



Moose's Down Under

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Vancouver, BC - This Sunday as most people celebrate thanksgiving, local owner operator Corina Aquino and her husband Christopher Gock celebrate a milestone of their own. Their unique Aussie-themed restaurant [Moose's Down Under](#) turns 19.

In a city overrun by restaurants and largely ruled by chains, this is no mean feat. Moose's Down Under is a hidden gem located in the basement at 830 West Pender Street. It can be hard to find at first, but once you venture down the stairs, a vast, Australian oasis awaits you. Moose's is famous for its home-style cooking and signature Aussie dishes like meat pies, kangaroo burgers and lamingtons.

Vancitybuzz listed the 'Down Under Deluxe' Burger in its ['Top 10 Burgers in Vancouver'](#) for 2014, which was a welcome boost to business for the restaurant. "Over the past 24 years I have seen Vancouver's restaurant scene change in many ways. I am proud to say that we are still going strong, as one of the only family-run establishments downtown. I attribute that success to the fact that you can come in for a unique dining experience and leave as my friends," said Aquino.

Aquino, originally from Perth, employs an energetic crop of young Aussies who are mostly in BC as part of the Governments Working Holiday Program. There's no script for servers to follow, no up-selling, just some friendly ex-pats who want to make sure their customers have a great time.

Moose's Down Under also gives generously to the community through Aquino's philanthropic work. She sponsors a number of local sports teams and allows community groups such as [Vocal Eye](#) and PAWS to use the space for fundraisers. Lex Perry, President of the [Burnaby Eagles](#) Australian Football Club, had this to say of Corina and Moose's: "Corina is more than just a sponsor to our team. Along with donations, she can be found at the field every Saturday during the season, manning the BBQ and cheering us on."

Aquino celebrated her 50th Birthday this August and the 176 seat restaurant was packed to the rafters with regular customers whom she calls 'her family'. "Corina is like everyone's Mum in Vancouver. We're all a long way from home, so when you feel like a hug and a home-cooked meal you go to Moose's," says Nicole Donovan, a customer originally from Western Australia.

Aquino has big plans for Moose's Down Unders 20th year, including new menu items, events and the expansion of the restaurants exclusive Australian beer and wine selection.

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