



FIRST ANNUAL *FEEST* A SUMPTUOUS SUCCESS!

(Feest, pronounced *faest*, from the Dutch for party, feast, celebration.)

An unforgettable night on the Apple Pie Trail in support of the Blue Mountain Village Foundation.

Blue Mountains, Ontario. February 22, 2017 --- While the full moon never did shine through, a gentle snow illuminated by the stream of snowshoer's headlamps provided a beautiful winter backdrop nonetheless. And the fine local fare at the three stops along the Scenic Caves Nature Adventure trails more than delivered on expectations. "It sounded like a fun night when I first heard about it," said Libby Glover, a participant from Toronto, "but this is unbelievable. The food is amazing, the wine is fantastic and the snowshoeing is a blast. Sign us up for next year!"

Outside, the highlight for most was the trek across Southern Ontario's longest suspension footbridge. Awe-inspiring in the daytime, somehow uniquely serene at night. Inside, the apple-inspired food and drink was the hot – and cold – topic. There were palette pleasers for every taste, all including Red Prince apples from the main presenter. Soup by Ravenna Country Market, salad by Chef Shawn from Bruce Wine Bar and gnocchi by Chef Leona Nyman from Azzura, Cheese Gallery fondue, and an inspired creation of pork belly over a warm potato salad from Chef Jeremy Korten of Oliver & Bonacini. And, of course, some fine local potables from sponsors including Collingwood Whiskey, Thornbury Cidery, Georgian Hills Vineyards, Side Launch Brewery, T&K Ferri Orchard, Giffen's Country Market, Goldsmith's Market and signature drinks from Fire Hall Pizza.

At the final stop, a lovely and rustic log cabin, the snowshoes came off and guests were greeted by the mouthwatering aroma of Thornbury Bakery apple pie. Some chose to stay outside, have an apple slice rolled in taffy on ice and warm themselves by the outdoor fireplaces. Others went inside for more apple delights, a look at the apple-inspired art and jewelry of Dorgelo art, and a warming whiskey while local musician Rebecca Rain kept everyone's toes tapping with her unique interpretations of new hits and old classics. Just part of a great night made all the better when you consider it was all for charity. It raised \$1,217 for the Blue Mountain Village Foundation, an organization dedicated to providing financial support to charitable organizations in the Southern Georgian Bay region whose activities benefit residents of local communities. "What a truly exciting event this was," said Catherine Smart, manager of the Foundation, "Thanks to our

intrepid participants, dedicated sponsors and generous donations, we can continue to make positive change in our local communities. Our thanks to everyone.”

Feest on the Apple Pie Trail was a one-of-a-kind night leaving everyone involved with one-of-a-kind memories.

About the Apple Pie Trail:

Now in our 10th year! Along the western plain of Georgian Bay, adjacent to the UNESCO Biosphere Reserve of the Niagara Escarpment that forms the historic Bruce Peninsula, Mother Nature and human nature have teamed up to create perfect conditions for growing apples and baking apple pie. Discover the award winning Blue Mountains Apple Pie Trail and discover much more than artisan baked goods! From the quaint Creemore Village to the historic ship building town of Collingwood, the picturesque Blue Mountain Village, Clarksburg and the charming harbour towns of Thornbury and Meaford , the yearlong Trail features over 40 stops highlighting local apple history, art, wine, ciders, apple infused food specialties teamed with adventure packages for every season.

Awarded the Best Culinary Experience and Culinary Leadership by Ontario Culinary Tourism Alliance 2011 and 2012 respectively. For more information, please visit www.applepietrail.com