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PRESS RELEASE

The Charles Taylor Prize for Literary Non-Fiction

- FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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TODAY, the Trustees of the Charles Taylor Foundation announced the finalists for The 2004 Charles Taylor Prize for Literary Non-Fiction. The prize consists of \$25,000 for the winning author, as well as promotional support. The names of the finalists were announced at a press conference at The Windsor Arms Hotel in Toronto.

THE CHARLES TAYLOR PRIZE FOR LITERARY NON-FICTION will be awarded on April 19, 2004 in commemoration of Charles Taylor, one of Canada's foremost essayists and a prominent member of the Canadian literary community. The prize will be awarded 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.

On April 19, the ceremony to announce the winner of The 2004 Charles Taylor Prize for Literary Non-Fiction will be broadcast live on CBC Radio One's *Ontario Today* with host Alan Neal.

THE TRUSTEES of the Charles Taylor Foundation are pleased to announce the launch of the Prize website. As of 10:00 A.M. on Wednesday, March 10, for information on obtaining downloadable images and this press release, please refer to <http://www.thecharlestaylorprize.ca>. The website offers the general public, writers, publishers, and members of the media a complete history of the prize, including past finalists and winners.

THE TRUSTEES of the Charles Taylor Foundation are also pleased to announce the development of a new partnership between The Charles Taylor Prize, the International Festival of Authors (I.F.O.A.) in Toronto, and the Vancouver International Writers Festival. The winner of The 2004 Charles Taylor Prize for Literary Non-Fiction will read at both festivals this fall. "We are delighted to work with such a prestigious non-fiction prize in the coming year," says Geoffrey E. Taylor, Director of the I.F.O.A. "Together, we will be working to increase the profile of our acclaimed writers of literary non-fiction," added Noreen Taylor, Chairman of the Charles Taylor Foundation.

JURORS Wayson Choy and Eva-Marie Kroller were on hand to announce this year's shortlist. The finalists for The 2004 Charles Taylor Prize for Literary Non-Fiction are listed with the jury citations, beginning on the following page:

THE 2004 NOMINEES AND JURY CITATIONS ARE:

IN THE SHADOW OF SILENCE: FROM HITLER YOUTH
TO ALLIED INTERNMENT: A YOUNG WOMAN'S STORY OF TRUTH AND DENIAL

Written by Gertrud Mackprang Baer (Ottawa, Ontario)

Published by HarperCollins Publishers

Gertrud Mackprang Baer's *IN THE SHADOW OF SILENCE* is an exceptional eyewitness account of an ordinary citizen who grew up in Nazi Germany. Her examination of national guilt and denial is unflinching. She writes about her personal place in the resulting moral and psychological complications, while moving seamlessly between the self-scrutinizing voice and the documentary voice.

LAKE OF THE PRAIRIES: A STORY OF BELONGING

Written by Warren Cariou (Winnipeg, Manitoba)

Published by Doubleday Canada

"In *LAKE OF THE PRAIRIES: A STORY OF BELONGING*, Warren Cariou tells a suspenseful drama of family secrets, exile, and unexpected origins. As he awakens to his Metis roots and reveals how myth, place and community prejudice are tragically interconnected, Cariou writes with a strong and poetic vision to show how stories may separate or bring people together.

IF THIS IS YOUR LAND, WHERE ARE YOUR STORIES?

FINDING COMMON GROUND

Written by J. Edward Chamberlin (Toronto, Ontario)

Published by Alfred A. Knopf Canada

J. Edward Chamberlin's *IF THIS IS YOUR LAND, WHERE ARE YOUR STORIES? FINDING COMMON GROUND* is authoritative and wide-ranging. The author examines the significant nature of story-telling in tribal narratives, cowboy songs, childhood poems, epics, and even in scientific writings. His clear and straightforward words affirm the urgent need for communities to understand and to respect each other's stories.

BELONGING: HOME AWAY FROM HOME

Written by Isabel Huggan (France)

Published by Alfred A. Knopf Canada

Isabel Huggan's *BELONGING: HOME AWAY FROM HOME* is at once travelogue and memoir. She moves with her husband to postings in places as different as Kenya and the Philippines, until the couple settle in an old farmhouse in the south of France. Her

openness to people and new experiences is revealed through her elegant narrative and illuminated by her intimate prose and sharp insights.

