October 7, 2021

IMAX Victoria to host Canadian Premiere of Antarctica on Oct. 16

VICTORIA, BC—IMAX Victoria will present the Canadian theatrical debut of the award-winning IMAX feature *Antarctica*, from the filmmakers responsible for *Planet Earth II*, produced by SK Films and BBC Earth. Narrated by award-winning actor Benedict Cumberbatch, the movie premieres on Saturday, October 16.



Antarctica was a finalist in four categories at the <u>Jackson Wild Media Awards</u>, held last month, celebrating excellence and innovation in nature, science and conservation storytelling, winning the award for Best Cinematography.

"Through the magic of IMAX, we are excited to be able to take our IMAX Victoria visitors on an Antarctic expedition," says Erika Stenson, A/Vice President of Museum Operations at the Royal BC Museum. "Although Antarctica is over 16,000 kilometres from BC, what happens there impacts the health and future of our province and the entire planet."

Using state of the art underwater filming techniques, *Antarctica* takes viewers on a deep dive beneath sea ice, more than six feet thick, to experience the alien world of its seafloor – thousands of purple starfish scuttling to escape being entrapped by growing ice and elaborate jellyfish dancing a deadly dance. Above the water, audiences will swim alongside playful seals, soar above mountain peaks and vast penguin colonies and witness the largest congregation of fin and humpback whales ever filmed.

Antarctica and its surrounding Southern Ocean play a vital role for the entire planet, regulating ocean currents, sea levels and its wildlife-filled waters can absorb huge amounts of carbon. New science is revealing that dramatic changes are occurring and rapidly warming this pristine land of snow and ice.

For more information about IMAX Victoria, COVID-19 protocols, showtimes and tickets, visit the IMAX Victoria website.

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. Located in Victoria on the traditional territory of the Lekwungen (Songhees and Xwsepsum Nations), we are a hub of community connections in BC–onsite, offsite and online–taking pride in our collective histories.

Images available: https://www.flickr.com/gp/36463010@N05/j6D84K

Theatrical trailer: http://antarcticafilm.com/

Media contact:

Wesley MacInnis Communications Specialist 250-208-8846 news@royalbcmuseum.bc.ca

Sandra Hudson Communications Contractor 250-216-1380 sandra@sandrahudsoncomm.com

