

**HOT DOCS PARTNERS WITH FUTURE CITIES CANADA TO PRESENT
TWO ESSENTIAL CIVIC-THEMED DOCS ON HOT DOCS AT HOME**

Toronto, October 8, 2020 – Hot Docs is pleased to partner with Evergreen to present two films that address important issues facing large cities today as part of Future Cities Canada’s annual city-building gathering. Bringing together community leaders, urban innovators and residents, this year’s free virtual program focuses on #UnexpectedSolutions, showcasing and building innovation in cities and communities across the country. As part of #UnexpectedSolutions, Hot Docs will stream the Festival favourites *Push* (D: Fredrik Gertten) and *The Human Scale* (D: Andreas Dalsgaard) for free on Hot Docs at Home at hotdocs.ca for two weeks. The six-week program will be held online from October 20 to November 26.

“At this crucial moment in our history, it’s become obvious how essential a functional living space, whether it be your home or your city, is to one’s personal well-being,” said **Brett Hendrie**, executive director of Hot Docs. “These two films tackle key issues that have become glaringly important during this pandemic, and we’re very pleased to be a part of Future Cities Canada: #UnexpectedSolutions to offer them exclusively on our Hot Docs at Home platform, and continue generating conversation about the health and vitality of major cities worldwide.”

“#UnexpectedSolutions provides a critical meeting place for urban leaders and innovators to think differently and propel new ideas forward to solve the complex challenges that communities of all sizes are facing,” said **Geoff Cape**, CEO & founder of Evergreen, one of the founding partners of Future Cities Canada. “We’re thrilled to partner with Hot Docs to share two powerful films focused on cities and host the Q&A’s with the team behind them. These are the critical conversations needed to inspire and accelerate positive change in cities.”

Official Selection, Hot Docs 2019

PUSH

D: Fredrik Gertten | Sweden | 2019 | 92 mins

With housing prices soaring past income levels, and families being squeezed out of cities worldwide, having a place to live is becoming more and more difficult. In this urgent and incisive Hot Docs '19 hit, we follow Leilani Farha, a newly appointed UN specialist from Ottawa, in her fight to define affordable housing as a fundamental human right.

Featuring a Q&A with director Fredrik Gertten and Leilani Farha, Global Director of The Shift and former United Nations Special Rapporteur on adequate housing.

Available October 29.

Official Selection, Hot Docs 2013

THE HUMAN SCALE

D: Andreas Dalsgaard | Denmark, USA, Bangladesh, China | 2012 | 83 minutes | PG

Large cities are already suffering from overcrowding, and population density is projected to double in major metropolises over the next 40 years. Danish city planner Jan Gehl believes that even the largest of mega cities must be re-thought and re-designed on a small scale: the human scale. A critical look at the swelling population of large cities, this Hot Docs Festival selection from 2013 travels around the

world to explore how Gehl's vision of a human megacity is being implemented in places like New York, Chongqing and Christchurch.

Featuring a Q&A with director Andreas Dalsgaard and Jeff Risom, Chief Innovation Officer for Gehl.

Available November 12.

[Future Cities Canada](#) is a national cross-sector initiative with the mission to accelerate innovation to transform cities for the benefit of all. Future Cities Canada collectively strives to address the challenges facing cities and city-dwellers to reimagine cities that are equitable, regenerative and prosperous. [Evergreen](#) is dedicated to making cities flourish. Since 1991, the national not-for-profit has been transforming spaces into great places for communities to thrive. The organization believes that by connecting people, natural and built worlds, it can enable Canadians to do great things that will shape cities for the better.

This project is supported through Toronto Arts Council Strategic Funding.

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[Hot Docs](#) is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to advancing and celebrating the art of documentary and to creating production opportunities for documentary filmmakers. Hot Docs Canadian International Documentary Festival, North America's largest documentary festival, conference and market, welcomes audiences of over 228,000 and more than 2,600 industry delegates. Year-round, Hot Docs supports the Canadian and international industry with professional development programs and a multi-million-dollar production fund portfolio, and fosters education through documentaries with its popular free program Docs For Schools. Hot Docs owns and programs the Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema, a century-old landmark located in Toronto's Annex neighbourhood and the world's first and largest documentary cinema.

Media Contact:

Andrea Smitko
Media Relations Manager, Hot Docs
Telephone: 416-2032155 x292
Email: asmitko@hotdocs.ca