



# DRESDEN 1957

## Sponsorships

### Partnering to Remember: opportunities to support this project

Dresden 1957, a documentary currently in production, tells the forgotten story of an excavation collapse that killed six immigrant workers. At the time, it was Ontario’s worst workplace tragedy, but the story disappeared without a trace within a few short years. Through firsthand accounts and historical reconstruction, Dresden 1957 will honour the victims and restore a chapter in Canada’s history, ensuring the lessons of the past and the lives lost will never again be forgotten.

### Why This Story Matters

Supporting *Dresden 1957* is not just a contribution to our cultural life; it’s about strengthening our Canadian identity. At a moment when we are actively reflecting on our country’s future, *Dresden 1957* is a powerful story about the formative elements of our national make-up. This film sheds light on a lost chapter of our history, bringing the lessons it teaches back into the public conversation: accountability, memory, and how we become Canadian.



*The victims of the Dresden traedy came to Canada with their families in the early 1950’s, part of a wave of miaration from the Netherlands.*

### Why be a Sponsor?

Sponsorship will give your organization visibility throughout the development of the film, recognition in the film credits, and engagement opportunities through presentations and screenings. Your support will demonstrate a tangible commitment to the values that matter to you and the communities you serve.

# SIX PERISH IN DRESDEN CAVE-IN CHARGE PIT WALL NOT BRACED

**200 TONS. CLAY COLLAPSE  
IN ROAR; FIND 3 BODIES  
DANGER HALTS SEARCHING**

**Late News Bulletins**

**Special to The Star**  
Dresden, Aug. 15.—Rescue workers struggled today to erect timber supports against the unstable walls of a deep excavation so they could remove in safety the remaining three bodies of six men who died in an avalanche of wet clay last night.

Last night's cave-in of the excavation for a new Dresden waterworks plant was the second in less than a week. Witnesses claimed one of the walls of the 40-foot-deep hole had never been protected by timber supports.

The wall of the excavation gave way and tumbled 200 tons of city soil on the six men while they were working overtime at 7 p.m. yesterday. The men's bodies were crushed and punctured by foundation forms and steel reinforcements carried on top of them by the cave-in.

Three hours after one life was lost, the search for the other two was halted because of the danger of further collapses.



**NEED COUNCIL MARGIN SUGGEST BONES  
OF TWO-TO-ONE TO PAY  
LAMPPOST AWARD NOW IN OLD CELLAR  
MURDER CLUE**

An unofficial poll of city council members today suggested that the council should vote two to one to award a lamp post to the city.

The suggestion was made during a meeting of the council in an old cellar in the city center. The council is currently considering a proposal to award a lamp post to the city as a memorial to a man who was killed in a car accident.

The tragedy was covered across Canada and in the Netherlands. Today the story is unknown.

## Current Status of Dresden 1957

We are currently halfway through production, and our aim is to screen the film in 2027. Your support will be invaluable in achieving this goal. Our total projected budget for this project is \$495,000. About 25% of our budget has been raised through crowdfunding; 40% is self-funded; and the remaining 35% (approximately \$172,000) will come from sponsorships and arts grants. Detailed budget is available upon request.

*This film will not generate a profit. The value we're creating is in the film itself and the restoration of this story to its rightful place within our country's history.*



Setting up for interview with Ena Vandenbrink, who lost her uncle in the Dresden tragedy.

## Sponsorship

Each sponsorship is an individual relationship, and whatever we undertake together will be tailored around your business or organization and the community you serve. We are only offering a limited number of sponsorships to ensure that each sponsor is properly recognized for their support.

The following tiers provide the framework of our agreement, but the content is something we will determine together.

# Sponsorship Tiers

## Community Sponsor (5 available)

**\$10,000**

**Includes:**

- End-credit recognition in theatrical and broadcast versions as a *Community Sponsor* (subject to broadcaster/streamer approval)
- Visual recognition at all public presentations during production
- Inclusion on our website sponsorship page with your logo and a link to your website during production
- Social media collaboration promoting your engagement-in the film
- Invitation to a community presentation or sponsor screening

## Premier Sponsor (2 available)

**\$25,000**

**Includes everything in the *Community* sponsor tier plus:**

- End-credit recognition in theatrical and broadcast versions as a *Premier Sponsor* (subject to broadcaster/streamer approval)
- Recognition through a dedicated blog post about your sponsorship on the film website promoted on our social media
- Public screening or presentation at a venue of your choosing, either free to the public or as a fundraiser for another cause you support

## Presenting Sponsor – Supporting the Film (1 available)

**\$50,000**

The Presenting Sponsor is recognized as foundational to the making of the film.

**Includes everything in the *Community* and *Premier* sponsor tiers plus:**

- Opening credit recognition in the film as the *Presenting Sponsor* in theatrical and opening credit recognition in broadcast version (subject to broadcaster/streamer approval)
- Verbal and visual recognition at all public presentations during production
- Top billing on website sponsorship page, including your logo and a link to your website during production
- Social media collaboration promoting your engagement in the film, including a video we create for you that can be used with employees or customers
- Verbal recognition in all social media project update videos
- Optional presentation to your employees or stakeholders during the production of the film.
- Screening of the completed film with filmmaker Q&A or facilitated discussion for your employees or stakeholders.

\*Note: All screenings are subject to venue availability and budgetary constraints.

## What We Need From You

- High-resolution logo (PNG or EPS preferred)
- Brief organization description (50–75 words)
- Signed sponsorship agreement
- Primary contact name(s), email(s), and phone number(s)

## Tax & GST/HST Information

Contributions are subject to GST/HST where applicable. A receipt will be issued including our GST/HST registration number for tax purposes. We are not a registered charity, and charitable tax receipts cannot be provided.



Joseph Crawford editing an interview for Dresden 1957.

## A Word From the Director

I discovered this story by chance, when I learned that my father had been the site engineer on a water works construction project in Dresden, Ontario. His documents and photographs provided key background information, allowing me to uncover this incredible story. *But it shouldn't be left to chance whether stories like this are lost or remembered. That's why we're making this film.*

And there's never been a more important time for us to be telling our own Canadian stories. Dresden 1957 reminds us how our country was built and who provides a portrait of the people who built it. It shows us the dangers of cutting corners when lives are at stake and the surprisingly high price of sweeping our mistakes under the rug. But this story also shows us at our best: our courage and compassion, in moments when those qualities were most needed. Whether as an engaging film for the general public or an educational tool, stories like Dresden 1957 make us richer.



## Contact information

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*Thank you for considering support for Dresden 1957. Your contribution will help to ensure this important Canadian story is preserved, shared, and remembered.*