



Contact Information

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Rocky Creek Winery Releases Vancouver Island's first serious premium red wine from exclusively Island grapes.



Cowichan Bay, BC December 10th, 2019 – Being an estate grown winery on Vancouver Island comes with challenges when it comes to red wines. However, that hasn't stopped the winemaker for Rocky Creek Winery, Mark Holford.

Holford planted Cabernet Foch grape varietal in his vineyard 12 years ago in the hopes that one day he would be able to produce a red wine from Vancouver Island that had the depth and colour of a warmer climate vineyard, "his serious red". In comparison to red wines of Napa Valley or the Okanagan region, *Sirius Red* is a bold and rich red varietal grown exclusively in the Cowichan Valley.

One may ask themselves, *why so Sirius?* Well like quite a few of this family run business' wine names, this one has a story attached to it. In good company of Katherine's Sparkle, Robin's Rose, On the Mark, and TLC, Rocky Creek pays homage to the family and creators behind this local winery. However, the unsung hero of this family business missing in a wine title was the family Golden Retriever. Born in early 2008 this dog's life has been in tandem with the Vineyard planted at Rocky Creek. Therefore, it was only fitting this wine varietal appreciated the last member of the family. Sirius is referring to the dog star as part of a constellation. In addition, *Sirius* is also implying the new varietal being the first serious red wine that this winery has produced. This was always the dream to have a bolder red since they began in 2005. This *Sirius* is an 14 year passion for the winemaker.

Vancouver Island's climate is much cooler year-round than that of the Okanagan, or California. Even with our decently warm summers, that temperature is not constant in

enough of the ripening period to produce the richness's that serious reds require, usually. However, Holford's Cabernet Foch planted in early 2008 has now developed into producing a rich and full red wine that is growing and thriving right here in the Cowichan Valley.

Sirius has just finished its first batch of bottling and is now available for purchase at the winery and will be appearing in local liquor stores in early 2020. This varietal is rare and primarily unknown to many but unique to some cooler climate areas such as the Island. This wine will be available for tasting at the winery and will retail at Rocky Creek for \$40.00 CAD. This is the first authentically estate premium red for Rocky Creek Winery who is proud to share this new varietal with its new and loyal customers all across Canada.

For more information please contact Linda Holford, President 1854 Myhrest Road, Cowichan Bay. 250-748-5622. www.rockycreekwinery.ca linda@rockycreekwinery.ca