



Bringing the best of Tuscany to Canada

News Release

June 9th, 2005

CHOCOLATE IS GOOD FOR YOU!

As if you really needed science to give you a reason to indulge in the pleasure of chocolate. We now know that dark chocolate and cocoa have a high antioxidant content and can have a therapeutic effect on our hearts, encourage blood circulation and reduce cholesterol. Phenylethylamine stimulates the brain. Serotonin has an anti-depressant effect. Caffeine encourages mental activity and counteracts tiredness. A moderate daily amount of dark chocolate is good for your health. Really!

In the hands of a skilled and dedicated artisan like Andrea Slitti, science and art merge, and the cocoa bean is lovingly transformed into a variety of delectable treats. The ***Slitti Chocolate and Coffee Company***, one of Europe's finest award-winning chocolatiers, has finally come to Canada. Imported by ***TusCan International***, an assortment of Slitti's all-natural and hand-made products were officially launched on June 9th at *Pusateri's Fine Foods* in Toronto.

Some of the products include:

- 100g bars ranging from white (30% cocoa) to a unique and rare **dark milk** chocolate (Lattenero) with 70% cocoa, to sumptuous dark chocolate bars ranging from 60% to 100% cocoa (Retail → \$8 to \$11)
- a *Gran Bouquet* line of bars flavoured with Jasmine or Earl Grey Tea, Arabica coffee or Chilli Pepper, the original chocolate flavouring. You'll get a bite back when you bite into this one! (Retail → \$8 to \$13)
- a phenomenal hazelnut chocolate spread in both milk and dark chocolate that is great with bread, crepes, cakes, cookies or best enjoyed with just a spoon (Retail → \$25 to \$30)
- carefully selected jumbo raisins dusted in cocoa that melts in your mouth without effort (Retail → \$15 to \$20)
- smooth dark-chocolate covered Arabica coffee beans that are perfectly roasted for maximum flavour and texture (Retail → \$15 to \$20)
- unique gift items for the chocolate lover such as a very elegant boxed set of 6 solid chocolate spoons, dusted in cocoa. Enjoy with a latte or cappuccino. Just stir and eat. (Retail → \$30 - \$35)
- or try Slitti's signature chocolate tools dusted in cocoa to give a "rusty tools" effect. The handyman will love them and the not-so-handy man may get the message! Either way, a delicious conversation piece (Retail → \$40 to \$45)

Visit www.TusCanInternational.com to see the complete Canadian product offerings.

Get a little taste of Tuscany by visiting Slitti's web site at www.slitti.it

TusCan International is a Canadian company with roots in Italy and representatives in Tuscany who seek out the best that Tuscany has to offer, from gourmet foods such as truffle honey, olive oil and jams to the best hand-crafted designer quality leather products such as shoes (men's and ladies), belts (crocodile and python), purses and other accessories.

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