Hearty Spring Vegetable Soup

with Fried Tofu and Cannellini Beans

1 T olive oil

1 medium onion, chopped

2 cloves garlic, minced

2 carrots, diced

2 celery stalks, diced

1 zucchini, diced

1 C green beans, trimmed and cut into 1-

inch pieces

1 C peas (fresh or frozen)

1 C dried cannellini beans, soaked

overnight

1 C fried tofu, cubed

4 C vegetable broth

1/4 C brewed Spring Darjeeling Tea

1 t dried tarragon

Salt and pepper to taste

Fresh parsley, chopped (for garnish)

PREPARE THE BEANS: Soak the dried cannellini beans in water overnight. Drain and rinse the beans. In a large pot, cover the beans with fresh water and bring to a boil. Reduce heat and simmer for 45-60 minutes, or until the beans are tender but slightly all dente. Drain and set aside.

PREPARE THE SOUP: In a large pot, heat the olive oil over medium heat. Add the onion and garlic, and sauté until softened. Add the carrots, celery, zucchini, and green beans, and cook for 5 minutes.

SIMMER: Pour in the vegetable broth and brewed Spring Darjeeling Tea. Add the peas, cannellini beans, fried tofu, tarragon, salt, and pepper. Bring to a boil, then reduce heat and simmer for 20 minutes, or until the vegetables are tender.