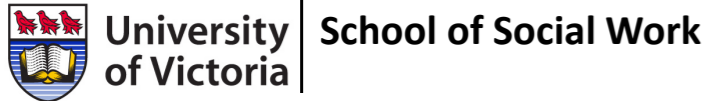


Special Thanks to the following Supporters of the  
Films and Forums about Homelessness Event:



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Movie Monday is supported by  
educational grants from the following:



And You: Thank you for your donations at the door. If you would like to make a donation to Movie Monday, we are a charitable organization and can provide tax receipts for donations over \$10.00

[Movie Monday Society, 2033 Chaucer Street, Victoria, BC V8R 1H6]

# Movie Monday presents Films and Forums about Homelessness



January 24 - 26, 2009

[www.moviemonday.ca](http://www.moviemonday.ca)

**Movie Monday Presents:  
Films and Forums about Homelessness  
January 24 – 26, 2009**

[www.movie monday.ca](http://www.movie monday.ca)

At the Movie Monday Theatre at Eric Martin Pavilion  
And a Special Monday Afternoon Screening at University of Victoria .

**Saturday, January 24th**

7:00pm – **Cats of Mirikitani** (2007, USA, 74mins)

With special guest Judy Graves - Vancouver City's Housing Advocate

**Sunday, January 25<sup>th</sup>**

12:30pm - 3:30pm

**Homeless in Paradise & Something to Eat, A Place to Sleep, and Someone Who Gives A Damn**

With special guest Jody Patterson & *Question & Answer discussion after the film with – Judy Graves, filmmaker Les Merson, photographer Ken Villeneuve and Gloria Wilson who is featured in the film.*

**4:00 pm - 6:15 pm**

**Tent Cities & Other Options: A forum with video presentation**

With special guests Chris Johnson & Peter Rockwell

Preceded by the short film **The Schoolhouse** (2008, Toronto, 6mins).

**7:00 pm**

**Downtown Dawgs: Road to the Homeless World Cup** (2007, Calgary, 87mins)

*With a live telephone interview Q&A with filmmaker Mike Scullion after the film.*

**Monday, January 26<sup>th</sup>**

12:45pm – **Special Screening at University of Victoria**

**In Human Social Development (HSD) Building Room A240.**

*With Special Guests: Judy Graves (Vancouver City Housing Advocate), Bernie Pauly (UVIC Nursing), filmmaker Les Merson, photographer Ken Villeneuve and Gloria Wilson who is featured in the film.*

**Something to Eat, A Place to Sleep, and Someone Who Gives A Damn**

*(2007, Vancouver, 34mins)*

**Monday, January 26<sup>th</sup>**

6:30pm - **Last Call at the Gladstone Hotel** (2007, Canada, 66mins)

*With a live telephone interview with the filmmaker Derreck Roemer after the film.*

Preceded by the short film **Hollow** (2007, Vancouver, 6mins).

“I think there are really basic things that every human being has to have and I think they’re all linked.

- We all have to have clean water, and when you’re living outside it can be extremely hard to access water, that the rest of us are taking for granted.
- You have to have basic nutrition, and if you’re living outside and dependent on soup lines, it can be really hard to come up with nutritious food.
- We have to have community; we have to have people who care about us, and that we care about.
- And we have to have housing. Every human being has to have a little place where they can put a door and a lock between themselves and the rest of the world.

“These are not luxuries and these are not things we can ‘deserve’. These are the things that separate us from an early death. These are the things that make it possible for each of us up here to go to work every day. If any of those things is missing, we can’t function. And why it surprises us that people who live outside without adequate water, without adequate food, without adequate community, and without adequate housing... why people are dysfunctional when they’re in the street should surprise no one! We all become dysfunctional when any of those things are missing in our lives.”

- Judy Graves at our film screening/panel discussion at St John The Divine Church Oct 7/08. Recorded by CBC’s All Points West and available on the Movie Monday website’s front page (Audio File #1)

The Movie Monday Theatre is located at the Eric Martin Pavilion,  
South Entrance, 1900 Block Fort Street.  
Admission to all events is always by donation.  
For more information visit [www.moviemonday.ca](http://www.moviemonday.ca).

