

# ONE MILLIONTH TOWER WORKSHOP



## The One Millionth Tower Workshop

As part of the remarkable HIGHRISE initiative, a group of local residents, ERA Architects, animators, web developers and the NFB have been collaborating to re-imagine and explore the potential of North Etobicoke's high-rise Kipling Towers.

The National Film Board of Canada's HIGHRISE project is a multi-year, multi-media, collaborative documentary project about the human experience in global vertical suburbs. Under the direction of documentary-maker Katerina Cizek, the HIGHRISE team will generate many projects, including mixed media, interactive documentaries, mobile productions, live presentations, installations and films. Collectively, the projects will both shape and realize the HIGHRISE vision: to see how the documentary process can drive and participate in social innovation rather than simply document it; and to help re-invent what it means to be an urban species in the 21st century.

Since the spring of 2010, the NFB has been working with ERA Architects to produce a follow up to The 1000th Tower called The One Millionth Tower. The process has harnessed the potential of the interventionist, participatory approach to media-making, and has sought to empower residents to organize and effect change in their community.

The 1000th Tower documentary brought viewers inside the lives of six tower residents, sharing stories of their present experience. Now, The One Millionth Tower showcases the bold ideas that the residents and architects have in re-imagining what their neighbourhood could become in the future. Through a series of workshops, the residents focus on the potential of the apartment site, surrounding landscape and larger neighbourhood with the aim of improving connectivity, increasing community vitality and providing spaces tuned to their collective, contemporary needs. They have focused equally on larger planning initiatives and smaller, immediately implementable interventions.

The One Millionth Tower is also an experiment in creating a new digital cinematic language. It's a "spatial film experience" - a film that unfolds within a 3D environment online. Made in partnership with Mozilla Foundation, with music by Jim Guthrie and Owen Pallett, it's a remarkable experiment in remixing and collaboration, and is a tribute to the power of imagination.

Look for The One Millionth Tower to be launched soon.

[highrise.nfb.ca](http://highrise.nfb.ca)

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