



MARDA LOOP JUSTICE FLIM FESTIVAL TO SCREEN NEXT WEEK

Calgary, Alberta (November 5, 2008) – The third annual Marda Loop Justice Film Festival will screen eleven films this year. Headlining these films will be *Tar Sands: The Selling of Alberta, Sand & Sorrow* and *The Unforeseen*. This free event runs from November 14-16, 2008.

Tar Sands: The Selling of Alberta follows the stories of a diverse cast of characters whose lives are affected by Fort McMurray's oil boom. Highlighting this film's screening are conversation leaders Sid Dykstra (CEO, OPTI Canada) and noted environmental journalist Andrew Nikiforuk.

Narrated by George Clooney, *Sand and Sorrow* offers viewers never before seen footage of the bleak conditions of Darfur. Award-winning filmmaker Paul Freedman's cameras penetrate into the unspeakable refugee camps, mass graves and offices of the United States Senate.

The Unforeseen is a story of a west Texas farm boy who becomes a real estate developer. His ambition eventually puts him at odds with his community when he threatens a fragile limestone aquifer and naturally spring-fed swimming hole. Conversation leaders will be Mark Bennett of the Bow River Basin Council and Brian Pincott, a City of Calgary Alderman. Moderating the conversation will be Jim Brown, host of the Calgary Eyeopener on CBC Radio One.

The eleven films to be screened this year are:

- *Tar Sands: The Selling of Alberta (2008, Canada)*
- *Sand & Sorrow (2007, Darfur)*
- *The Unforeseen (2007, USA) * Calgary Premiere*
- *Triage: Dr. James Orbinski's Humanitarian Dilemma (2007, Africa)*
- *New Year Baby (2006, Cambodia)*
- *Devotion and Defiance (2004, Tibet)*
- *The Forgotten Woman (2008, India) * Calgary Premiere*
- *The Battle of Chernobyl (2007, Ukraine) * Calgary Premiere*
- *Tangier Treehouse (2007, Morocco) * Calgary Premiere*
- *We Are Together (2006, South Africa)*
- *A Lesson of Belorussian (2006, Belarus) * Calgary Premiere*

About The 3rd Annual Marda Loop Justice Film Festival

Organized by local residents, the MLJFF screens films that highlight social justice issues from around the world. An informal conversation lead by someone familiar with the issues raised follows each film, providing audience members with a forum to discuss what they have just seen. An NGO Village of non-government groups and fair trade vendors is on site all weekend to provide participants with opportunities to get involved in the issues raised.

All films will be screened in the auditorium of River Park Church (3818 - 14A Street SW). A full screening schedule, background on the films, conversation leader information and an NGO Village participant list is available at the Festival's website: www.justicefilmfestival.ca

For further information:

Jeremy Dietz
(403) 978-6917

justicefilmfestival@gmail.com