## **The Movie Monday Film Collection** A Special Shelf at Yo Video

After the events, these films— and many more—are available for rental through the Movie Monday Film Collection at Yo Video.

The Movie Monday Film Collection is a catalogue of select films previously featured in Victoria's Movie Monday programme and made available to the public through Yo Video. In this collection you will find many of the films that have engaged Movie Monday audiences. We think it is a reliable yet eclectic mix of films that will entertain and provoke thoughtful discussion. This collection includes films presenting challenging themes on important community issues – many are focused on issues related to mental illness and recovery. As an alternative to the mainstream, our films often explore issues of marginalization and seek to reduce stigma.

The Collection includes many more films related to homelessness including: Dark Days, Jupiter's Wife, Devil Plays Hardball, Out Of The Shadow, Home Safe, West 47th Street, This Beggar's Description, and more.

**Yo Video 107- 2000 Cadboro Bay Road 250-592-5678**

"Street beds aren't real beds, mats on the floor aren't a bedroom, and sleeping bags aren't a softy blanket.

Sleeping bags should not be our country's national housing plan."

- Cathy Crowe, Toronto street nurse and housing advocate. From her book "Dying For A Home – Homeless Activists Speak Out" (2007, p. 16).

We would like to acknowledge that we are working and living in Coast Salish Territories and that a disproportionate number of homeless individuals are Aboriginal.

## Message from Bruce Saunders

Homelessness is a big issue these days. It was the biggest issue in recent municipal elections in Victoria and Vancouver.

Films are a great way to address the topic. Filmmakers have spent years observing, organizing, condensing, and present concrete examples of individual stories. They've been where many of us fear or don't take time to go. In tidy time packages they show us the problems, prejudices and lives broken and repaired, examples from afar and locally – in short, frameworks for discussion.

The whole time I've been planning this film and forum event, I've been intensely aware that I'm living in a comfortable home, looking out at the winter weather. I have a thermostat at hand if I feel chilly, a fridge stocked with food, a stove. If I want a hot drink or a bite to eat, it's there. I have a place to get organized, to "keep my stuff", a safe and comfortable place to sleep, a job and a framework of activities. I can control my environment and have a pretty good idea of my security in the future. If I get sick, I can head up to my doctor or emerg and be certain I'll be taken seriously and helped. These are basic givens in most of our citizen's lives that are denied to people who are homeless or inadequately housed.

As I drove down Pandora Street at 5 am, early in the New Year, to put my son on a plane back to school in Kingston, we passed by a lineup of shopping carts and figures huddled against the cold by Our Place. What different worlds we're in! Those people seemed locked into survival mode, just trying to stay warm, fed, safe - while most of our world goes about our lives in relative comfort and security. The contrast is obscene...

There was a time in my life, with my bipolar condition, when I felt very close to the streets. I might have lost my job, stayed in a depression, been stuck in hospital for long periods, been estranged from my family. Luckily, and surprisingly to me, my family hung in with me, the medical system worked for me, in spite of my pessimism, things turned around. It seemed more like luck than good judgment. But I've never forgotten that feeling that I was close to 'losing it' myself. It's made me more empathetic to the plight of people who are homeless in our community.

I also see the problems every week when I work as a landscape maintenance gardener downtown, around St John The Divine Church, North Park Manor and Balmoral Garden Apartments. I have to watch for needles. I find cardboard laid

6:30pm – Monday, January 26<sup>th</sup>



### Last Call at the Gladstone Hotel (2007, Canada, 66mins)

([www.myspace.com/last\\_call\\_productions](http://www.myspace.com/last_call_productions))

