



CONTACT INFORMATION:

Colleen Fitzpatrick, *Executive Director, Rotary Centre for the Arts*

Email: director@rotarycentreforthearts.com

250-717-5304, ext. 109

For Immediate Release – March 28, 2022

Roma Nord Bistro Opens at the Rotary Centre for the Arts, Bringing Authentic Roman Cuisine to Downtown Kelowna

(Kelowna, BC) - The Rotary Centre for the Arts (RCA) is thrilled to welcome Roma Nord Bistro to its downtown campus. Specializing in authentic Roman-style Italian cuisine, Roma Nord officially opens to the public Monday, March 30th in the RCA North Atrium (421 Cawston Ave.).

Colleen Fitzpatrick, Executive Director of the RCA says, “We could not be more pleased to welcome Roma Nord to the RCA and Kelowna community. The culinary arts are a beautiful, engaging way to create cross-cultural understanding, and we’re confident that Roma Nord’s fresh, flavorful food will pair perfectly with the local Okanagan art and music that we feature in our Atrium.”

Roma Nord is operated by Danilo and Angela D’Alba, who came to Canada from Rome five years ago. “Our dream,” says Danilo through a translator, “is to bring the experience of dining on a Roman piazza to Kelowna.” The philosophy, Angela stresses, is “authenticity.” “We want people to understand what makes Roman food distinct from other Italian cuisines. We want to create something true to our Roman roots.”

With decades of combined culinary experience, this should be no problem for the D’Albas. For his part, Danilo spent many years managing his family’s butcher shop, which has been operating continuously in the north end of Rome since 1927. It was here that he met Angela, who at the time was a student of biology at a local university. But with a passion for food rooted in long summers spent preparing family meals with her aunts, Angela quickly teamed up with Danilo at the butcher shop, leading the development of a new take-home dining program while training with some of Rome’s most celebrated chefs.

Now, after several years developing similar programs for specialty markets elsewhere in BC, the D’Albas are ready to bring a taste of Rome directly to Kelowna diners. In Danilo’s words, that means classic dishes prepared with “fewer ingredients, but lots of love.” Patrons can expect to indulge in such Roman staples as spaghetti carbonara—an iconic dish featuring sharp pecorino cheese, savory guanciale, and rich egg yolk—crisp, pillowy focaccia, and Roman-style pizzas topped with fresh Okanagan produce.

Says Danilo, “Walking around Kelowna in May, when the flowers are coming out, reminds me of being in Rome in the spring. The climate, the vegetables, the fruit, and the wine—it’s all very Roman.” Roma Nord celebrates these similarities, bringing a little piece of Rome to Cawston Avenue.

Roma Nord Bistro is open for dine-in and takeout Monday-Saturday, 8 AM-9 PM (closed Sundays). Roma Nord is fully licensed and available for catering. For more information, visit rotarycentreforthearts.com/roma-nord-bistro, or contact Roma Nord directly at ciao@romanordbistro.ca or by phone at 236-420-0125.

-30-

About the Rotary Centre for the Arts

Located in the heart of Kelowna’s Cultural District, the [Rotary Centre for the Arts](#) is a multidisciplinary visual and performing arts centre. The RCA continually strives to improve the economic, cultural, and social quality of life in the community by fostering participation in, and appreciation of the arts. As a world-class venue celebrating creative expression through diverse art forms and disciplines, the Rotary Centre for the Arts is a unique City of Kelowna facility in which individuals of all ages and backgrounds come together to share in the excitement of strengthening art and culture in the Okanagan. The Rotary Centre for the Arts respectfully acknowledges that it is located on the unceded, traditional territory of the Syilx (Okanagan) people.