



For Immediate Release

LINDA MCKNIGHT NAMED 2016 RECIPIENT OF IVY AWARD

TORONTO, October 17, 2016 ----- The [International Visitors \(IV\) Programme](#), in association with [IFOA](#), is pleased to announce **Linda McKnight** (Director and Vice President of Westwood Creative Artists) as the fifth recipient of the **Ivy Award**. The Ivy Award is an annual prize presented to a person who has made a substantial contribution to Canadian publishing.

Linda McKnight is a director, shareholder and Vice President of Westwood Creative Artists. Previously, she was the Managing Editor, Director of Publishing, Vice President of Publishing, and the President and Publisher of McClelland and Stewart. She was also the Publisher for Macmillan of Canada, President of MGA Inc., and the Vice President of Sterling Lord Associates. McKnight said of her win:

"The call from Iris Tupholme telling me I had been nominated for the Ivy came as a shock. It was a complete surprise and delight. The book business is unique in its breadth and depth and this award from its people means a very great deal to me."

The Ivy Award jury is composed of **Alison Jones** (Publisher, *Quill & Quire*), **Joe Kertes** (Dean, School of Creative and Performing Arts at Humber College) and **Geoffrey E. Taylor** (Director, IFOA). Joe Kertes said of their choice:

"My closest experience of Linda McKnight is in my capacity as Dean. Linda developed our Literary Agenting Specialization at Humber College's post-grad Creative Book Publishing Program and taught the course for 11 years. She was a beloved instructor both for her deep knowledge of the industry and her unconventional (creative) approach to teaching. It could be argued she therefore helped bring along a new generation of publishing professionals. As a publisher, I know that she was most admired for her honesty, plain speaking, fair negotiating, and collegial style. Having been a publisher herself, she was able to work seamlessly and effectively between the interests of her clients and the realities of the publishing world."

McKnight will be presented with her award onstage by **Guy Gavriel Kay** on Monday, October 24 followed by the IV Keynote address by Elisabeth Schmitz. This event is free and open to everyone in the book industry.

Celebrating its ninth year, the IV Programme invites publishing professionals from around the world to participate in five days of inter-industry dialogue with the goal of increasing opportunities for Canadian authors and publishers abroad. IV Programme participants benefit from a full schedule of publisher-hosted events and receptions, a mini rights fair and an industry-focused keynote address, as well as attending a number of IFOA events. **This year's IV Programme runs from October 23 to 28** as part of the International Festival of Authors (October 20–30, 2016).

For more information about the IV Programme, please visit ivprogramme.com.

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