PARIS 1919: SIX MONTHS THAT CHANGED THE WORLD

Written by Margaret MacMillan (Toronto, Ontario)

Published by Random House of Canada

Margaret MacMillan's *PARIS 1919: SIX MONTHS THAT CHANGED THE WORLD* exposes the follies and prejudices of the participants who signed the Treaty of Versailles. With a confident and dramatic voice, she brings to life the human beings who, good intentions or not, created lasting ethnic and territorial dissension. She challenges the received notions about the impact of the treaty on the period between the two world wars.

THE CHARLES TAYLOR PRIZE FOR LITERARY NON-FICTION commemorates Charles Taylor's pursuit of excellence in the craft of writing. The Prize consists of \$25,000 for the winning author, as well as promotional support to help all shortlisted books stand out in the national media, bookstores, and libraries. Authors whose books have been shortlisted for the Prize will be brought to Toronto for the award ceremony on April 19, at The Windsor Arms Hotel. Shortlisted authors will be invited to speak about their writing at the Nicholas Hoare/*The Globe and Mail* Books & Brunch event at Le Meridien King Edward hotel on Sunday, April 18, 2004. Copies of the winning book will be donated, by request, to high school libraries across Canada.

The jurors for The 2004 Charles Taylor Prize for Literary Non-Fiction are Wayson Choy (Toronto, Ontario), Robert Kroetsch (Winnipeg, Manitoba), and Eva-Marie Kroller (Vancouver, British Columbia). They have selected the nominees from 182 books, submitted by 38 publishers from across Canada. Books in the genre of literary non-fiction, published between January 1, 2002 and December 31, 2003, were eligible if authored by a Canadian citizen or permanent resident and widely available in Canada.

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

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE FINALISTS

FOR THE 2004 CHARLES TAYLOR PRIZE FOR LITERARY NON-FICTION:

- Media in Ontario, Quebec, Manitoba, Alberta, Saskatchewan, please contact: Diane Hargrave, Donna Nopper, or Sheila Hawks at 416 467 9954
- Media in British Columbia, please contact: Margaret MacKinnon-Cash at 604 733 9447
- Media in the Atlantic provinces, please contact: Melanie Jollymore at 902 827 3126

THE JURORS

WAYSON CHOY is the author of the novel *The Jade Peony*, co-winner of the 1996 Trillium Book Award; winner of the 1996 City of Vancouver Book Award; and selected as the 1998 American Library Association Notable Book. *Paper Shadows: A Memoir of a Chinatown Childhood*, won the 2000 Edna Staebler Award for Creative Non-Fiction; and was short-listed for The 2000 Charles Taylor Prize for Literary Non-Fiction, the Governor General's Literary Award for Non-Fiction, and the Drainie-Taylor Biography Prize. Wayson Choy was designated a Companion of Frontier College in 2002. He received the Millennium Lifetime Achievement Award from Humber College in 2002, The Bradwin Lecture Medal in 1998, and the first Distinguished Teacher Award, Professor of English, at Humber College in 1989. He is a faculty member of the Humber School for Writers.

ROBERT KROETSCH is the author of nine novels, numerous volumes of poetry, a travel book, a personal journal, and two volumes of essays. His novel, *The Studhorse Man*, received the Governor General's Award for Fiction in 1969; his volume of poems, *The Hornbooks of Rita K*, was nominated for the Governor General's Award for Poetry in 2002. Robert Kroetsch, a native of Alberta, taught for seventeen years at the University of New York in Binghamton, then for seventeen years at the University of Manitoba. He is a member of the Royal Society of Canada. He resides in Winnipeg.

EVA-MARIE KRÖLLER studied at the universities of Bonn and Freiburg, Germany and, in 1978, received her Ph. D. in Comparative Literature from the University of Alberta. She teaches in the Department of English at the University of British Columbia, was Chair of UBC's Programme in Comparative Literature 1990-95 and edited the journal *Canadian Literature* from 1995-2003. She has been visiting professor at the Free University of Berlin and the University of Bonn, and her awards and distinctions include an Alexander von Humboldt Fellowship, a Killam Research Prize and a Killam Teaching Prize. Her most recent publication is the *Cambridge Companion to Canadian Literature* (2004).