



**Under Rich Earth (2008)** *Alberta Premiere*

**Screening:** Sunday Nov. 22, 2009 7:00 pm - River Park Church Auditorium, 3818 -14A Street SW

**Length:** 92 minutes

**Director:** Malcom Rogge

**Film Website:** <http://underrichearth.ryecinema.com/>

**Trailer:** [http://underrichearth.ryecinema.com/?page\\_id=13](http://underrichearth.ryecinema.com/?page_id=13)

**Stills:** <http://www.artengine.ca/kajustl/photo%20gallery/index.html>

**Summary:** Under Rich Earth is a story about ordinary people with extraordinary courage. In a remote mountain valley in Ecuador, coffee and sugarcane farmers face the dismal prospect of being forced off their land to make way for a mining project. Unprotected by the police and ignored by their government, they prepare to face down the invaders on their own. Their resistance ultimately leads to a remarkable and dangerous stand off between farmers and a band of armed paramilitaries deep in the cloud forest. In a world dominated by news of massacres and terrorism, Under Rich Earth offers a surprising and poignant tale of hope and determination.



**Recognition:**

- Official selection, Toronto International Film Festival 2008
- Screened, Toronto Human Rights Watch Film Festival 2009

**Conversation Leaders:** Frank McShane recently joined Talisman Energy as Manager of Corporate Responsibility Policy and Ethics. He is responsible for Talisman's Policy on Business Conduct and Ethics, global corporate responsibility and ethics policies, and practices. Frank worked in exploration drilling, completed an M.Sc. in Environmental Resource Management, taught in Fiji and consulted for projects receiving overseas aid in the Pacific islands. He also completed a doctorate at McGill University, on impacts of minerals development, and then joined the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED) in London, where he worked on sustainable development issues in the mining industry. In 2002 Frank joined EnCana where his work extended from international community relations to environmental policy, ethics, and best practices.

Clint Mooney is an ordained minister of The United Church of Canada, ministering at St. Matthew's U.C. Clint has for many years worked with interchurch organizations on various justice concerns, work that is now encompassed under KAIROS: Canadian Ecumenical Justice Initiatives. Clint chairs the Calgary committee of Kairos. In that connection he has been involved with Corporate Responsibility issues, seeking to engage, for example, with Talisman over operations in Sudan and Peru, with TVI Pacific over mining in the Philippines, with the government's Roundtable process on accountability structures for Canadian corporations active in resource extraction.