

June 2008

To all of those who supported our Lindsay Vandekamp on her accomplishment of competing at the National Skills Competition in Calgary Alberta this past May 2008....we would like to Thank You sincerely for your support and encouragement.....

Lindsay has written a Thank You letter to you all...Please read below:

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Following your dreams takes dedication and determination, but most importantly it takes a huge support team. And a team is what I had going into this huge adventure.

I can honestly say that I was blown away by the huge support from everyone. A Thank You to Chef Bill Sharpe for your continuous support through out my chef training at Liaison College, Hamilton Campus... you are a true mentor to me and have helped me to go after my dream of one day being a great chef.

Also a huge thanks to Chef Rob Cleland ...for all the hours of training you put in for me. I know it was not always easy to work with me. but you taught me one thing that I will take with me in all that I do ..and that important Lesson was to have FUN!!!!!! Thank you for that. P.S. In some sick way I did have fun. (laugh out loud)

An enormous Thank You to Chef Mick Elliott and Chef Anna Paula for taking the time to venture out to Hamilton Campus to help train me and also take time to have myself come to your campus during such a busy time for you. And let's not forget Anna Paula and your self taking the trip to Calgary with me! Your knowledge and support put a huge ease on me knowing that you had my back, if I needed it and that meant the world to me! Thanks Chef!!!! I should also mention an "even bigger thank you" for doing the team building.. I tell you, my team must of had huge faith in me to get up and line dance! I think you should have gotten a medal Chef Mick!

I have learned through out this experience, all the key players that help make this dream happen and one of my key players was Nicole. When given the news that I had won the Ontario Skills Competition, Nicole stepped up to the plate organizing everything from menus to plane tickets to the pile of paper work that needed to be organized. She also played a huge role in the tasting of my mousse! Nicole...are you sick of Chocolate mousse yet? I know I am... On a serious note thank you so very much for all that you have done for me your support was always there when I needed it and your friendship means the world to me.

Another key player was Chef Jason who decided to take a stop in Calgary to cheer me on. Your kind words and encouragement in helping me to believe in myself, got me through some very stressful times. I cannot thank you enough for your friendship. If anyone knows Chef Jason, you would know that he was in the Army and in doing that developed a huge voice. When I went to the Closing Ceremonies at the Skills Ontario

Competition May 6<sup>th</sup>, and when I was called upon the stage to collect my Gold Medal... this huge voice yelled out through the crowd "LINDSAY YOU ROCK"!!!! Jason, that is one moment that I will remember for the rest of my life! And the "Lindsay YOU ROCK" continued through out the Calgary Opening Ceremonies. So I have this to say this to you Chef Jason...JASON YOU ROCK!!!!!! And thank you for everything ☺

Another key player in my continuous adventure that started last June 2007, was Liaison College, Hamilton Campus itself. This is where I made one of the best decisions of my life. This school has given me a huge jump in the industry from job opportunities to every day connections to the industry. Gene and Murline Mallette have always been there for me and I thank you for that. I know I always talk about my 1.2 million but the day that I got that 1.2 million was when you gave me a huge hug and told me that you were proud of me that meant more then any amount of money in the world. So I give you 1.2 million Thank You's for everything that yourself and Gene have done for me.

I would like to personally thank Liaison College, Head Office and Susanne Mikler for sponsoring my trip to Calgary. If it were not for you I would not have been to go to Calgary and follow my dreams. So to you Susanne, Thank you very much.

I also want to thank everyone involved in for coming together and offering your support in fundraising for the Calgary Trip. To those Liaison campuses that helped to raise Ticket Money, I want to personally thank you as well. You helped us raise money to make sure my "team of supporters" were with me in Calgary and because of you, you made that happen! And with those ticket sales came ticket buyers...Thank you so very much for your support. Just remember that if you did not win the dinner for eight you can still have a Gold Medal Chef cook your dinner...

To Mercer Tools... Thank you for sponsoring Chef Mick Elliott's trip to Calgary That was very generous of you and thank you for having faith in me.

To Olaf and Creative Kitchen...You are so great. Just from the mention of my accomplishments and then my needs for the proper "new uniform" to represent Liaison College with the Canadian Flag and Ontario Flag on each collar...was amazing. You are so efficient and so wonderful...thank you again. I wore it proudly!

Finally, to all of those that were involved in the starting of my dream of being a chef .....THANK YOU ...The only thing I can say is "YOU ROCK"!!!!

I hope that I made you proud, I can honestly say that when I look in the mirror, I can confidently look at myself and say that I did my best and I am proud of what I have accomplished so far in my cooking career. Thank You Liaison College

Sincerely,  
Lindsay Vandekamp  
WOOH HOOH LIAISON COLLEGE ROCKS!!!!!!!