VEGETABLE LO-MEIN The Cooks Next Door

6 garlic cloves, minced

2 Tb. fresh ginger, minced

1/2 c. vegetable or canola oil

1 Tb. sesame seeds

1/2 c. smooth peanut butter

1/2 c. soy sauce

1/4 c. chicken or vegetable stock

1/4 c. rice wine vinegar

1/4 c. honey

1/2 tsp. hot chili oil

2 Tb. dark sesame oil

1/2 tsp. freshly ground black pepper

1/8 tsp. ground cayenne pepper

1 pound linguini

1 c. bean sprouts

1 red bell pepper, julienned

1 yellow bell pepper, julienned

4 scallions, sliced diagonally (white and green parts)

Combine the garlic, ginger, oil, sesame seeds, peanut butter, soy sauce, stock, vinegar, chili oil, sesame oil, black pepper, and cayenne pepper in a bowl. Stir well to fully combine.

Cook the linguine as directed until al dente. Drain the pasta in a colander, place it in a large bowl, and while still warm, toss with 3/4 of the sauce. Add the sprouts, red and yellow bell peppers, and scallions; toss well. Serve warm or at room temperature. The remaining sauce may be added, as needed, to moisten the pasta.