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PRIME MINISTER'S PHOTO-OP AT YI WAN JU RESTAURANT

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For Internal Information and Research Purposes only

UNIDENTIFIED: And this is where they do the noodles.

LAUREEN HARPER (Prime Minister's Wife): Oh, the noodles.

UNIDENTIFIED: (Speaking Mandarin)

RT. HON. STEPHEN HARPER (Prime Minister of Canada): He says it really good.

UNIDENTIFIED: I'm like Norm at Cheers here. This is my place. This is (inaudible). The name of the restaurant literally is... a literal translation is "The Home of the One Bowl Meal". So you have one big bowl of noodles. There are a couple of different choices. And then you choose your different condiments, and you...

LAUREEN HARPER: Oh, I love that!

UNIDENTIFIED: You dump it in. You stir it up...

LAUREEN HARPER: Oh, I love that! Very good idea.

UNIDENTIFIED: ...and then yeah, a big bowl of noodles.

LAUREEN HARPER: What a great idea. I love that!

UNIDENTIFIED: So this is our table. Now, Prime Minister, here. Right, I think probably you're here, and Madame.

UNIDENTIFIED: Ok, guys, over here. Back up, guys. Back up.

UNIDENTIFIED: (Speaking Mandarin) That's number one, yeah. I told her, "The Home of the One Bowl Meal".

LAUREEN HARPER: Oh, ok, so one...

UNIDENTIFIED: This character means "home", "bowl", "one". "One bowl home".

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LAUREEN HARPER: Ok, so at least I know one word on the menu.

RT. HON. STEPHEN HARPER (Prime Minister of Canada): I can't read any of the... oh no, it's actually in English.

UNIDENTIFIED: Like a lot of restaurants in China now, they have (inaudible). I've pre-ordered a few (inaudible) to start with. But in terms of noodles, we have a couple of choices. This is the... this is sort of the main specialty. It's a tradition in Old Beijing. They're six little dishes plus this sauce, and you pour it into the noodles, and you mix it up.

LAUREEN HARPER: Is that the turnip?

UNIDENTIFIED: That's turnip, yeah. And if you don't want any of these, you can ask them to leave it out, but this is the sauce. It's basically a bean paste and pork sauce. It's kind of... it doesn't have as much sauce as a spaghetti. It's sort of a... a little (inaudible). Well, these are the few things I ordered in advance.

LAUREEN HARPER: Ok, so those are beans.

UNIDENTIFIED: Those are peanuts.

LAUREEN HARPER: Peanuts, ok.

UNIDENTIFIED: Peanuts in Chinese vinegar.

LAUREEN HARPER: Oh!

RT. HON. STEPHEN HARPER: Wow.

LAUREEN HARPER: Smells good.

UNIDENTIFIED: That one's hot.

LAUREEN HARPER: He likes hot!

UNIDENTIFIED: You know Japanese wasabi, the hot mustard?

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LAUREEN HARPER: He likes that!

UNIDENTIFIED: That's the hot mustard.

LAUREEN HARPER: Ok, he likes that.

UNIDENTIFIED: This is sweet dates. Sweet dates.

LAUREEN HARPER: They're small.

UNIDENTIFIED: And this is pork.

LAUREEN HARPER: Ok.

UNIDENTIFIED: You can dip it in that. Sit here. Sit here.

LAUREEN HARPER: So that's kind of neat.

UNIDENTIFIED: Madame Li. She's one of the regulars.

LAUREEN HARPER: So you walk over from where you live from here?

UNIDENTIFIED: I live 500 yards away.

LAUREEN HARPER: Ok.

UNIDENTIFIED: So I suggested... They said, you know, take us to a place that you would normally go to, and I didn't actually believe that they would pick this place, but I said, "Ok, well, if that's what you want."

RT. HON. STEPHEN HARPER: Mark, did you know this food well before you lived here?

UNIDENTIFIED: No, because it's really Beijing style. This is different from any Chinese food you'd get in Canada. Even sort of the most authentic Chinese food in North Toronto or Vancouver, this is a Beijing kind of thing. So in terms of the noodles, you have three choices. Either this, is the typical Beijing style, a little bit of pork and sort of a beef (inaudible). There's a beef noodle. Or there's a (inaudible). And you can order any of those.

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