



It is with a heavy heart, I share **news** of the passing of Inniskillin co-founder Karl Kaiser. Our sincere condolences go out to his wife Silvia, children Magdalena, Andrea and Max, and his seven grandchildren.

Karl was one of the founding fathers of the Canadian Wine industry, when he, together with his partner Donald Ziraldo, received the first winery license since prohibition and founded Inniskillin in 1975. This made Inniskillin the very first estate winery in Canada.

Karl generously shared his Austrian heritage when he came to Canada and embraced our severe winters to produce Canada's first Vidal Icewine in 1984. His commitment to the time honoured tradition of winemaking drove him to produce award-winning wines throughout his career.

But it was the Grand Prix d'Honneur award in 1991 from VinExpo, Bordeaux for his 1989 Inniskillin Vidal Icewine, that became a pivotal moment not only in his career and Inniskillin's history, but an iconic moment in Canada's emerging wine industry.

Karl's extraordinary passion put Canadian wines on the world map and today, Inniskillin Icewine is sold in over 80 countries worldwide.

We, as an industry, are all deeply saddened by this news.

Today – please open your favourite bottle of Inniskillin and raise a glass to toast Karl and his lasting legacy.

We believe creating wine is a shared passion. Enjoying wine, a shared pleasure.