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## HOT DOCS TED ROGERS FUND AWARDS \$85,000 CAD TO BACK SIX CANADIAN DOC PROJECTS

**Toronto, ON** – Hot Docs proudly reveals the recipients of \$85,000 CAD in funding from the **Hot Docs Ted Rogers Fund**, supporting six Canadian documentary projects. The selected works represent diverse provinces, with two hailing from Alberta, two from Quebec, one from British Columbia, and one from Ontario. Established in June 2016 with a generous contribution from the Rogers Foundation, the \$1-million fund is dedicated to providing financial assistance to Canadian documentary filmmakers.

“Canadian documentaries continue to showcase the diverse narratives and resilience found across the country, with a focus on stories that resonate globally,” shared **Heidi Tao Yang**, Hot Docs’ Director of Funds & Labs. “These documentaries not only reflect the unique stories from various provinces but also underscore Canada’s commitment to storytelling that is impactful, thought-provoking, and globally relevant.”

Eligible projects were considered by the selection committee, which included Elissa McBride (Rogers Group of Funds), Anjali Nayar (Director, Ink & Pepper Productions), Hot Docs (Yiqian Zhang, Outgoing Manager of Funds & Labs)

The 2023 Hot Docs Ted Rogers Fund recipients are:

### TEA CREEK

Director: Ryan Dickie

Producer: Ben Cox

Production company: Boreal Wolf Film Productions Ltd.

Against the backdrop of colonization and the climate crisis, passionate Indigenous entrepreneur Jacob Beaton sets out to turn his family farm into a center for food sovereignty, resilience and healing for his remote northern community and beyond.

### FREDY

Director: Will Prosper

Producers: Yanick Létourneau, Nathalie Cloutier

Production companies: Peripheria, NFB

In 2008, innocent 18-year-old Fredy, killed by Montreal police while playing dice, triggers Canada’s biggest race riot. Fourteen years later, a film unravels systemic racism in the West, painting a poignant portrait of his family and community.

### INTERCEPTED

Director: Oksana Karpovych  
Producers: Giacomo Nudi, Rocío Barba Fuentes, Pauline Tran Van Lieu, Lucie Rego, Darya Bassel, Olha Beskhnelynsina  
Production companies: Les Films Cosmos Inc., Hutong Productions, Moonman LLC  
A journey through Ukraine to reveal the banality of evil behind the Russian invasion by creatively juxtaposing the daily lives of the invaded with the voices of the invaders.

**MODERN WHORE**

Director: Nicole Bazuin  
Producers: Lauren Grant, Nicole Bazuin, Andrea Werhun  
Production companies: Clique Pictures, Virgin Twins  
*Modern Whore* is a hybrid documentary that reimagines depictions of sex work through the lived experiences of writer, performer, and sex worker, Andrea Werhun. Andrea grapples with social stigma and reclaims her narrative in this funny, heartbreaking, and surprising film.

**SINGHS IN THE RING**

Director: Akash Sherman  
Producers: Shane Fennessey, Adam Scorgie, Sunny Sidhu  
Production companies: Fennessey Films, Score G Production Films, FMT Productions  
*Singhs in the Ring* is a feature documentary based on the wildly colourful, outrageously animated, pile-driving phenomenon of the Singh wrestling dynasty stretching from the infectiously fun 1970s era of Gama Singh, to present day with his son, Raj.

**THE GOOD VIRUS**

Director: Rosvita Dransfeld  
Producers: Vanessa Dylun, Rosvita Dransfeld  
*The Good Virus* is a documentary that travels deep into the heart of the hidden world of phage therapy, a revolutionary treatment for life-threatening bacterial infections. As the global medical community is out of solutions for drug-resistant superbugs, scientists are turning to bacteria's ancient enemy: bacteriophages.

To download film stills from the six selected documentary projects please visit [https://downloads.hotdocs.ca/downloads/zz\\_hdtrf-23](https://downloads.hotdocs.ca/downloads/zz_hdtrf-23).

For information on the application process, eligibility requirements and the 2023 funding round, please visit <https://hotdocs.ca/industry/film-funds/hot-docs-ted-rogers-fund>.

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**About Hot Docs**

Hot Docs, 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. Since its inception in 1993, Hot Docs has supported the Canadian and international industry with professional development programs and a multi-million-dollar production fund portfolio, including the Hot Docs Ted Rogers Fund, CrossCurrents Doc Funds, Hot Docs-Slaight Family Fund, Hot Docs-Blue Ice Docs Fund, Hot Docs Partners, and valuable professional development programs, including Doc Ignite and Hot Docs Incubator.

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