



Mmm...Bacon

Halenda's takes the Diamond for their Double-Smoked

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Guelph, ON – October 25, 2017 – The Diamond Award was created in 2015 to recognize the highest scoring product across all categories in the Ontario Finest Meat Competition™. This year the acknowledgement goes to Halenda's for their Double Smoked Bacon.

Halenda's entered products across 14 categories in the competition and took home seven awards in addition to the Diamond. Platinum went to their Montreal Smoked Brisket, Double Smoked Bacon, and Veal Wiener, gold for Ukrainian Smoked Bacon and Lacshinkin, and silver for Kranska and Homestyle Turkey Breast.

"There are so many OIMP members that we believe are the finest sausage makers that winning a medal in any category is a testament to the quality of product we make. Winning the Diamond award is an absolute honour," says Richard Halenda, owner.

The 2017 Ontario Finest Meat Competition™, hosted by the Ontario Independent Meat Processors, attracted 115 entries from 14 Ontario processors. Late July, an impressive roster of knowledgeable, influential judges including retail buyers, media, chefs, authors and a home economist determined the award winners in each of 14 categories. See our behind the scenes [video](#) of the judging.

Winners for Platinum, Gold, and Silver were announced at a gala event held in Niagara Falls, Ontario, Saturday October 21. Judging criteria was based on flavour, aroma, texture, uniqueness and visual appearance, and the top three entries from each category were selected based on the judges' combined scores.

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About Halenda's

Halenda's Fine Foods is a retailer and processor of quality fresh meat, smoke/prepared meats, and deli meats. Since 1979, Halenda's Meats has been five stores strong in their community of Oshawa, one in Mississauga, and also at the St. Jacob's Market. For the past 8 years the community has voted Halenda's the # 1 deli and meat shop because of choice and customer delight. When you buy Halenda products, whether it's for selection, uniqueness, reliability or for sure great taste, "you are buying a family tradition".

About the Ontario Finest Meat Competition™

In 1987 the Ontario Independent Meat Processors (OIMP) launched its first meat competition with four categories and a handful of entries competing for peer recognition and bragging rights. The competition moved from an annual to a biennial competition in 2003 and now, in 2017, it is the largest of its kind in

Canada with 14 categories that embrace both modern trends and the enduring heritage of Ontario's artisanal meat and poultry products.

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