

Western New York IFT Section: Re-Scheduling of Annual Food Expo

Dear members, patrons, exhibitors and students of the Western New York IFT Section,

As the number of cases associated with the novel Coronavirus and COVID-19 continue to emerge, there's no denying that we have waded into unprecedented waters. These are trying times for us as a society and being on the side of *abundant* caution, seems to be the only way to flatten this upward curve.

We take immense pride in our Western NY IFT Food Expo as it benefits all our attendees in various ways. However, the safety and security of the same community is of utmost importance and something we take very seriously. The Western New York IFT Board has been monitoring this dynamic situation and have kept abreast of information disbursed by the CDC and the local authorities. The ensuing weeks also saw other similar events being re-scheduled or canceled altogether for similar reasons.

After careful considerations and extensive discussions, the Board has decided to re-schedule the Western NY IFT Food Expo to **Thursday, June 11th**. The venue and program would remain unchanged.

On behalf of the Board, I would like to take this opportunity to express my heartfelt gratitude towards our attendees, exhibitors, business partners and, most of all, the tireless student volunteers who stood by us and supported every move. It is times like these that we realize the true value of a closely-knit and committed community of food professionals.

On a positive note, it is *only* a re-scheduling and the spirit, enthusiasm and invaluable content that makes a Western NY IFT Food Expo memorable, are still intact. We also look forward to having our signature Golf Outing on August 4th, as planned.

Just because we are home, doesn't mean we are sitting idle! There are 2 more events being planned that would add value to your association with IFT. More exciting news to follow!

We are always looking for motivated volunteers, who are looking to network and get leadership experiences. Please feel free to reach out to me or any Section officer for such opportunities, as new and exciting things are coming Western New York IFT's way.

Thank you once again for your support and patronage.

See you in June!

Thanks and Regards

Prateek Mathur
Chair, Western New York IFT