

FROM: CHILLIWACK ARTS &  
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High Resolution photo: [Best of VIMFF.jpg](#)

Description: Adrenaline, adventure, and stunning scenery – the best of the *Vancouver International Mountain Film Festival* has it all and you won't even need to leave your seat to experience it.

Photo Credit: N/A

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## Discover what's in our own back yard with the *Vancouver International Mountain Film Festival Best of Fest Tour!*

CHILLIWACK, BC – From serene shots of British Columbia's mountain scenery to adrenaline-pumped clips of people immersed in it, the *Vancouver International Mountain Film Festival* has a little bit for everyone. On **March 25** the top films chosen by Chilliwack's very own Sam Waddington are coming to the Chilliwack Cultural Centre as part of its annual Best of Fest Tour.

What started out as a small festival nearly 20 years ago has evolved into the highly-anticipated *Vancouver International Mountain Film Festival*. Originally a three day event that saw roughly 1,700 attendees, the festival now attracts over 20,000 people nation-wide and includes instructional seminars, a yearly photo competition, the Fall Speaker Series, and the Best of Fest Tour that brings the festival's top films to around 30 Canadian communities.

This year, Chilliwack is once again one of those communities and Chilliwack city councilor and owner of Mt Waddington's Outdoors Sam Waddington is choosing the films. "There are tons of films – most venues pick the award-winning films, but I try to get together with friends and screen a bunch and pick what I think Chilliwack will receive the best," he said. "I also put a little bit of everything in there so it's not just a climbing festival or a mountain biking festival, but it's got something for each sport and every group of passion."

The festival highlights areas all around the world, but Waddington wanted there to be an emphasis on the surrounding area. "That's kind of the goal – just to show people there's something here to be very proud of, and to get outdoors and take a look at," he said. "You see films out of Squamish and Whistler and Vancouver and the North Shore all the time, but I think our back country is equal or far better at times to what is offered in those locations. It's just that the others have a more established culture of showcasing it and depicting it in film, so we're just hoping that this helps to start the trend in that regard and have people look at their back country in a different way."

And there's a chance you won't leave empty handed! There are plenty of door prizes including discounts and vouchers for skydiving, lift passes to Apex Mountain Resort, a ladies bike from PedalSport, show tickets, and even a getaway to Manning Park Resort!

Most importantly, Waddington hopes that the showing will encourage people to get outside and explore the stunning world around them. "Our main goal is to inspire people to get outside and live adventurous lifestyles," he said, "so we try to do that

through this festival, and people never leave disappointed in the films they get to see.”

The *Vancouver International Mountain Film Festival Best of Fest Tour* is coming to the Chilliwack Cultural Centre’s HUB International Theatre on **March 25 at 7:30 pm**. Tickets are \$18 and can be purchased at the Centre Box Office, online at [www.chilliwackculturalcentre.ca](http://www.chilliwackculturalcentre.ca), or by calling 604-391-SHOW(7469).

The *Vancouver International Mountain Film Festival Best of Fest Tour* is sponsored by: Bathe Plumbing, Minter Country Gardens, John Martin MLA, Mt Waddington’s Outdoors, MNP, Myriad Information Technology Systems, The Chilliwack Progress, Classic Hits 89.5 the Drive, Department of Canadian Heritage, the British Columbia Arts Council, the Province of British Columbia, and the City of Chilliwack.

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### **Chilliwack Cultural Centre**

Owned by the City of Chilliwack, the Cultural Centre houses two unique performance venues, an art gallery, music instruction studios, arts and crafts studios, meeting rooms, offices, and is home to the Chilliwack Academy of Music and the O’Connor Group Art Gallery. Since opening in 2010, over 290,000 tickets have been sold through the Centre Box Office, with a value exceeding \$4,280,000. The Centre is overseen by The Chilliwack Arts & Cultural Centre Society on behalf of the City.

*Chilliwack Cultural Centre highlights:*

- 597 seat performance theatre

- 168 seat recital hall / rehearsal space / dance studio / meeting space
- Chilliwack Art gallery (22-foot high display area)
- 21 music instructional rooms
- Arts, crafts and performance studios
- Storage and Archival Resource Room

### **Chilliwack Arts & Cultural Centre Society Board of Directors**

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### **Chilliwack Arts & Cultural Centre Society Partners**

City of Chilliwack

Chilliwack Arts & Cultural Centre Society

Chilliwack Academy of Music

Chilliwack Lions Club

Chilliwack Players Guild

Chilliwack School of Performing Arts

Chilliwack Visual Artists Association

**The Chilliwack Arts & Cultural Centre Society** is registered under the British Columbia Society Act as a not-for-profit society (society number S-54973), and is a registered Canadian charitable organization under the Canadian Charities Directorate. (Charity number 805742897 RR0001)

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