THE NEW YEAR RINGS IN THE BEGINNING OF INNISKILLIN NIAGARA ESTATE’S ICEWINE HARVEST

NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE, O.N. - January 6th, 2015 - Yesterday, under a full moon, Inniskillin Niagara Estate Winery began its thirty-first Icewine harvest. Gerald Klose, Director of Viticulture and Bruce Nicholson, Winemaker were closely monitoring the temperature drop and realized they reached ideal temperatures of -12°C to -13°C which then began the harvest of Riesling and Vidal grapes at the Pratt Vineyard. Formerly the Woerthle Vineyard, The Pratt Vineyard (Line 4 at Concession 6, Niagara on the Lake), was named in honour of Inniskillin’s long time employee Debi Pratt who retired in July 2014.

Harvesting is continuing into this morning and yield thus far has been better than expected delivering great looking and wonderful tasting fruit.

“The consistent frigid weather allowed us to reach our optimum harvesting temperature of minus ten degrees Celsius which enables us to achieve our high quality standards with the desired sugar levels and acidities,” said Nicholson.

The Inniskillin Okanagan Estate Winery had their earliest Icewine harvest in history on November 12th, 2014. Winemaker, Derek Kontkanen and his crew started picking Riesling at 3:00 a.m. when temperatures in the Oliver vineyard reached -12.2°C. He is expecting the quality of the 2014 Icewine to be very high after checking the 40 tonnes of fruit that was harvested.

Inniskillin Estate Winery Icewines continue to achieve critical acclaim on the global stage, including key recent wins below. For a complete list of awards, please visit: http://www.inniskillin.com/Niagara/About-Us/Awards

INTERNATIONAL WINE AND SPIRITS COMPETITION, London, UK
Canadian Wine Producer of the Year
GOLD OUTSTANDING: 2012 Sparkling Cabernet Franc Icewine
GOLD: 2012 Cabernet Franc Icewine; 2012 Riesling Icewine; 2012 Sparkling Vidal Icewine

DECANTER WORLD WINE AWARDS
GOLD: 2012 Sparkling Vidal Icewine; 2012 Vidal Icewine
SILVER: 2012 Riesling Icewine

WINEALIGN WORLD WINE AWARDS
CATEGORY CHAMPIONS: Dessert Wine - Inniskillin Niagara Estate 2012 Riesling Icewine

WINEALIGN NATIONAL WINE AWARDS
GOLD: 2012 Riesling Icewine

About Inniskillin Wines
The combined efforts of the Inniskillin winemaking team and the viticulture team keep Inniskillin focused on consistently producing top quality VQA wines. Inniskillin Wines, established in 1975 by co-founders Donald Ziraldo and Karl Kaiser, is Canada's premier estate winery producing truly distinctive and elegant wines from premium grape varieties grown in Canada. In January of 2007 Winemaker Bruce Nicholson arrived at Inniskillin Niagara after Kaiser's retirement and is carrying on the tradition of excellence and innovation. Inniskillin has vineyards in both the Niagara Peninsula in Ontario and the Okanagan Valley in...
British Columbia. Over the decades Inniskillin has gained many awards and accolades for both table wines and the iconic Icewines. A powerful global brand, Inniskillin Icewine is the number one selling wine by distribution in duty free stores and can be found in over 80 countries and several airlines around the world. Inniskillin is proud of the role it has played bringing recognition to Canada as part of the international success of Canadian wines. In 2006 Inniskillin became part of Constellation Brands, the world’s leading premium wine company. www.inniskillin.com

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