



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## THE CHARLES TAYLOR PRIZE FOR LITERARY NON-FICTION RELEASES 2007 SHORTLIST

### *Prize Juror Dr. Margaret MacMillan Announces Three Finalists*

THE NAMES OF THE FINALISTS for The 2007 Charles Taylor Prize for Literary Non-Fiction were announced today at a press conference held at the Windsor Arms Hotel in Toronto. Noreen Taylor, chair of the board of trustees of the Charles Taylor Foundation and founder of the prize, welcomed an audience of publishers, booksellers, and media, and thanked publishers for their support of the growing genre of literary non-fiction. Mrs. Taylor commented that a record 98 books were submitted by 23 publishers from all across Canada. She went on to introduce Dr. Margaret MacMillan, who spoke on behalf of the jury and announced this year's shortlist.

#### THE FINALISTS FOR THE 2007 CHARLES TAYLOR PRIZE ARE:

**JOHN ENGLISH** for *Citizen of the World: The Life of Pierre Elliott Trudeau, Volume One: 1919 - 1968*, published by Alfred A. Knopf Canada

The jury notes, "In *Citizen of the World*, the first volume of the life of Pierre Elliott Trudeau, one of our most enigmatic public figures meets his match in a masterful, stylish, and illuminating biography. JOHN ENGLISH confronts all the myths and controversies that surround the young Trudeau with insight and well-marshalled evidence, setting his subject against the backdrop of his domestic and international milieus, and bringing fresh insights to bear on his personal, public, and intellectual journeys."

**ROSS KING** for *The Judgment of Paris: The Revolutionary Decade That Gave the World Impressionism*, published by Bond Street Books, an imprint of Doubleday Canada

The jury notes, "ROSS KING's *The Judgment of Paris* captures a revolution in culture, politics, and philosophy in the irresistible story of two artistic rivals, Ernest Meissonier and Edouard Manet, the one representing the old and the other the new. This book's witty, compelling narrative, lush historical detail, and fascinating interplay of art and science, civil strife and international intrigue, operatic characters and historic turning points, makes for a thoroughly engrossing read."

**RUDY WIEBE** for *Of This Earth: A Mennonite Boyhood in the Boreal Forest*, published by Alfred A. Knopf Canada

The jury notes, "RUDY WIEBE's evocative and moving memoir of his childhood in rural Saskatchewan finds universal truths amidst an isolated, little-known community. In prose that is both spare and eloquent, he conveys the riches of a hardscrabble inheritance: a love of words, reading and music, a sustaining yet unsentimental faith, and a bond with the natural world, all of which have provided a compass for his writing life."



THE JURORS for The 2007 Charles Taylor Prize for Literary Non-Fiction are Senator Laurier LaPierre (Ottawa, Ontario), Dr. Margaret MacMillan (Toronto, Ontario), and Jan Walter (Kingston, Ontario). Books in the genre of literary non-fiction, published between November 1, 2005 and October 31, 2006, were eligible if authored by a Canadian citizen or permanent resident, and widely available across Canada.

The Trustees of the Charles Taylor Foundation are Michael Bradley (Toronto), Judith Mappin (Montreal), David Staines (Ottawa), and Noreen Taylor (Toronto).

THE CHARLES TAYLOR PRIZE FOR LITERARY NON-FICTION will be awarded on February 26, 2007 in commemoration of Charles Taylor, one of Canada's foremost essayists and a prominent member of the Canadian literary community, to the author whose book best demonstrates and combines an uncommon command of the English language, an elegance of style, and a subtlety of thought and perception. The Prize consists of \$25,000 for the winning author, \$2,000.00 for the finalists, as well as promotional support to help all shortlisted books stand out in the national media, bookstores, and libraries.

THE SHORTLISTED AUTHORS will be brought to Toronto and invited to speak about their writing at Ben McNally's Books & Brunch event at Le Royal Meridien King Edward Hotel on Sunday, February 25, 2007 and to remain in Toronto to attend the Awards Ceremony and Luncheon, to be held at the Windsor Arms Hotel on Monday, February 26, 2007.

CBC RADIO ONE'S *Ontario Today* with host Rita Celli will broadcast the Awards Ceremony live from the Windsor Arms Hotel, beginning at 12 noon on Monday, February 26, 2007. To listen via the internet, go to [www.cbc.ca/ontariotoday](http://www.cbc.ca/ontariotoday) and click on "listen live".

THE TRUSTEES OF the Charles Taylor Foundation gratefully acknowledge the support of their partners: BookTelevision, CBC Radio One, *The Globe and Mail*, *Quill & Quire*, Windfields Farm, and the Windsor Arms Hotel.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT: [www.thecharlestaylorprize.ca](http://www.thecharlestaylorprize.ca)

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TO DOWNLOAD HIGH RESOLUTION IMAGES OF THE FINALISTS AND THEIR BOOKS  
PLEASE GO TO: [http://www.thecharlestaylorprize.ca/photogallery\\_2007.asp](http://www.thecharlestaylorprize.ca/photogallery_2007.asp)