

## **AIR INDIA 182**

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### **ACCLAIMED FILM ABOUT AIR INDIA BOMBINGS TO AIR COMMERCIAL-FREE ON SUNDAY JUNE 22 ON CBC TV**

After an explosive premiere at the 2008 Hot Docs Festival where it was hailed as “compelling, poignant... the definitive film about the Air India tragedy and the most important documentary of the past few years”, *Air India 182* comes to Canadian television on the anniversary of the flight's departure from Canada 23 years ago and on the eve of Canada's National Day of Remembrance for Victims of Terrorism.

*Air India 182* will be telecast commercial-free on CBC Television Sunday June 22 at 9:00 p.m. (9:30 p.m. NT)

The powerful, intelligent and provocative film recounts the final hours, days and weeks before the plane disappeared off Irish radar screens. It reveals the story of how Canada's first major counter-terrorism operation failed to thwart the conspiracy and lays bare the 'perfect storm' of errors that resulted in the world's most lethal act of aviation terrorism before 9/11.

Filmmaker Sturla Gunnarsson gained unprecedented access to those directly involved, including the families of those who died and to key CSIS and RCMP investigators. Court documents, de-classified CSIS reports and inquiry transcripts provide the factual framework for the dramatic reconstructions. Family members speak directly of their tragic loss and express outrage at the failure of Canadian authorities to bring the perpetrators to justice.

“The conspiracy was Vancouver-based, most of the victims were Canadian and it has profound implications about the way we think of ourselves and the society we live in,” says Gunnarsson. “I hope this film goes some way toward distilling a very complex story and giving a voice to the Air India families, who are among the most gracious and dignified people I've met.”

*Air India 182* is written and directed by Sturla Gunnarsson, and produced by Gunnarsson and David York. It was honoured at Hot Docs 2008 as the Festival's Canadian Opening Presentation, where it had its world premiere. *Air India 182* is produced by 52 Media Inc. and Eurasia Motion Pictures Inc. in association with CBC Television.

**Website – [www.airindia182.ca](http://www.airindia182.ca)**

**Historical background [www.cbc.ca/airindia/](http://www.cbc.ca/airindia/)**