



PETER MUNK ANNOUNCES FUNDING TO SUPPORT PUBLIC DEBATE IN CANADA AND GLOBALLY

***\$5 million pledge will ensure that the Munk Debate remains Canada's
leading public policy forum for informed debate***

April 28, 2017 – Toronto, Canada

In front of 3,000 people at Roy Thomson Hall, Peter Munk announced his foundation will make a \$5 million gift to the Munk Debates to ensure another half-decade of world-class debates take place in Toronto, Canada.

“Our philanthropy is aimed primarily at improving the quality and vitality of public debate in Canada,” said **Peter Munk**, speaking about the rationale for the Munk Debates. “Whether it is the support we provide to the Munk School at the University of Toronto or the creation of the Munk Debates through our Aurea Foundation, Melanie and I are committed to broadening public knowledge, education, and informed discourse.”

The Munk Debates are a signature initiative of the Aurea Foundation, founded in 2006 by Peter and Melanie Munk to support Canadian institutions involved in the study and development of public policy. Two debates are held each year in Toronto, one in the spring and one in the autumn. Previous Munk Debate participants include former British prime minister Tony Blair, Henry Kissinger, Christopher Hitchens, Samantha Power, Paul Krugman, Fareed Zakaria, Dambisa Moyo, Newt Gingrich, Malcolm Gladwell, Nigel Farage, Simon Schama, Lawrence Summers and Glenn Greenwald. In 2015, the Munk Debates hosted the three leaders of the major parties for the first ever federal election debate devoted to foreign policy issues.

Rudyard Griffiths, Chair of the Munk Debates, comments: “It is immensely satisfying that the Munk Debates and their global impact started here in Toronto, Canada. The success of this series owes everything to the generosity, vision and focus of Peter Munk. This gift will ensure that the Munk Debates continue to remain a major cultural event in Toronto, and contribute to the global conversation of ideas for years to come.”

Media inquiries should be directed to:

Sherry Naylor, sherry@munkdebates.com, 416-368-8253

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