



## PRESS RELEASE

### Toronto's Riverside Invites the World June 6th to Eats & Beats Street Fest

*Free, fresh and local food and music festival just steps from Pan Am Athletes' Village*

**Toronto, Ontario – May 19, 2015** - Get ready, get set for the annual 'Riverside Eats & Beats StreetFEST' on Saturday, June 6th, from 1:00 PM to 6:00PM on Queen Street East (between DVP and Empire Ave). This year, as part of Pan Am's TO2015 IGNITE program, Riverside invites the world to enjoy its family-friendly food outlets and unique small town in the big city atmosphere, with a Caribbean and Latin twist. There will be a diversity of event destination points with live music, food and entertainment including: cooking demos, flying yoga, kids activities, art and culinary tours and, of course, mouth-watering Riverside tasters.

"We are excited to welcome the world to this year's Riverside Eats & Beats Festival to taste our mouth-watering culinary fare, move to local beats, and take in the area's history and vibrant community life. We invite residents and visitors to come often, during and beyond the Pan Am and Para Pan Am Games!" said Anjali Solanki, Riverside BIA's Executive Director.

With over 75 local businesses and groups participating, highlights of the festival include:

- Bringing down Broadview+ (street closure) will include all sorts of funk in music, food and fun. Local act The Don Valley Stompers will kick off the festival, followed by Turbo Funk Street Band and Samba Elégua. An Sibín Pub will have celtic, samba and jazzy beats, paired with BBQ and craft beers.
- Munro Street Bike It! Block Party+ (street closure) boasts bicycle-powered music by Les Petits Nouveaux and Mirian Kay, and family friendly cycling-gear activities: a bicycle rodeo, bike decorating, cycle tune-ups, and spinning sessions.
- Ready, Set Play on Saulters Street+ (street closure) will feature Culinary Adventure Co. demos, face painting and Pan Am modeling for the kids with the Queen/Saulters Library, local blues and rock tunes, plus Coffee Cupping at the Ralph Thornton Centre.
- Nell & Natasha's Blues & Rhythms BBQ+ at McGee Street will feed your stomach and soul with a Free BBQ and HUDU Rising Blues Band, plus face painting, balloons, prizes and more.
- The 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Riverdale Art Walk+ in Jimmie Simpson Park is a two-day (June 6th & 7th), public fine art exhibition showcasing 170 established and emerging artists.

More at [www.riverside-to.com](http://www.riverside-to.com)

**ABOUT RIVERSIDE BIA** - The Riverside Business Improvement Area (BIA), located on Queen Street East from the DVP to Empire Ave, is known for its heritage buildings, award-winning restaurants, and the street that inspired the cult classic Degraffi TV series. This year's Riverside Eats & Beats Festival is supported by Toronto 2015 IGNITE and Metroland media.

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