

Concours de Livres Culinaires Canadien Canadian Culinary Book Awards

2010

CUISINE CANADA'S EDNA AWARD

John Bishop

About the award:

***Edna Staebler** (1906–2006) was a Canadian icon. She was one of the first Canadian writers to extol the virtues of local (regional) food in her magazine articles and best-selling Schmecks cookbooks. Her portrayal of Old Order Mennonites and Waterloo County fare lifted the region into a culinary destination in Canada. In 1996, Cuisine Canada inaugurated a lifetime achievement award, **The Edna**, given that year to Edna and thereafter to an individual who has contributed to the promotion of regional cuisine and who exemplifies the region through his or her work.*



About the recipient:

John Bishop is recognized for his exceptional and long-standing contribution to regional cuisine in the field of restaurant and food service. British-born John Bishop trained and worked as a chef in Britain until 1973 when he brought his culinary expertise to Canada, launching his restaurant Bishop's in 1985 with a commitment to local, organic and seasonal foods long before it was common practice to do so. Located in Vancouver, Bishop's showcases the Pacific Northwest's lush bounty. In his very successful restaurant, Chef Bishop's technique and focus is to bring out the best in local ingredients, beyond tricks or fashionable preparations, but with a casual elegance, based on his belief in feeding people well and treating everything with respect.

Beyond the restaurant's walls, Chef Bishop has had a positive influence on other restaurants and chefs, including Rob Feenie, Vikram Vij and Andrey Durbach, by helping pioneer direct relationships between restaurants and local farmers such as Hazlemere Organic Farms.

He continues to explore the relationship between food and the land around us, with a fascinating award-winning documentary, *Deconstructing Supper*, <http://www.bullfrogfilms.com/catalog/decon.html>, which is a genuine and heartfelt attempt to understand the complexities that face food production.

The **2010 Edna Award** tops a great number of other awards John Bishop already has, including Cuisine Canada's Gold for his cookbook *Fresh* in 2008, Vancouver Magazine Restaurant of the Year many times, 2002 Queen's Golden Jubilee Award and the inaugural Governor General's Award for the Nation's Table in 2010 – all testaments to John Bishop's ideals of fostering local foods that nurture the body and soul.

Contact:

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