

## **MEDIA ADVISORY:**

### **Exclusive Media Tour of New Exhibition** **– Wild Things: The Power of Nature in Our Lives –**

**VANCOUVER, BC – Museum of Vancouver (MOV) and Nature Vancouver** invite media to an exclusive curated tour of the illuminating exhibition, ***Wild Things: The Power of Nature in Our Lives***, **June 28, 2018, 11am-12:30pm at MOV (1100 Chestnut Street)**. Co-curated by Viviane Gosselin, Director of Collections & Exhibitions at MOV, and Lee Beavington of Nature Vancouver, the exhibition delves into the life stories of local animals and plants—how they relate to each other and how they connect people to nature in the city. Scenic design, videos, taxidermy, crowd-sourcing technologies, and the display of natural specimens breathe life into these tales of co-habitation. The immersive nature of the exhibition, including hands-on activities, encourages visitors to examine their relationship with nature, think about momentarily disconnecting from their devices, and find equilibrium with the natural world around them.

**WHAT: An exclusive media tour of *Wild Things: The Power of Nature in Our Lives*, on display from June 28, 2018 to September 2019 at MOV.** The exhibition, designed by architects Daniel Irvine and Chad Manley, features two main experiences: The **Encounter Room** and the **Engagement Room**.

The **Encounter Room** features stories by local nature lovers, designers, and Indigenous knowledge holders that are surprising, unsettling, and strangely beautiful. This part of the exhibition also has a wonderful interactive space for children to explore and connect with nature. They will be able to crawl through spaces, venture up a climbing wall, and look for hidden animals that can only be seen through peepholes.

The **Engagement Room** offers a counterpoint where visitors can study and share cultural knowledge about nature. Large interactive learning pods will present natural history specimens (flora and fauna), soundscapes, and short films; the themes shared in the pods were identified by an advisory group of environmental educators, Indigenous cultural workers, public health and forestry researchers, and architects. A crowd-sourced map showing “nature hotspots” in the city and a shadow puppet theatre will ask visitors of all ages to think about their own encounters with nature, while sound stations and matching games will test their knowledge of birds, plants, and animals. Displays point to the loss of local biodiversity associated with urbanization and a call for action to mitigate environmental degradation.

**Photography and filming are permitted.**

**WHO: Co-Curators Viviane Gosselin and Lee Beavington** will be available for one-on-one interviews following the media tour.

**WHEN: Thursday, June 28, 2017, 11am – 12:30pm.**

**WHERE: MOV, 1100 Chestnut Street, Vancouver, BC.** Parking available on-site.

**WHY:** *Wild Things* shares how a deeper engagement and kinder, more caring relationship with nature will cultivate happier and healthier people, cities, and natural environments. This thought-provoking exhibition asks questions and creates opportunities to reflect on our personal relationships with nature in the city and beyond. MOV believes this approach will generate conversation about our own capacity to affect positive environmental change.

This is the first MOV exhibition to physically embody sustainability; therefore, a significant portion is built from reclaimed construction materials. Creating an exhibition within these parameters is the first step toward formalizing a policy that will insist on extensive upcycling of materials in the fabrication of all MOV exhibitions. This effort is supported by the Upcycle Vancouver program, a municipal experiment spearheaded by the Vancouver Economic Commission that aims to create a no-waste city.

**To confirm your attendance at the media tour, please RSVP by Wednesday, June 27 to Sarah Ghosh via email: [sghosh@mpmgarts.com](mailto:sghosh@mpmgarts.com) or phone: 604-346-3774**

**About Museum of Vancouver ([museumofvancouver.ca](http://museumofvancouver.ca))**

The Museum of Vancouver connects Vancouverites to each other and connects Vancouver to the world. The museum's programs, exhibitions, and collections bring people together and inspire conversation about the future. The museum is an independent non-profit organization dedicated to inspiring a socially connected, civically engaged city.

**About Nature Vancouver ([naturevancouver.ca](http://naturevancouver.ca))**

Nature Vancouver is a Greater Vancouver-based nature organization, founded in 1918 by Professor John Davidson, to foster public interest and education in the appreciation and study of nature, and to encourage the wise use and conservation of our natural resources. The organization is a not-for-profit charitable society registered under the BC Societies Act. Membership in the Society is open to all. The Society is a Federated Club of BC Nature.

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**For further media information, contact**

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