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MEDIA RELEASE

Winston book launch celebrates importance of bees

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Contact:

Kamilah Charters-Gabanek, SFU Vancouver, 778.782.5151, kcharter@sfu.ca

Scott McLean, SFU Vancouver, 778.782.5151, srmclean@sfu.ca

Given the collapse of honeybee colonies worldwide, a new book by Simon Fraser University professor **Mark Winston** provides timely insight into the human impact on honeybee populations and our complex relationships with them.

Bee Time: Lessons from the Hive illuminates Winston's reflections on three decades as a bee biologist.

Examining links between the toxic interaction of pesticides and bee disease, the book paints a concerning picture of human's tenuous affiliation with nature and foreshadows similar effects of pesticides on human health.

Published by Harvard University Press (Oct. 2014) and also available as an e-book, *Bee Time: Lessons from the Hive* investigates the many influences bees have had on human society, and what we can learn from how bees have responded to their own societal challenges.

"From altering our understanding of agricultural ecosystems, to how urban planners are looking to bees to design more nature-friendly cities, *Bee Time* offers practical views about the many lessons we can learn from bees," explains Winston, professor and fellow, SFU Centre for Dialogue.

Bee Time: Lessons from the Hive will be launched at a private reception at the Fairmont Waterfront on October 2, at 4 p.m., with partners including **SFU Centre for Dialogue** and Hives for Humanity. The Fairmont hotel chain has long been a supporter of bees in cities, with their own hives kept on roofs around the world, including Vancouver, and the honey often used in their restaurants' cuisine. Media are invited to attend.

Upcoming public events include:

Oct. 7: **Quest University**, Squamish B.C., 7:30 p.m., Multipurpose Room (MPR), 3200 University Blvd., "Bee Time: Lessons From the Hive"

Oct. 8: Munro's Bookstore, Victoria B.C., 7:30 p.m., 1108 Government St., reading and book signing

Oct. 9: Chapters Robson, Vancouver, 7 p.m., reading and book signing

Oct. 14: Richmond Beekeepers Association, 7 p.m., Kinsmen Nature Pavilion, 11851 Westminster Highway, "Bee Time: Lessons From the Hive"

Winston is a professor of biological sciences and was the founding director of the Semester in Dialogue (2002-2014) and the Centre for Dialogue (2006-2014), where he remains a fellow. He has been recognized with numerous awards for both his research and dialogue achievements, with his work appearing most recently in the **New York Times**.

SFU's Centre for Dialogue includes such programs as Carbon Talks, Renewable Cities and the Jack P. Blaney Award for Dialogue. The Centre oversees the appointments of fellows, and uses dialogue to generate non-partisan and constructive communication, partnering with government, business and community groups to explore issues of public importance.

SFU's Semester in Dialogue grew out of the university's drive for educational reform and growing commitment to developing a broader undergraduate education. Since 2003, the Semester in Dialogue has hosted nearly 500 community dialogues while forging community partnerships with numerous organizations.

As Canada's engaged university, SFU is defined by its dynamic integration of innovative education, cutting-edge research and far-reaching community engagement. SFU was founded almost 50 years ago with a mission to be a different kind of university—to bring an interdisciplinary approach to learning, embrace bold initiatives, and engage with communities near and far. Today, SFU is a leader amongst Canada's comprehensive research universities and is ranked one of the top universities in the world under 50 years of age. With campuses in British Columbia's three largest cities—Vancouver, Surrey and Burnaby—SFU has eight faculties, delivers almost 150 programs to over 30,000 students, and boasts more than 130,000 alumni in 130 countries around the world.

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8888 University Drive
Burnaby, B.C.
Canada V5A 1S6

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