



DONALD ZIRALDO HONOURED WITH “FOGLIA D’ORO” AWARD IN FRIULI, ITALY

Friuli, Italy (November 15, 2010) - On November 11th, 2010 Donald Ziraldo along with Guiseppe Longo, Journalist for Messagero Veneto was honoured with the “Foglia d’oro” award presented by the Mayor of Dolegna del Collio, Diego Berdnardis and many other honorary dignitaries in Northern Italy.

Donald Ziraldo, A Godfather to the Canadian Wine Industry, a leader in Canadian Icewine and Chairman of the Vineland Research and Innovation Center was presented on November 11th with an award recognizing his Italian heritage and applauding his contribution and commitment to the wine industry through his development of the internationally recognized Canadian Icewine.

The awards ceremony took place on Thursday November 11th in Dolegna del Collio at 10:30am and was followed by a traditional Italian outdoor tented lunch. Ziraldo follows other prestigious winners in this category such as last year’s winner Luca Zaia, Italian Minister of Agriculture.

Born in Canada of Friuli parents from Fagagna, where he was made an Honourary Citizen, Ziraldo was also recognized for his recent planting of Picolit – an ancient, indigenous grape variety which he planted in his parents home town of Fagagna for which he is currently seeking a DOC commeunale, which will provide an appellation of origin designation.

Ziraldo stated in his native Friuli “*This is a great honour, from my parents community which I am extremely proud of. I look forward to adding Picolit from Friuli to the list of my achievements.*”

This is not Ziraldo’s first recognition in Italy as he was awarded the Premio Masi in Verona, Italy.

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Donald with his “Foglia d’oro” award