In 2000, developers purchased the crumbling, century-old Gladstone hotel to turn it from a skid row flophouse to an arts hotspot. They think it's empty... until they meet Marilyn, the chambermaid with a heart of gold; Shirley Ann, the cynical front desk clerk; and a motley crew of residents, including Marianne, an ex-bag lady with a sweet personality who has turned her room into a toxic zone. The developers come up with a plan: gradual restoration that would see staff and residents remain upstairs while the bar downstairs stocks designer drinks. It doesn't work. When Christina Zeidler inherits the mess but is committed to a "business model that includes social change," the hotel has the last word. City inspectors demand complete rewiring, the boiler blows up leaving the hotel without heat, ceilings leak, walls are crumbling and everybody's gotta go. Shot over five years with a cinema direct style, the directors have crafted a riveting and extraordinary human portrait of the effects of urban renewal upon the poor and the unintentional roles artists play in the process of gentrification. **A Victoria Premier Event.**

With a live telephone interview

With the filmmaker Derreck Roemer after the film

Preceded by the short film **Hollow** (2007, Vancouver, 6mins). When a stump becomes a home in Vancouver's Stanley Park. ([www.youtube.com/watch?v=AttUQYAcuBY](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AttUQYAcuBY))

**12:45pm – Monday, January 26<sup>th</sup>**  
**Special Screening at University of Victoria**  
*In Human Social Development (HSD) Building Room A240.*



## **Something to Eat, A Place to Sleep, and Someone Who Gives A Damn** (2007, Vancouver, 34mins)

When Les Merson saw one of his close friends spiral out of control and end up on the streets of Vancouver, it opened his eyes to a new world. Frustrated by government inaction and his own ignorance, he enlisted Ken Villeneuve and the two set out to make a film to show people that the road from having a home to living on the street is a lot shorter than most suspect. Along with making the film, Villeneuve took photos of the people they interviewed or met along the way, which are featured in the lobby at Movie Monday. While the two feel that governments need to invest more money and resources into solving the problem, their main message is that the ultimate responsibility lies with you and me. The title of the movie, *Something to Eat, a Place to Sleep & Someone Who Gives a Damn*, encapsulates what they see as a relatively simple solution to a complex problem.

### ***Discussion to follow with Special Guests:***

Judy Graves (Vancouver City Housing Advocate), Bernie Pauly (UVIC Nursing), filmmaker Les Merson, photographer Ken Villeneuve and Gloria Wilson who is featured in the film.

out in flower beds and in stairwells where people have slept (or tried to sleep) the night before. I've had people explain to me that there are few places left now that aren't fenced off and locked up where they can find shelter to "do what they have to do", that's why they congregate in the church gardens. I spend a good deal more time than I did 10 or even 3 years ago, working my way through locked gates. I often see people scaling those fences – to spend a safer night, away from the dangers of the night in our inner city. I'm now changing landscapes, not to make the garden more attractive for residents, but to eliminate cover that might encourage drug activity and overnight guests.

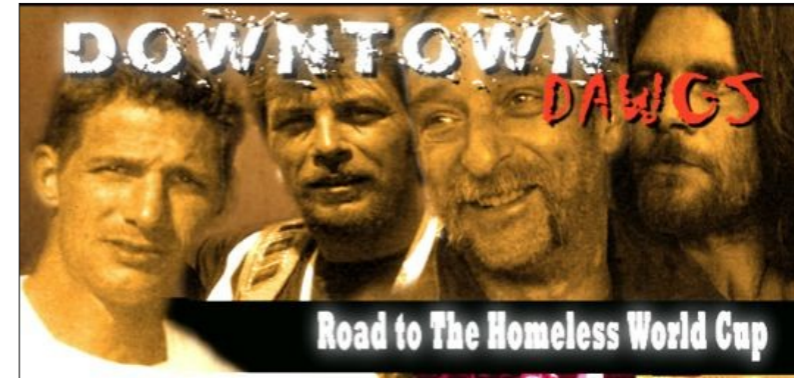
It's my curiosity about this stuck and worsening situation that sparked this collection of film screenings. I've been looking for ideas in the films I've researched, not just for practical solutions; bricks and mortar (even tents) and social policies. I'm hoping these films, guests and the exchanges we'll have might change our community's attitudes some. Perhaps we can engage the people who "know what they know" to meet some of the individuals, to understand the reasons, and look at some of the homegrown solutions. If we can think creatively and with a will to be compassionate and generous, that would be the biggest gain. We're not just talking "Ain't it awful" but looking for creative, and practical approaches.

