Website - Visit us at www.wsccs.ca to learn more.

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**Jeff Cipin Production** & Corey Levine: Left Behind



Norwegian Fjord Smoked Steelhead Salmon generously donated by DOM International









Masumi Kikuchi photographer







Vancouver Twentieth Annual

### RAOUL WALLENBERG DAY

The Peretz Centre Sunday, January 19, 2025 - 1:30 p.m.

### Courageous Rescue from Afghanistan

Dedicated to the memory of Mursal Nabizada

Film: Left Behind

Donations are appreciated - Reception to follow www.wsccs.ca

The 2021 return of the Taliban government in Afghanistan led to the abolition of women's basic rights. Today's event focuses on the rescue of women who served as Members of the Afghan Parliament, which made them targets for oppression by the Taliban. One of the MPs, Mursal Nabizada, was assassinated on January 15, 2023 – highlighting the extreme danger of their position.



Mursal Nabizada

Corey Levine, a policy expert in human rights and peace-building, has worked in war zones for over 20 years and engaged with Afghanistan since March 2002. The Taliban's 2021 resurgence convinced her to step up and help threatened Afghan women, with persistent courage. With Corey's support here and abroad, women who dared to be national leaders in Afghanistan's short-lived democracy have been able to escape persecution, following difficult paths to safety.

Gulalai Mohammadi served as Afghanistan's youngest MP. She spent 3 years in hiding before escaping to Canada with her family in 2024. She hopes to return to her studies and advocacy work here, encouraging the Canadian government and people to stand beside the women of Afghanistan at this important time.

**Elizabeth May**, Order of Canada and MP for Saanich-Gulf Islands, is a member of the 6-person all-party panel of Canadian parliamentarians who have worked with Corey to facilitate the rescue of Afghan MPs.

Raoul Wallenberg Day pays tribute to the courageous actions by people engaged in selfless acts of civil courage in the spirit of Raoul Wallenberg and Chiune Sugihara, who each rescued thousands of Jews during World War II. We are seeking nominations for potential Civil Courage Award recipients – full criteria are at <a href="https://www.wsccs.ca/civil-courage-award/">https://www.wsccs.ca/civil-courage-award/</a>.



FILM - Left Behind (a work in progress), 2025, by Corey Levine with Jeff Cipin Production.

### **PROGRAM**

# Courageous Rescue from Afghanistan Dedicated to the memory of Mursal Nabizada

WELCOME Jan Nordin

## CITY OF VANCOUVER PROCLAMATION Sarah Kirby-Yung, Deputy Mayor

# CIVIL COURAGE AWARD PRESENTATION Corey Levine, human rights & peace-building policy expert, researcher & writer

FILM - Left Behind, by Corey Levine

#### **GUEST SPEAKERS**

Gulalai Mohammadi, past member of Afghan Parliament Elizabeth May, MP, member of all-party panel of Canadian MPs

QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD

**RECEPTION**