memory.

Local BC chef, **Rebecca Troelstra** has been awarded a Les Dames d'Escoffier Legacy Award. These one-week internships were created to give young women, who are not Dames, a firsthand opportunity to learn more about the culinary and wine professions from some of our most accomplished Dames. Chef Troelstra, Executive Chef at Mizuna Culinary in Langley, BC, will spend a week with Dames Alison Awerbuch and Abigail Kirsch at Abigail Kirsch Culinary Productions in New York.

Les Dames d'Escoffier is a society of professional women. Our purpose is to promote the understanding, appreciation and knowledge of food, wine and the arts of the table. We also supply advice and scholarship assistance to women as they pursue careers in food, wine, hospitality, nutrition, food technology or other related areas.

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