I'm really pleased to be collaborating with profs and students from UVic: Bernie Pauly (Nursing) and Yvonne Haist (Social Work) and the Office of Community Based Research. It's great to be reaching out to the Coalition to End Homelessness, and others in the field who are working on this problem, and especially those who have been or are homeless. Thanks also to our ongoing supporters: the Canada Council for the Arts, VIHA and local media outlets; Monday Magazine, CBC, CFUV, Times-Colonist and the A-Channel. Thanks also to You, the audience, for your support and donations at the door. Finally, it is heartening to have the enthusiastic participation of the filmmakers, presenters and guests; Judy Graves, Jody Paterson, David Mitchell from Foundation House.

One of the legacies of this event will be a group of films that will reside in Yo Video's "Movie Monday Collection" that can be accessed easily and used to follow up these screenings. There are a good number of excellent films on the topic, more than we can show in a couple of days, but now there's a chance catch the ones you missed and even others on the topic shown in the past or that couldn't fit in this schedule. We'll also be recording much of the dialogue and will make some available with the films through Yo Video and our website.

Bruce Saunders, Movie Monday

7:00pm — Sunday, January 25th



“This was my nursing epiphany: Homelessness is a manmade disaster. When we face a natural disaster like an ice storm or a flood, the community and state kick in..... Unlike other disaster victims, homeless people’s emergency shelter stays were not temporary. Many families, children, and the elderly had been stuck in shelters for five to ten years. For couples without children who wanted to stay together, sleeping outside was often the only option.”

- Cathy Crowe, Toronto street nurse and housing advocate. From her book "Dying For A Home – Homeless Activists Speak Out" (2007, p. 19-20).

## Downtown Dawgs: Road to the Homeless World Cup

(2007, Calgary, 87mins) [www.downtowndawgs.ca](http://www.downtowndawgs.ca)

Downtown Dawgs follows the true story of Esau and Mike, two counselors working hard to give Calgary's downtrodden a second chance at life through the magic of the world's sport, soccer. As it turns out, the two counsellors are putting together a team for the first time ever from western Canada to enter the Homeless World Cup in South Africa. **A Victoria Premier Event**

*“The film is a roller-coaster of emotion and director Mike Scullian [Scullion] draws you into the player's lives, each of their successes and failures become personal. By taking a close look at the real lives of homeless people, we are given an insight into the similarities they have with everyone else. They have hopes and dreams and goals, but for one reason or another have failed. Some are mentally ill, almost all suffer from drug addiction and have dealt with very disturbing personal lives, but underneath it all, they are just people, who have given up on the world that has given up on them.”* Excerpt from review of the Calgary Film Festival showing by Patrick Rodrigues writing in The Gauntlet

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With a live telephone interview Q&A  
with filmmaker Mike Scullion after the film

**4:00 pm - 6:15 pm - Sunday, January 25<sup>th</sup>**

**Tent Cities & Other Options: A forum with video presentation**

With special guests Chris Johnson & Peter Rockwell

A forum with films and photos to discuss tent cities and similar options responding to homelessness. Featuring a slide presentation of a local tent city by photographer Peter Rockwell and facilitated by local advocate Chris Johnson. We'll look at tent cities in other communities, mistakes made, lessons learned.

*"Our goal is to create temporary emergency transitional shelter, designed by and governed by the people who use it. We're starting with tent city as the foundation idea (because it is something with examples we can draw from elsewhere) but I would also like to see the process include consideration of other ideas (like Street City). Basically the idea is to create something we can implement very soon, and not in a typical service provider fashion, but in a self-help collectively organized kind of way; a place that provides dignity and privacy and the option of living with a spouse or pets and not having to be shuffled out at 7am. That's what a tent city can provide, but so could a trailer park or a warehouse converted to a Street City kind of place. Tent City just happens to be the cheaper option. We realize that we're not 'solving' 'ending' or even 'addressing' 'homelessness'. We are working to create disaster relief, to keep people alive until solutions are created." Chris Johnson*

We'll use clips from the DVD Dignity Village's Tent Cities Tool Kit, (Portland) and talk about The Mayor of Tent City (a film about Toronto's disbanded experiment), Toronto's converted warehouse models Street-City (film and book) and Strachan House, options like shipping containers, construction mobiles, and "other stop gap" housing.

