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TORONTO

## TIM COOK WINS THE 2009 CHARLES TAYLOR PRIZE FOR LITERARY NON-FICTION

THE WINNER OF the 2009 Charles Taylor Prize for Literary Non-Fiction is Tim Cook (Ottawa) for his book *Shock Troops: Canadians Fighting the Great War, 1917 - 1918, Volume Two*, published by Viking Canada. The prize of \$25,000 was awarded Monday, February 9, 2009, at a gala luncheon held in the historic Sovereign Ballroom of Toronto's Le Meridien King Edward Hotel. Shortlisted authors Elizabeth Abbott and Ana Siljak each received \$2,000.

OF THE BOOK, the jury said: "With tremendous detail and almost unstoppable narrative momentum, this book gives a harrowing account of a pivotal moment in world history that would transform Canada's idea of itself. By shifting focus between grand strategy and on-the-ground struggle, Tim Cook creates a kaleidoscopic story that reveals the difficult relationships that formed among politicians, commanders and ordinary soldiers in their attempts to prepare for, and execute, a series of near-impossible missions. Through these stories of horror and heroism, what shines through most brilliantly is the complex humanity of the characters."

TIM COOK is the Great War historian at the Canadian War Museum, as well as an adjunct research professor at Carleton University. He is the author of the award-winning books *No Place to Run* and *Clio's Warriors* as well as *At the Sharp End: Canadians Fighting the Great War, Volume One*, which won the 2007 J.W. Dafoe Prize and the 2008 Ottawa Book Award. Tim Cook lives in Ottawa.

THE JURORS for the 2009 Charles Taylor Prize for Literary Non-Fiction are Warren Cariou (Winnipeg), Jeffrey Simpson (Ottawa), and Shirley Thomson (Ottawa). They selected *Shock Troops: Canadians Fighting the Great War, 1917 - 1918, Volume Two* from among 135 books, submitted by 43 publishers, from all across Canada. Books in the genre of literary non-fiction, published between November 1, 2007, and October 31, 2008, were eligible for submission if authored by a Canadian citizen or permanent resident, and widely available for purchase in Canada.

THE PRESTIGIOUS CHARLES TAYLOR PRIZE for Literary Non-Fiction recognizes excellence in Canadian non-fiction writing. Since its inception in 1998, the prize has fostered a growing interest in non-fiction, engaged Canadians in the genre of literary non-fiction, and boosted sales of the winning authors' books.



FOUNDED IN COMMEMORATION OF the late Charles Taylor, one of Canada's foremost essayists and a prominent member of the Canadian literary community, the prize is awarded annually to the author whose book best combines a superb command of the English language, an elegance of style, and a subtlety of thought and perception.

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 is presented by the Charles Taylor Foundation with the generous support of its partners: AVFX, Ben McNally Books, Bravo! and Book Television, Canada Newswire (CNW), CBC Radio One, Le Meridien King Edward Hotel, *Quill & Quire*, *The Globe and Mail*, and Windfields Farm. Today's awards ceremony was broadcast live on CBC Radio One's "Ontario Today" with host Rita Celli.

TO DOWNLOAD HIGH-RESOLUTION IMAGES OF THE JURY, FINALISTS,  
AND SHORTLISTED TITLES

please go to: [www.thecharlestaylorprize.ca/2009/photogallery\\_09.asp](http://www.thecharlestaylorprize.ca/2009/photogallery_09.asp)

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