



PEN CANADA
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FREE
EXPRESSION
MATTERS

Giving Tuesday 2022

Why I support PEN

Poets, authors, filmmakers and journalists are our pathfinders in this chaotic world. They shed light on our innermost hopes, fears and desires, challenge the orthodoxies of our times and hold power to account. For over a hundred years, PEN has championed artists' right to free expression and come to the defense of those who have encountered violence, detention, torture and death for the simple act of writing. There's a moral clarity to PEN's mission and I'm inspired by the words of former president of PEN International, John Ralston Saul: "freedom of expression is accomplished every day by what you say, what you confront, and what you refuse to let happen".

I hope you will join me this Giving Tuesday in supporting PEN Canada as it celebrates literature, defends freedom of expression, and helps exiled writers make new homes in Canada.



Sturla Gunnarsson
Filmmaker