

**For Immediate Release**

**DEAN COOKE NAMED 2014 RECIPIENT OF IVY AWARD**

**TORONTO, October 16, 2014** ----- The **International Visitors (IV) Programme**, in association with the **International Festival of Authors (IFOA)**, is pleased to announce **Dean Cooke** (proprietor of The Cooke Agency) as the third recipient of the **Ivy Award**. The Ivy Award is an annual award presented to a person who has made a substantial contribution to Canadian publishing.

Cooke has been in the book business for over 30 years. He founded The Cooke Agency in 1992, where he has represented many of Canada's bestselling authors, as well as some very prominent international names.

"I'm keenly aware of how many impressive people have made enormous contributions to the publishing industry in Canada, which makes this award all the more meaningful to me," says Cooke. "To even be considered by the jury of my colleagues for this honour is unexpected and deeply appreciated. That this recognition comes as part of IFOA and the IV Programme, both so widely respected around the world, makes this a very special moment in the work I do—which I love—with writers and books."

The Ivy Award jury said of their choice:

"Following his . . . beginnings in a warehouse at a small Canadian publisher over 30 years ago, Dean's career has taken him through multinational and independent publishing houses to his current position as one of Canada's preeminent literary agents and businessmen. He and the agency have represented many award-winning Canadian writers here and around the world. Dean has also contributed to our industry by teaching at various publishing programmes and courses, and has nurtured a new generation within his own agency. Through it all, he has developed a reputation for being intelligent, effective and extremely well liked by all in the industry."

Cooke will be presented with his award onstage by internationally acclaimed author **John Irving** on **Monday, October 27<sup>th</sup>** before the Governor General's Literary Award shortlist readings, which are part of the **35<sup>th</sup> edition of the International Festival of Authors**. Tickets for this event are now on sale at [ifoa.org](http://ifoa.org).

Celebrating its seventh 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 onstage events. This year's **IV Programme runs from October 26<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup>** as part of the International Festival of Authors (October 23<sup>rd</sup>–November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2014).

For more information about the IV Programme, please visit [ivprogramme.com](http://ivprogramme.com).

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**IV PROGRAMME/IFOA PRESS RELEASE**

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