



CORMORANT BOOKS

CORMORANT BOOKS ACQUIRES BOOK BY TORONTO MAYOR **DAVID MILLER**

Cormorant Books has further enhanced its reputation for publishing essential Toronto literature by acquiring the rights to *Witness to a City: David Miller's Toronto*. Since becoming mayor in 2003, David Miller has met thousands of people from all walks of life, many of whom have come here from all parts of the world to make their home in Toronto. He has listened to so many inspiring stories of how Toronto - the city itself and its people - play a pivotal role in enabling one another to overcome loss and hardships, to discover their own power, and to take action for the greater public good.

In *Witness to a City*, Miller compiles some of the most powerful and inspirational of these stories to articulate his vision of Toronto: a 21st century city that shows the world how different cultures can live, work and dream together as one community.

“Cormorant Books is honoured to publish *Witness to a City*,” said Publisher Marc Côté . “It’s the first book, in my memory, by a sitting Toronto mayor and we’re very fortunate to have signed it up. What I like most about the book is that it’s quintessentially Toronto, but can be read across Canada and abroad because its message is universal.

“David Miller has been the rarest of mayors: one who not only takes action on behalf of the people in his city, but one who really listens to them and remembers their stories.”

Cormorant Books is fully Canadian-owned and Canadian-controlled; it is based in Toronto. The books it publishes are printed on post-consumer recycled paper, and all printed in Canada. In 2008 and 2009 Cormorant was awarded the **Libris Award for Small Press of the Year** by the Canadian Booksellers Association.

“I love this city and have always wished Torontonians could see it through my eyes,” Miller said. “That’s what I want this book to be about: the extraordinary place where so many remarkable things happen each and every day.

“There are so many stories to be told: Stories of incredible accomplishment, stories of joy, stories of sorrow and sadness, too. They are stories that people deserve to hear so they can better understand and appreciate the city we all love. After all, they are our stories.”

Like many Torontonians, David Miller immigrated to Canada. He and his mother arrived from England in 1967 and moved to Toronto in 1981. Miller received a degree in economics from Harvard University and a law degree from the University of Toronto. Before running for public office, he was a partner at the Toronto law firm Aird & Berlis, where he specialized in employment and immigration law and shareholder rights. Miller and his wife, lawyer Jill Arthur, are the parents of two children.

Miller will be writing *Witness to a City* with Douglas Arrowsmith and the book will feature original photographs by Toronto photographer Jeff Davidson. It will be published in June 2010.

Douglas Arrowsmith is a Gemini award-winning documentary producer and director. His film *Deadline Iraq* was seen in over 80 countries and was nominated in Canada for the Donald Brittain award for best social/political documentary. His latest works include a film about UK songwriting maverick Stephen Duffy and a feature length biopic about Canadian songwriter Ron Sexsmith. He has a Ph.D. in Social & Political Thought, and is currently an Adjunct Professor in the Graduate Program in Documentary Media at Ryerson University.

Jeff Davidson was raised in small town Ontario and attended the University of Western Ontario and George Brown College. Jeff returned to school in 2001 to further develop a life-long passion for photography and has been working full-time as an independent photographer since 2004.

David Miller was elected Toronto's 63rd mayor in November 2003 and was re-elected in November 2006 with nearly 60% of the popular vote and a mandate to make Toronto a city of prosperity, livability and opportunity for all.

One of the proudest of his many accomplishments as Mayor was securing a New Deal for Cities with senior orders of government. The New Deal has provided Toronto with new powers, money, and respect from the provincial and federal governments. In addition, Miller has been one of the dominant voices speaking in support of a national urban agenda - including a national transit strategy.

It is thanks to David Miller's leadership that Toronto has the most ambitious transit expansion plan in North America. Transit City will bring Light Rail Transit to communities across Toronto and secure the city's transit future for a generation. At the same time, it will create long-term sustainable employment for Torontonians and safeguard our environment.

With Miller as mayor, Toronto has been reinvesting in the city's neighbourhoods through initiatives like the Community Safety Plan, the Clean and Beautiful City Initiative, rejuvenation of parks and public spaces, and through ongoing revitalization of the waterfront. Mayor Miller has also worked to make Toronto a world-leading city on environmental issues and on June 4, 2008 he was appointed chair of the influential C40 Group of World Cities leading the fight against Climate Change.

These positive changes have inspired a new sense of civic pride, responsibility and belonging among Torontonians.

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