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Pacific Northwest Canned Pear Service Announces 2021 *CAN-DO Challenge* Contest Winners

Yakima, WA (May 21, 2021)—Pacific Northwest Canned Pear Service (PNCPS) announces three winners of its fourth *CAN-DO Challenge*. The contest was open to non-commercial foodservice operators (K-12, College & University, Business & Industry, Healthcare, and Military) who were invited to share the creative ways they use U.S. grown canned Bartlett pears on menus.

The PNCPS congratulates these 2021 *CAN-DO Challenge* contest winners:

1st Place - Pulled Pork & Pear Bao Bun, Chef Nick Machcinski, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI

2nd Place - Pork Wrap with Sweet & Spicy Pear Salsa, Bethany Soderlund, Chartwells/Compass Group USA, Hartland, WI

3rd Place - Pork & Pear Bowl, Robert Schram, Clovis Unified School District, Clovis, CA

“We saw the versatility of U.S. grown canned pears come through in the entries to our contest,” noted Susan Renke, Promotion Director for PNCPS. “We were excited to see the entrants adding canned pears to sweet and savory recipes across all dayparts. Their mild, sweet flavor pairs well with everything from pork and curry to feta, cranberries, cinnamon, gochujang, and more.”

Pacific Northwest Canned Pears proudly bear the “Product of the USA” label, which meets the school foodservice “Buy American” mandate and assures all foodservice operators that they are supporting American pear farmers. Always ripe and naturally sweet, canned Bartlett pears are peeled, poached and ready to use in everything from smoothies, salads, sandwiches, baked goods and desserts. Canned pears are poached pears which streamline prep and are a sustainable ingredient choice.

The *CAN-DO Challenge* winning recipes will be posted on eatcannedpears.com this summer.

About Pacific Northwest Canned Pear Service

The Pacific Northwest Canned Pear Service (PNCPS) was organized in July 1996 and grew from the combination of several other pear industry organizations that date back to 1954. PNCPS represents over 1,400 Bartlett pear growers in Washington and Oregon, and the Northwest Bartlett pear processors. Growers of pears for the canning industry fund the organization.