



## **DAHDALEH INSTITUTE FOR GLOBAL HEALTH RESEARCH**



### **Speaking Youth to Power: Canadian Project Launches 8th Year as UN Climate Conference Partner**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

TORONTO, Canada: The Youth Climate Report (YCR), a partner program of the United Nations Climate Change Secretariat (UNCC) since 2011, will be launching its 8th year program at COP25 in Santiago, Chile, November 11 to 22, 2019.

Conceived as a communications tool by Dr. Mark Terry, a postdoctoral fellow of the Dahdaleh Institute for Global Health Research and a professor at the Faculty of Environmental Studies at York University here, the project curates video reports of climate research made by young people around the world. From 2011 to 2015 the Youth Climate Report presented one-hour, feature-length documentary films showcasing these video reports at the annual UN climate summits known as the COP conferences.

In 2015, a new presentation platform was introduced: a Geographic Information System (GIS) map. The new digital platform allows for unlimited video reports geo-located on a world map. Metadata is also included to assist delegates and policymakers in accessing additional information related to the research profiled in the students' videos.

This remediation of the documentary film was the subject of Dr. Terry's dissertation and will soon be the subject of a new book on social issue documentary film theory and practice to be published in 2020.

To help populate the map with youth videos, YCR partnered with the UNCC and Television for the Environment in a program known as the Global Youth Video Competition. A call for entries is issued each year asking youth reporters around the world aged 18 to 30 to create three-minute videos under certain themes. The themes this year are:

1. Nature-based solutions for food and human health
2. Balancing use of land for people and ecosystems
3. Cities and local action to combat climate change

The deadline for video submissions this year is July 28, 2019. Each year, hundreds of videos the world over are submitted. A panel of judges ranks them and the top filmmakers are flown to the host city of the COP conference that year to present their films and participate in the two-week conference. Between 40 to 60 of the short-listed videos are uploaded to the YCR project and accessed by conference delegates throughout the conference as a resource tool. For more details: [http://biomovies.tve.org/.../global-youth-video-competition.../...](http://biomovies.tve.org/.../global-youth-video-competition.../) Currently, the YCR project showcases 350 videos representing all seven continents.

“The themes this year focus on health: planetary health and human health,” said Dr. Terry. “We are also looking forward to seeing films that showcase solutions rather than problems this year.”

Dr. Terry will be speaking on the YCR project and ecocinema theory at this year’s conference of the Association for the Study of Literature and the Environment at the University of California at Davis from June 26 to 30, 2019.

#### **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:**

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##### **Websites:**

United Nations Website: <https://unfccc.int/topics/education-youth/youth-engagement/global-youth-video-competition/lights-camera-santiago-de-chile>  
Project Website: <http://youthclimatereport.org>  
Academic Website: <http://youthclimatereport.com>

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