

NEWS RELEASE

WINEALIGN ADDS TO TIGHTROPE'S MEDAL CASE

(Naramata, BC – August 28, 2018) Just six years after its début on the world wine stage, Tightrope Winery of Naramata, BC, is seeing its biggest year yet for international recognition. The most recent honours for the young winery and its owners, Lyndsay and Graham O'Rourke, are seven medals at the WineAlign National Wine Awards of Canada.

Up against nearly 1,900 wines from 257 wineries across the country, select Tightrope wines passed multiple rounds of blind taste tests to earn gold medals for the 2016 Pinot Noir ("beautiful energy with crisp red fruit flavors") and 2016 Syrah ("... a flush of perfumed violets and cassis").

Silver medals went to the 2016 Cabernet Franc ("A slightly muted nose of dark cherries and plums opens up to a dense dark fruit palate with attractive resinous notes"), Equipoise and Vertigo ("Perfumed and floral with lightly pressed blackberries and a touch of herbs on the nose."), and 2017 Sauvignon Blanc ("well done with juicy and pleasant notes of guava, papaya, clementine and orange zest"); and a bronze for the 2017 Tip-Toe.

These honors come on the heels of accolades earned at the Dan Berger's International Wine Competition and the 2018 Cascadia Wine Competition. (A full list of the 2018 awards to date follows.)

The ten-acre operation, of which seven are planted, has been producing award-winning wines since its first vintage in 2012. Lyndsay is the vintner and Graham the viticulturist. Tightrope stands out from others, in that the O'Rourkes are formally educated in viticulture and oenology, studying first at Okanagan University College (as it then was) and then at Lincoln University in New Zealand.

"Our education gives us an understanding of the science behind growing wine grapes and making wine," says Lyndsay, one of fewer than a dozen women in Canada who is both an owner and vintner. "This is the basis for making great wine and once you have a proper understanding of the science, you can put your own stamp on the wine."

Next up for Tightrope Winery: the Intervin Awards, the results of which will be announced in September.

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About Tightrope Winery: Tightrope Winery sits on 10 acres on the Naramata Bench in British Columbia's Okanagan Valley, where the complex soil is ideal for growing Riesling, Cabernet Franc, Merlot, Barbera, Viognier, Pinot Gris and Pinot Noir. Supplementing its own grapes with those from other vineyards on the Naramata Bench, Tightrope produces up to 4,500 cases of wine a year.

For more information and to arrange interviews, please contact: Mat Wilcox, The Wilcox Group, mwilcox@wilcoxgroup.com, or Drew Snider, drewdsnider@gmail.com.

TIGHTROPE WINERY: 25 MEDALS WON IN 2018 – SO FAR!

WineAlign National Wine Awards of Canada

GOLD

2016 Pinot Noir

2016 Syrah

SILVER

2016 Cabernet Franc Eira Thomas

2016 Equipoise

2016 Vertigo

2017 Sauvignon Blanc Semillon

BRONZE

2017 Tip-Toe

Dan Berger's International Wine Competition

GOLD

2015 Syrah

2017 Riesling

2017 Pinot Gris

SILVER

2015 Pinot Noir

2017 Tip-Toe

2017 Rosé

BRONZE

2016 Cabernet Franc

2016 Equipoise

2016 Merlot

2016 Viognier

Cascadia International Wine Competition

GOLD / BEST OF CLASS

2017 Riesling

DOUBLE GOLD

2017 Pinot Gris

SILVER

2016 Equipoise

2016 Pinot Noir

2016 Merlot

2017 Rosé

2017 Tip-Toe

BRONZE

2016 Syrah