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(2007, Calgary, 87mins) 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 rollercoaster of emotion. Director Mike 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



We'll be talking with Dr Alan Bates, Vancouver psychiatrist and coach who took the Vancouver team, Portland FC, to this year's match in Rio.
Video clip on Homeless World Cup site

