

## *Dedication to Pinot Noir Pays off for Local Winery*

### For Immediate Release

KELOWNA, British Columbia (February 27, 2008) – Quails' Gate Estate Winery, well noted for their commitment to producing premier wines, continues to garner international acclaim.

In the December 1, 2007 issue of *Wine Enthusiast Magazine*, the 2005 Quails' Gate Family Reserve Pinot Noir was rated 93 points, the top rated Pinot Noir in Canada. This ranking reaffirms Quails' Gate's position as the leading Pinot Noir producer in Canada. The magazine (with over 500,000 readers per issue) has rated over 70 Canadian wines since 1999 and Quails' Gate is not only the highest ranked Pinot Noir, but also the top overall Canadian table wine. Paul Gregutt of *Wine Enthusiast* states, "Years ago it was a Quails' Gate Pinot that first convinced me the grape had real potential in the Okanagan, and this exemplary bottle proves the point. Velvety and intense, superbly aromatic, it's bursting with berries and cherries, highlighted with orange peel and citrus. The balance is impeccable and the oak unobtrusive".

"We approach the release of our 2006 Pinot Noir with great excitement," says Proprietor and CEO Tony Stewart. "While our 2005 vintage has received the most prestigious accolades, we are confident our 2006 Pinot Noir will be our best yet. I am very proud of the dedication and pride of the Quails' Gate team. It is the result of their commitment to producing only the highest quality wines that Quails' Gate continues to pioneer and define the immense potential of the Okanagan Valley."

First planted at Quails' Gate by Richard (Dick) Stewart in 1975 with additional plantings completed by son Ben throughout the years, Pinot Noir has since evolved into Quails' Gate's signature wine. An intense passion for Pinot Noir, along with precise vineyard management, including eight different clones of Pinot Noir, and premium winemaking techniques has led Winemaker Grant Stanley to have "gained something of a reputation as a master of the often difficult Pinot Noir grape" (*Seattle Magazine, October 2006*).

Quails' Gate Estate Winery is nestled in the beautiful Okanagan Valley in the southern interior of British Columbia. The 125-acre estate vineyard, located on the shores of Lake Okanagan, is owned and operated by the Stewart family, pioneering horticulturists since the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Inspiration in your own backyard; we invite you to visit us daily, year round in the Wineshop and Old Vines Restaurant for a unique taste of the Okanagan.

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