

MEDIA RELEASE

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COMMUNITY BUILDING FUND GRANT SUPPORTS HOT DOCS

Toronto, Ontario – In 2021, Hot Docs learned that it had received a \$133,800 Community Building Fund grant from the Government of Ontario and delivered by the Ontario Trillium Foundation to support the retention of staff and the costs of digital infrastructure related to the delivery of hybrid documentary programming. The Community Building Fund was developed to support the post-COVID-19 recovery of non-profits and Indigenous communities in the arts and culture, heritage, tourism, sport and recreation sectors that operate facilities and/or deliver experiences or programs for the public. The fund will enable organizations to remain viable so they can continue to improve quality of life and provide services, jobs, educational opportunities, and programming for Ontarians.

Hot Docs will host a grant recognition event on Thursday, July 26 at Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema with a screening of Hot Docs Festival 2022's hottest short docs for special guests and Hot Docs members.

"Hot Docs is such an important organization for the Ontario Trillium Foundation to support because Hot Docs shares our stories, exposes hard truths, informs, inspires, and educates Ontarians. I'm looking forward to attending the festival this year, and I hope you do too," said **Jessica Bell**, MPP for University-Rosedale.

As Hot Docs returns to in-person events while continuing to offer digital programming via the Hot Docs at Home platform, the Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) has been instrumental in helping Hot Docs to welcome audiences from across Ontario, however they feel most comfortable.

"This grant has allowed us to offset some of the production and operation costs associated with the delivery of digital programming, as we continue to make documentary films more easily accessible to communities across Canada," shared **Paul Lewis**, Hot Docs Executive Director. "We are thankful to the Ontario Trillium Foundation for the crucial support they've provided to Hot Docs."

[Hot Docs](http://www.hotdocs.ca), (www.hotdocs.ca), North America's largest documentary festival, conference and market, is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to advancing and celebrating the art of documentary and to creating production opportunities for documentary filmmakers. 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 Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema, a century-old landmark located in Toronto's Annex neighbourhood and the world's first and largest documentary cinema, and operates Hot Docs at Home streaming platform.

The Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) mission is to build healthy and vibrant communities across Ontario. As an agency of the Government of Ontario, and one of Canada's leading granting foundations,

funding for the Government of Ontario's Community Building Fund. Since 2020, OTF has supported Ontario's economic recovery by helping non-profit organizations rebuild and recover from the impacts of COVID-19. Visit otf.ca to learn more.

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