**Dignity Village's Tent Cities Tool Kit** (2006, USA, excerpts from 100mins) [www.tentcities toolkit.org](http://www.tentcities toolkit.org)

A visual tool focused on issues of homelessness and the role of grassroots, democratic tent cities as a necessary step to resolving homelessness. The Toolkit aims to raise awareness of the lack of housing and criminalization of the poor, and to provide a practical set of resources for creating a tent city or alternative housing options. The Tent Cities Toolkit offers practical hands-on information on the creation of grassroots, democratic tent city communities using the visionary example of Dignity Village in Portland, Oregon as a case study.



Preceded by the short film **The Schoolhouse** (2008, Toronto, 6mins). A film by Sami Siva about a model of 'wet housing' in Toronto called the Schoolhouse Hostel.

[www.theglobeandmail.com/servlet/story/RTGAM.20080817.wvschoolhousenew0807/VideoStory/VideoLineup/Archive](http://www.theglobeandmail.com/servlet/story/RTGAM.20080817.wvschoolhousenew0807/VideoStory/VideoLineup/Archive)

**7:00pm — Saturday, January 24th**



### **Cats of Mirikitani** (2007, USA, 74mins)

"Make art not war" is Jimmy Mirikitani's motto. This 85-year-old Japanese American artist was born in Sacramento and raised in Hiroshima, but by 2001 he is living on the streets of New York with the twin towers of the World Trade Center still ominously anchoring the horizon behind him. What begins as a simple verite portrait of one homeless man will become a rare document of daily life in New York in the months leading up to 9/11. How deeply these two stories will be intertwined cannot yet be imagined. This is the story of losing "home" on many levels.

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With special guest Judy Graves - Vancouver City's Housing Advocate

12:30pm-3:30pm — Sunday, January 25th



**Homeless in Paradise** (2004, USA, 50mins.) [www.homelessinparadise.net](http://www.homelessinparadise.net)

Homeless in Paradise follows four individuals who are homeless in Santa Monica, California. As they survive on the streets, Rick, Faye, Donna, and Simon struggle with addiction and mental illness, while receiving support from a city in crisis. From their perspective, we see a political and social system drawing fire from all sides of the political and social spectrum. Here is a city that is a desirable place to live ours, that is doing its best for its homeless people. What can we learn from their experience?

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Discussion will follow with special guest Jody Patterson

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Ken Villeneuve's photos from "Something to Eat ..." will be hanging in our lobby gallery.



**Something to Eat, A Place to Sleep, and Someone Who Gives A Damn** (2008, Vancouver, 34mins)

[www.streetnewsservice.org/index.php?page=archive\\_detail&articleID=3551](http://www.streetnewsservice.org/index.php?page=archive_detail&articleID=3551)

When Les Merson saw one of his close friends spiral out of control and end up on the streets of Vancouver, it opened his eyes to a new world. Frustrated by government inaction and his own ignorance, he enlisted Ken Villeneuve and the two set out to make a film to show people that the road from having a home to living on the street is a lot shorter than most suspect. Along with making the film, Villeneuve took photos of the people they interviewed or met along the way, which are featured in the lobby at Movie Monday. While the two feel that governments need to invest more money and resources into solving the problem, their main message is that the ultimate responsibility lies with you and me. The title of the movie, Something to Eat, a Place to Sleep & Someone Who Gives a Damn, encapsulates what they see as a relatively simple solution to a complex problem. **A Victoria Premier Event.**

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Question & Answer discussion after the film.

With – Judy Graves, filmmaker Les Merson, photographer Ken Villeneuve and Gloria Wilson who is featured in the film.