## **Alkeme**

On a mission to endlessly strive for a better food system

Gluten free artisan bakery, Alkeme, was brought to life in 2019 by Todd and Melinda Kopet. They have been in business for a total of 6 years with company name The Purist Pantry prior to Alkeme. The idea behind Alkeme was for Melinda and Todd to give back to the world and the people around them. "Our past skill sets in the corporate world gave us unique experience to create something of our own," says Melinda. "We took note of the abundance of convenience in life - the constant trade-off between artisan-crafted treasures to the shift towards quick, easy, and disposable alternatives." As they entered the food industry, they noticed the drastic number of products lacking nutrition, instead full of chemical preservatives and genetically modified ingredients. "The lack of nutrition quality on most grocery store shelves was effectively degrading overall health across our population and increasing chronic diseases," shares Melinda. "So, what started as a product developed to feed our family, turned into a passion project to create products available to the market at large which were made in the "homemade" style but directed at serving as many people as possible."

Melinda has always been passionate about health and healing, and the role nutrition has on not only physical health but mental wellness as well. A personal mission of hers was to remove processed foods from their family home. With that, she began making each household staple from scratch, packing each re-invention with whole foods, and developed "slow food" processes to keep ingredient integrity intact.

Todd is also pursuing his passion; with his strong love for food, paired with his love of timeless techniques, unique culinary experiences, and creating food that connects him with others. "His affinity for baking, which he saw as an esoteric and thrilling mixture of art and science, is at the heart of his endeavors," says Melinda. "Meanwhile, he loves the pursuit of operational efficiency and his chance to apply the basic theories of economics, his area of study, into practice."

For the future, Alkeme plans to expand their distribution of bread products and hope to be in stores Canada-wide by early 2023. After that, they will be looking to grow their product categories across grocery store aisles so that you can find Alkeme products jam-packed with nourishing ingredients and help you reinvent your home pantry.



