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**FREELANCE WRITER MICHELE PETERSON WINS TOP PRIZE AT CTO TRAVEL MEDIA AWARDS IN CANADA**

*~ Best of the Best award along with award for best feature in a consumer magazine presented at CTO awards luncheon in Toronto for article on Grenada’s culinary landscape*  *~*

**TORONTO**, Canada, 22 November, 2016 – An article that explores Grenada’s culinary landscape has copped the top award at the Caribbean Tourism Organization (CTO)’s Caribbean Travel Media Awards programme here.

The article, Extraordinary Grenada by freelance writer Michele Peterson, won the Best of the Best award announced today at the Caribbean Tourism Industry Awards Luncheon at Rosewater.

The story, which appeared in Taste & Travel International, takes readers on a satisfying journey through some of the taste-defining places, including the Caribbean’s oldest water-powered run distillery, an educational herb and spice project with Arawak, African, Indian and British influences, a goat dairy farm and a fully-functioning 17th century chocolate plantation.

Readers also get to savour with Peterson, organic Grenadian goat cheese, cocoa pods and delightful callaloo.

“The writer takes us on an incredible journey into the unique foods and attractions available in Grenada. It is an extremely well researched story that provides fascinating insights on the island’s rich culinary history,” judge Jeff Lake, managing partner and senior vice president - Punch Canada said.

“It was an original story. Excellent interviews. I felt I was reading something new about Grenada.”

Peterson was one seven travel writers and photographers awarded today for their coverage of the Caribbean.

The winners of this year’s Caribbean Travel Media awards in Canada are as follows:

**Been There, Wrote That – Best Feature Article In A Consumer Magazine**

Michele Paterson – Extraordinary Grenada - Taste & Travel International

**I Couldn’t Have Written Better Myself – Best Feature In A Consumer Newspaper**

Shari Kulha - A One per cent Solution (Barbados) – The National Post

**Inner Circle King/Queen– Best Feature Article In A Trade Publication**

Britney Hope - By Way of Barbados – Pax Magazine

**Virtual Visitor Award – Best Online Feature**

Steven Threndyle - Exploring the Cayes of Belize on a Stand-Up Paddle Board - Globe and Mail

**Not Lost in Translation Award - Best Feature by a Canadian Journalist that appeared in Foreign Media**.

Erin MacLeod - Nice 'n easy listening: why Jamaica loves Celine Dion and Air Supply - Guardian (UK)

**From Infinity…And Abroad! (Best Feature by a foreign Journalist in US or Caribbean Media)**

Chris Santella - A Belize Lodge Blends Agritourism With Caribbean Delights - National Post

**Oh Snap!– Best Photograph accompanying a feature**

Justin Harrington - Tropical Escape: Belize for Every Traveller - Elle Canada

**Oh My Word, I Blogged! (Best Blog Post)**

Michelle Peterson - 12 Reasons I’m Tempted to Drop Everything & Move to Grenada - A Taste for Travel.

This winner of this award was determined by voters in an online poll.

- ENDS –

**About the Caribbean Tourism Organization**

The Caribbean Tourism Organization (CTO), with headquarters in Barbados and offices in New York and London, is the Caribbean’s tourism development agency comprising membership of the region’s finest countries and territories including Dutch, English, French and Spanish, as well as a myriad of private sector allied members. The CTO’s vision is to position the Caribbean as the most desirable, year round, warm weather destination, and its purpose is Leading Sustainable Tourism - One Sea, One Voice, One Caribbean.

Among the benefits to its members the organization provides specialized support and technical assistance in sustainable tourism development, marketing, communications, advocacy, human resource development, event planning & execution and research & information technology.

In addition the CTO, in partnership with the Caribbean Hotel & Tourism Association, jointly and equally owns the Caribbean Tourism Development Company, a marketing and business development entity dedicated to promoting the Caribbean brand worldwide.

The CTO’s Headquarters is located at Baobab Tower, Warrens, St. Michael, Barbados BB 22026; Tel: (246) 427-5242; Fax: (246) 429-3065; E-mail: [CTObarbados@caribtourism.com](https://mail.caribtourism.com/owa/redir.aspx?C=coWM4uq67kOXfN6WhHuKPmSANeXH_9FIlCCxaIqHdGIN7mXKkFjbiu9vm1Txb4bDFFwbCFYIM9Q.&URL=mailto%3aCTObarbados%40caribtourism.com)

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