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OPEN CINEMA and FOCUS Magazine Host Documentary Preview National Webcast & Discussion about Election Fraud: Wednesday January 28, 2015.

Victoria, BC – January 12, 2015. To kick off election year in Canada, OPEN CINEMA and Focus Magazine are partnering to host a special national webcast and discussion about the worst election fraud in Canada's history. As part of OPEN CINEMA's innovative Connect the Docs 'hybrid cinema' format, Ottawa filmmaker and journalist Peter Smoczynski will present clips from his work-in-progress documentary ELECTION DAY IN CANADA, followed by live and online discussion with invited guests in multiple locations on January 28, 2015.

ELECTION DAY IN CANADA examines the dramatic rise of voter suppression in Canada during the 2011 Federal Election, and the aftermath to the present day Fair Elections Act. **Peter Smoczynski** is a 40-year veteran of film and journalism: "Electoral fraud is a well organized crime. Millions of dollars are dedicated to duping various demographics of eligible voters in democratically run countries on election day." Like many Canadians, Smoczynski believes something terribly wrong took place during the 2011 federal election. He is currently looking for support to complete his film before the 2015 election through an Indiegogo crowdfunding campaign. A free event will be held at Salt Spring Public Library at 10.30-noon on Saturday January 31st, 2015.

The live presentation at the <u>Victoria Event Centre</u> will be webcast on <u>OPEN CINEMA's website</u> and a public simulcast and live discussion will also take place at the <u>Mary Winspear Centre</u>, Sidney. Simultaneous sister 'pop-up' events are being organized on Cortes Island, Grand Prairie, Alberta and the Political Science department at UVIC are also creating an opportunity for poli-sci students to watch and engage (NB the UVIC event is not open to the public). These live events will be accompanied by online engagement via <u>Twitter</u> and <u>Facebook</u>. MP Elizabeth May will join the #ElxnFraud Tweetchat from Ottawa.

Peter's presentation will be followed by a webcast discussion with **Briony Penn** (who ran as a Saanich Gulf-Islands Liberal candidate in the 2008 election), SFU Professor **Anke Kessler**; **Micheal Vonn**, BC Civil Liberties Association and journalist **Andrew MacLeod**; moderated by **Sebastian Silva**. Both the presentation and discussion will be webcast nationally. <u>Event details here.</u>

Advance tickets to the Victoria Event Centre venue are already sold out, with a growing wait-list; a limited number of tickets will be available at the door (doors open 5.30). Tickets are still available at the Mary Winspear Centre, where post-screening speakers include Robin Bayley, Privacy Consultant and moderated by journalist **Stephen Andrew**. More speakers TBA.

OPEN CINEMA Connect the Docs is supported by Presenting Partner The Canada Media Fund.

WHEN 7pm Wednesday, January 28, 2015 (Doors 5:30pm)

WHAT <u>ELECTION DAY IN CANADA</u> a documentary work-in-progress preview, national

webcast & discussion with filmmaker Peter Smoczynski. Guest speakers: writer & speaker Briony Penn, UBC Professor Anke Kessler; Micheal Vonn, BC Civil Liberties Association; Andrew MacLeod, journalist. Moderated by Sebastian Silva.

WHERE 1/ VICTORIA: Victoria Event Centre, 1415 Broad St (elevator access)

Local food concession, cash bar, community discussion.

Advance tickets SOLD OUT!

2/ SIDNEY: at the Mary Winspear Centre, in collaboration with Star Cinema.

Simulcast will be followed by post-screening discussion with **Robin Bayley**, Privacy Consultant and moderator **Stephen Andrew**, journalist. More speakers TBA.

JOIN US LIVE OR ONLINE: Attend a live event or watch online & join the conversation!

Webcast & #ElxnFraud Tweetchat and Facebook discussion.

INFO OPEN CINEMA website or Facebook event

CONTACT Mandy Leith: mandy@opencinema.ca Phone: 250.882.7441