

mediathatmatters story · money · impact

with Tracey Friesen

host Bill Weaver ■ facilitator Sue Biely ■ Hollyhock ■ cortes island bc ■ may 24–28 2017

“Life changing.”

— Teri Snelgrove, *National Film Board of Canada*



2017 Conference Report

Story Money Impact continues to be a must for media-makers advocating for change and yearning for a more supportive, innovative, and expansive community of peers and mentors. We help attendees connect the dots in ways that are seldom possible at most industry events.

This year's conference offered its usual array of practical skill-building sessions and case studies, along with a variety of carefully curated exercises that helped participants break out of their usual mindsets. Once again, several participant-directed sessions provided attendees with more specific mentorship needs, helping them look at their projects and possibilities in a different light.



“We came into this conference from different circumstances in our careers and personal lives, and quickly got stripped down to our authentic selves in a surprisingly equal place. I leave here feeling not only inspired, but empowered to freak out, collaborate and create. I also leave with a wealth of knowledge about the business/industry side (grants, distribution, etc). I cannot recommend this event enough, and hope I can return another year!”

— Josli Rockafella, *Filmmaker / Photographer*

“This place is like a summer camp for like-minded film geeks. It's a place to create, play, laugh and jive; and through it all, I found a level of clarity within myself that I was so desperate to find. I now know what direction I want to go in, which makes me so excited! Shukran.”

— Iman Kassam, *Inspirit Scholar*





Our supporters continue to make this one of the most innovative media gatherings in North America. *Media that Matters* events, including *Story Money Impact*, have a 14-year tradition of cross-pollinating across different modalities of media. This creates a context where trust and friendships are deepened and valuable alliances are formed. The result: a stronger, more connected, more resilient media community. The words of our attendees sum it up best.



“You have created a thoughtful venue for an underserved community of filmmakers. It's heartening to see their connection and friendship growing...”

— Murray Battle, *Knowledge Network*

“The best medicine. I feel so supported and connected. These will be lasting friendships and relationships. Thanks so much!”

— Daniel J. Pierce, *Filmmaker*

“*Media That Matters* created an amazing space that I've never experienced before. We were encouraged to share that which meant most to us, and the curiosity and genuine support was nothing short of amazing. I made great new friends and connections and hope to return.”

— D'Arcy Hamilton, *Filmmaker*

“Very affirming! This experience will keep me going for sure. Thanks for including someone like me who is not local but certainly I will take something out of this beyond Canada!”

— Kaori Sakagami, *Filmmaker, Japan*



“I came here not really knowing what to expect and my life has been changed forever. So many people touched my soul.”

— Crystal Cowie, *Inspirit Scholar*

“I will return every year I can. I re-set here, re-refresh and connect in a way I can't in the city.”

— Grant Baldwin, *Filmmaker*



Thanks to Our 2017 Supporters for Making it Possible.

Inspirit Foundation
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Tracey Friesen
Story Money Impact

Bill Weaver
Across Borders Media

Sue Biely
Nudge Consulting

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Next Year's Conference: May 23-27, 2018

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