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media release

IS TORONTO STILL NEW YORK RUN BY THE SWISS?

Urban Issues series begins April 30 at 8 pm on TVO's *The Agenda with Steve Paikin*

Toronto, April 28, 2009 – Is Toronto still “the city that works?” What’s best for the environment: cities, suburbs or rural living? And could closing Hamilton’s steel mills be the best thing that could happen to that city? Beginning Thursday April 30 at 8 pm with a live broadcast from the University of Toronto’s Munk Centre for International Studies, TVO’s current affairs flagship show *The Agenda with Steve Paikin* will begin a series of programs exploring urban issues in Ontario.

The Munk Centre special on April 30 will be the first of four Thursdays in a row devoted to urban issues and will look at Toronto as it celebrates its 175th anniversary. For several decades, Toronto enjoyed a reputation of being well-run and efficient with claims to “world class city” status. It was also growing by leaps and bounds, which led many to look at the city as a good example of enlightened urban planning. Now, with crumbling infrastructure, dirty streets and public areas, and a strained transit system, we ask: Is Toronto still “the city that works”?

Guests who will be joining Steve Paikin at the Munk Centre include Adam Giambrone, Toronto city councillor and chair of the TTC; David Crombie, former mayor of Toronto; John Sewell, former mayor of Toronto; Glenn Murray, former mayor of Winnipeg and current president and CEO of the Canadian Urban Institute.

Other programs in the urban issues series include:

Thursday, May 7: Transit Truths – The Greater Toronto Area has some of the most congested streets and highways in North America. What are the area’s transit needs and what possible solutions exist to solve gridlock?

Thursday, May 14: Up, Out or Way Out – What model of development is best for the environment: urban density, suburban sprawl, or rural living? And is the dream of a two-car garage, four-bedroom home with a sprawling, manicured lawn a thing of the past?

Thursday, May 21: First Stelco, then Dofasco? Could the permanent shuttering of Hamilton’s steel mills be the best thing that could happen to that city? How can Hamilton become a 21st-century city and regional hub?

To learn more about upcoming programs on *The Agenda with Steve Paikin*, or to be part of the Munk Centre studio audience, visit www.tvo.org/theagenda.

About TVO

TVO is Ontario's public educational media organization and a trusted source of interactive educational content that informs, inspires and stimulates curiosity and thought. TVO's vision is to empower people to be engaged citizens of Ontario through educational media. For more information, visit tvo.org.

Where to find TVO

Cable channel 2 (channel may vary in some areas), Bell TV channel 265, Star Choice channel 353.

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