

Spo7ez Winter Feast launches for Winter 21.22

Dinner & Performances will be showcased on Friday December 17 and follow every Friday from January 7 – February 18







November 25, 2021, Whistler, BC - The Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre is proud to launch the Spo7ez Winter Feast offering a culturally-infused dining program this winter season. Showcasing on Friday December 17 and then running Friday's from January 7 until February 18, this family-friendly dinner will feature a Northwest Coast inspired menu. Performances will take place throughout dinner service, featuring the Spo7ez Performance Team - SLCC's Cultural Ambassadors showcasing authentic songs and dance from the Squamish Nation and Lil'wat Nation.

Blending culinary and cultural excellence, guests can expect to savour traditional dishes such as bannock, west coast cedar plank salmon and venison stew, and contemporary dishes such as winter ale steamed clams, beet and kale salad and finishing with apple crumble served with local xusem berry whipped cream. The menu will also accommodate vegetarian, vegan, and gluten-free diners. The dinner will be served through themed buffet stations with family-style seating in the circular Istken Hall, encouraging greater connections between guests, performers, and our culinary team. The evening showcases the culinary expertise of Lil'wat Red Seal Apprentice Maggie Wallace and her team led by Executive Chef Felix Breault.



Guests are invited to join an immersive welcome song and guided tour through the museum, to learn more about our two distinct culture, accessing the Great Hall and exhibits, including a short film, to delve deeper into our stories, shared territories, and living heritage. The dinner will include a Feast Blessing, Storytelling and Dancing by the Spo7ez Performance Team — Cultural Ambassador's from the Squamish Nation and Lil'wat Nation presenting a gift of story through song, drum, and dance. Adorned in regalia born from the land Whistler lives on and the history of the original peoples of this territory, young leaders of both Nations transform the audience atmosphere into the heartbeat of the bear, dance of the gopher, quickening of the salmon, and cry of the wolf. Performers will wear traditional regalia and use storytelling, dance and song to share the rich cultures and histories of their shared territory.

The event and performance namesake, Spo7ez, refers to the ancient village shared by the Skwxwú7mesh and Lil'wat7ul, Spo7ez, located where Rubble Creek and the Cheakamus River meet. Skwxwú7mesh, a Coast Salish People, and Lil'wat7ul, an Interior Salish People, resided on this site together. As this menu represents what can be harvested from Interior Salish and Coast Salish territories, and the story of Spo7ez reminds us of acceptance and belonging. By bringing together the traditional concept of a shared feast as an authentic culinary and cultural connection and to honour and celebrate our Indigenous Ambassadors from both Squamish Nation and Lil'wat Nation.

"With the ever-increasing desire to learn and take part in First Nations culture and learning, and a safe and celebrated return to experiential dining, The Spo7ez Winter Feast is more than 'dinner and a show'. It is a tour of all senses, including the heart. We are proud to showcase our part in the culinary landscape of Whistler, infusing the good medicine of traditional foods with the storytelling of both Nations. The Spo7ez performers and Cultural Ambassadors of the SLCC represent the true Skwxwú7mesh and Lil'wat7ul, their regalia and spirit of this territory. When they sing, the ancestors who lived on this land sing. When they dance, they dance with the great, great grandchildren not yet born. I invite everyone to witness the peace, security and joy of this land in the form of the Spo7ez Winter Feast." says Executive Director Heather Paul.

The Museum and Gift Shop and Gallery will remain open for dinner guests wishing to explore, and there will be a Cultural Ambassador on site to answer any questions guests may have during their visit.

Pricing is \$79 for adults (18+), \$69 for Youth (13 – 17), and \$39.50 for children (5 – 12). Ages four and under are free. Seating capacity will be limited to 100 guests per evening.

SP07EZ WINTER FEAST MENU

Comprised of traditional seasonal ingredients and Indigenous-inspired plates.

THE MEADOW

Pemberton Smashed Potatoes (Vegan, Gluten Free)

Caramelized onions, garlic oil & herbs



Beet & Kale Salad (Vegan, Gluten Free)

Roasted apples, cranberries, toasted pecans, homemade berry vinaigrette

THE OCEAN

Winter Ale Steamed Clams (Gluten Free, Dairy Free)

Nelson Faceplant Ale, bacon, roasted garlic & seaweed

West Coast Cedar Plank Salmon (Gluten Free, Dairy Free)

Maple glaze, citrus

SLCC INDIGENOUS INSPIRED CUISINE

Caramelized Onion & Sage Bannock (Vegetarian)
Venison Stew (Dairy & Gluten Free)
Wild mushrooms, parsnip, rosemary

DESSERT

Apple Crumble (Vegetarian) Xusem Whipped Cream

DRINKS
Hot Apple Cider
with spices

(Cash Bar)
Indigenous World Wine Red & White
Local Craft Beer, Cider and Coolers

For more information and to buy tickets visit <u>SLCC.ca/Feast</u>.

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About Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre (SLCC)

Spo7ez Cultural Centre and Community Society is a registered Canadian charity and the first centre of its kind in Canada. The Squamish and Lil'wat Nations came together to celebrate and share our cultures with the world while creating meaningful employment opportunities for members of both nations. By sharing where we are from and where we are going, our visitors acquire a greater understanding of our Nations and the shared territories that Whistler resides upon. www.slcc.ca

