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**For Immediate Release: Peterborough ON**

**Media Personality and Documentary Film Maker, Avi Lewis to Speak on Community Organizing for Climate Change**

The Peterborough chapter of the Leap Manifesto is proud to host “An Evening with Avi Lewis” on Thursday, October 6, 7:00 to 9:30at Trinity United Church, 360 Reid Street.

Avi Lewis is one of Canada’s most eloquent and controversial media personalities. He is the director of the feature documentaries *This Changes Everything* (2015) and *The Take* (2004). He was one of the founding members of the Leap Manifesto and has also been a local news reporter, music journalist, debate show host, documentary filmmaker, public speaker, and activist.



Mr. Lewis will share his experiences during the filming of the documentary “*This Changes Everything*” and will talk about the future of the Leap Manifesto, with an emphasis on community organizing for climate change. Mr. Lewis also expects to learn from the Peterborough group how they have succeeded in localizing the Leap Manifesto.

“After a Leap Manifesto public event in Toronto, Avi expressed interest in what we were doing here in Peterborough and offered to come and share his experiences, as well as learn from our local Leap group. We’re pretty excited – it’s going to be a great exchange of ideas,” said Guy Hanchet, a co-organizer of Thursday’s event. The conversation is expected to center on the principles of the Leap Manifesto: to help make the system and societal changes required to make Peterborough and Canada a better place, while giving us a chance to combat the worst ravages of Climate Change.

“Our working groups will showcase current projects that are making a difference at the local level. These activities include a series of newspaper articles comparing Peterborough to a similar town in Sweden, and the creation of the Save PDI Coalition, a group struggling to keep Peterborough Distribution Inc. locally and publicly owned.” said Mr. Hanchet.

Everyone is invited to join this conversation with Mr. Lewis as a unique opportunity to learn more about the vision for the Leap Manifesto, and what we can do in Peterborough to answer the Leap call for “**A Canada Based on Caring for the Earth and One Another**”.

**When:** Thursday, October 6, 7:00 to 9:30

**Where:** Trinity United Church, 360 Reid Street, Peterborough ON

**Cost:** Suggested donation of \$10, or pay what you can. Everyone is invited.

*The Kawartha World Issues Centre is a charitable global education and resource centre serving Peterborough community and Kawartha region which promotes dialogue and understanding of world issues and their local connections to enable people to effect positive social and environmental change.*



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### **About Avi Lewis**

Avi Lewis is one of Canada's most eloquent and controversial media personalities. He is the director of the feature documentaries *This Changes Everything* (2015) and *The Take* (2004). He was one of the founding members of the Leap Manifesto and has also been a local news reporter, music journalist, debate show host, documentary filmmaker, public speaker, and activist. In all of these roles, he has created space to bring more radical voices and ideas to the mainstream for over 25 years.

### **About the Leap Manifesto in Peterborough**

Leap Manifesto Peterborough Chapter is an informal coalition of local environmental and social justice groups organized around the concept of implementing local changes in social justice issues related to climate change. It includes: For Our Grandchildren, Council of Canadians, Transition Town Peterborough, Basic Income Group Peterborough, Peterborough Greenspace Coalition, Peterborough and district Labour Council, Friends of Jackson Park, Peterborough Older Women's Network, OPIRG, Save PDI Coalition, and Kawartha World Issues Center.

===== 30 - End of Release =====

### **Media Contacts**

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