

April 14, 2016

## Learn how you can help the planet at the Royal BC Museum on Earth Weekend

**Victoria, BC**—This Earth Weekend, the Royal BC Museum will celebrate community through a commitment to sustainability with films, lectures, workshops, music and art-making. The museum is presenting the events as part of local non-profit Creatively **United for the Planet's fifth annual Planet Sustainability Showcase, which offers a host of exhibitions, speeches and more in various Victoria locations.**

**"It's important for the Royal BC Museum to encourage visitors to practice good environmental stewardship whenever they can," says Chris O'Connor, the Royal BC Museum's Learning Program Developer. "This weekend is an opportunity to learn something new and become empowered with tools to help our planet."**

On Earth Day (Friday, April 22), the museum will host an informative and entertaining talk by international award-winning artist and activist Franke James. Named by Corporate Knights as one of the top 100 eco-influencers on Twitter, James is the author of *Banned on the Hill* and is the winner of the PEN Canada/Ken Filkow 2015 Prize and the BCCLA 2014 Liberty Award for Excellence in the Arts. Her talk, *What Can One Person Do When 7.3 Billion are Frying the Planet?* kicks off the evening.

Following **Franke's talk is the premiere Victoria screening of *Sea Blind*, a fascinating 60-minute documentary that shines the light on the little-known cost of international shipping. Award-winning filmmaker Sarah Robertson will discuss how the shipping industry is one of the most polluting and little-regulated industries in the world. Viewers will learn how one of the public's best chances to slow the Greenland ice melt is by taking action against the ships' black carbon emissions.**

The Earth Day event runs from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. and takes place in the Royal BC **Museum's Clifford Carl Hall**. You can find more info and a link to purchase tickets (\$25 per person) at [royalbcmuseum.bc.ca/events/earth-weekend-franke-james-and-sea-blind-premier/](http://royalbcmuseum.bc.ca/events/earth-weekend-franke-james-and-sea-blind-premier/).

The next day, on Saturday, April 23, at 7:00 p.m., the Royal BC Museum presents wacky, weird and wonderful stories from the field. *Have We Got a Story to Tell* is a storytelling event with absolutely true and daring tales of folks adventuring into the wilderness to push their personal boundaries and the boundaries of their scientific fields. Victoria-area storytellers, including Royal BC Museum staff, will get the ball **rolling with their stories, and then it's an open mic**. You can find more info and a link to purchase tickets (\$12 per person) at [royalbcmuseum.bc.ca/events/have-we-got-a-story-to-tell-into-the-wild/](http://royalbcmuseum.bc.ca/events/have-we-got-a-story-to-tell-into-the-wild/).

Also on April 23, drop in to the Royal BC Museum for sustainability-related music and public art-making from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. Franke James will lead a Hands-On Green Conscience Workshop from 1:30 to 4:30 pm; the cost is \$40 per person and includes all



**materials. Also, don't miss the Aloha Culture and Earth Wisdom in Music, Dance and Word** from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m., to see Puna Kalama Dawson, an internationally renowned keeper of ancient Hawaiian wisdom. The cost is \$15 per person.

The events are suitable for all ages.

Pre-registration and more information for both Hands-On Green Conscience and Aloha Culture is available at [royalbcmuseum.bc.ca/events/earth-weekend-public-art-making-and-workshops/](http://royalbcmuseum.bc.ca/events/earth-weekend-public-art-making-and-workshops/).

### **About the Royal BC Museum**

**The Royal BC Museum explores the province's human history and natural history,** advances new knowledge and understanding of BC, and provides a dynamic forum for discussion and a place for reflection. The museum and archives celebrate culture and history, telling the stories of BC in ways that enlighten, stimulate and inspire. Looking to the future, the Royal BC Museum will be a refreshed, modern museum, extending its reach far beyond Victoria as a world-class cultural venue and repository of digital treasures.

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