

PROJECT
PLOUGHSHARES
CALGARY

Peace News

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2007



November 17th
9:30am—4pm
Holiday Peace Fair
St. David's United Church
3303 Capitol Hill Cres. NW
\$2 admission



WE ARE
LOCATED:
PARKDALE
UNITED
CHURCH

2919 8 AVE
NW

270-7366

OFFICE
@PLOUGHSHARES
CALGARY.CA

VISIT US:

MON, TUE, THURS

10:30-2:30

WED 2-6PM

Ploughshares Calgary 25th Anniversary

November 2nd 6pm at the Village Park Inn

Come celebrate with us. 25 years of making peace possible in Calgary. Ernie Regehr O.C. founder of Project Ploughshares will be with us to share our memories and hopes for the future.

He will offer a talk on "Peacebuilders & the Future"

Tickets for the Dinner are \$25 and available through the Ploughshares office 270-7366

Free Workshop with Ernie Regehr O.C.

November 3rd 10am—Noon

Parkdale United Church 2919 8 Ave NW

Ploughshares policy on Canada & Afghanistan

Are you wondering what to say to your neighbours about what's happening in Afghanistan? Are you going to visit your MP and want to know what to ask for? All of your questions answered.

Parhad Programmes Annual Conference GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP: THINKING BEYOND BORDERS

NOV. 22-24 PARKDALE UNITED CHURCH

KEYNOTE ADDRESSES BY PAUL LOEB AUTHOUR OF THE IMPOSSIBLE WILL TAKE A LITTLE WHILE
AND FRANCES MOORE LAPPE AUTHOUR OF DIET FOR A SMALL PLANET

This year's conference is co-sponsored by Project Ploughshares Calgary

Early registration fee of \$40 if you register by November 1st

Discounts for students and low-income earners

Contact:: 220-2136, parhad@ucalgary.ca www.ucalgary.ca/md/parhad

My Name is Rachel Corrie

a production by Sage Theatre

runs Nov. 15-24th

For Tickets call the Pumphouse theatre:

263-0079

A true story about a peace activist working
in Palestine www.sagetheatre.com

PeaceTalk series through the University of
Calgary presents Dr. Howard Davidson

**Israel & Palestine: Have the possibilities for
Peacemaking been lost?** Monday Nov. 19th.

For more info: 220-2136 or

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/~peaceuc/>

We are expecting to host an event in
December with Reese Erlich and his new
book about Iran. Check our website for
details or call our office to find out more

Ploughshares Calgary News

**Puppets for Peace continues to seek volunteers for our award winning bully
proofing puppetry program for elementary children.** We are particularly looking
for people who have experience or aptitude in: dramatic arts, graphic arts,
fundraising, marketing, grant-writing, human resources, policy setting, website
management (not technical). Call Sally at 247-1653.



October was a successful month for Project Ploughshares Calgary!

Our **meeting on Palestine** was well attended and many new folks came to listen to the work of Diane and Ali, including members of Sage Theatre whose new production is about peace makers in Palestine.

Executive Ploughshares member Ali Rezaei described the history of the region and showed how Israeli settlements make a two-state solution nearly impossible in the West Bank. He described the possibility of a democratic process to solve the problem. Diane showed pictures from her time in a village in the West Bank and described the trauma experienced by Palestinian children caught in the conflict. The Christian Peacemakers make sure the children are protected as they walk to school. More information about this project can be found at: www.cpt.org

The last **Singing for Peace** concert headlined by Barry Luft was a joyful and inspiring time for all! We made over a thousand dollars and left with a song in our heart. The Sunday Night Band were an especially inspiring group of Celtic musicians. Thanks to all who made it happen especially Barry Luft, The Sunday Night Band, the folks at St. Andrew's United Church, Jim Grabenstetter for heading the team and Joye Brown and all the kitchen helpers!

Ploughshares National News

www.ploughshares.ca

New articles on nuclear proliferation and Darfur. Check the website regularly for policy papers.

Global News

Inflammatory Amendment on Iran Passes in the Senate

On September 26, the US Senate passed an inflammatory amendment, declaring the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps of Iran a terrorist group. The Kyl-Lieberman amendment to the Senate Defense Authorization Bill passed by a vote of 76 to 22. Senator Jim Webb (D-VA) has continuously opposed the amendment, stating that the Bush administration could use it as an authorization of force against Iran. Additionally, this is the first time that a section of a nation's military has been designated a terrorist organization. The amendment could further fray relations between Iran and the United States and delay talks with Iran about Iraqi security. Opponents of the amendment believe this is a similar legislative path as that taken prior to the 2003 invasion of Iraq, calling the amendment a backdoor to a military confrontation with Iran. (from wagingpeace.org)

Neighboring nations resisting sanctions against Myanmar

Southeast Asian nations are reluctant to impose sanctions on military-ruled Myanmar following the junta's crackdown on pro-democracy protesters because they believe further isolation would hamper reconciliation, a Singapore official said Monday. Singapore's foreign minister, George Yeo, rejected suggestions in Parliament that the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) should impose sanctions on the military regime to pressure it to resolve the crisis peacefully. The European Union and the United States have pressed for expanded sanctions against Myanmar. President George W. Bush has also urged China and India to do more to pressure Myanmar's military rulers and announced new measures Friday targeting the assets of Myanmar's leaders and tightening controls on U.S. exports to the country. But Yeo said sanctions would be ineffective against a country already "predisposed toward isolationism" and could exacerbate divisions there. "Without the military, Myanmar can dissolve into civil war. The country has many ethnic groups, a number of which are still armed and can easily start rebellions in the border regions," Yeo told lawmakers. "The last thing we want is a Yugoslavia or an Iraqi situation at our doorsteps." Yeo said that ASEAN had limited economic leverage over Myanmar, a member of the regional bloc with rich oil and gas resources, and that Singapore's economic and military links with it were limited. Singapore's trade with Myanmar last year amounted to 1 billion Singapore dollars, or \$684 million, just 0.1 percent of the city-state's total trade, Yeo said. However, a lawmaker noted that Thailand and Singapore, both ASEAN members, were among Myanmar's biggest investors. Yeo said Asean's priority was to support mediation efforts by the UN envoy Ibrahim Gambari, who is on a six-nation tour to press Asian nations, in particular China and India, to take the lead in resolving the crisis. Yeo also said Asean expects Myanmar to attend the group's annual summit meeting in Singapore next month and sign a charter that would set up a regional human rights body. Myanmar's military junta said last week it detained nearly 3,000 people during a crackdown on protesters, adding that hundreds remain in custody and that it is still hunting for others. At least 10 people were killed when troops fired into crowds of peaceful protesters last month.

Source: The Associated Press, Published: October 22, 2007



Project Ploughshares Calgary

2919 8 Ave NW Calgary AB T2N 1C8
(403) 270-7366
E-mail: office@ploughsharescalgary.ca
www.ploughsharescalgary.ca

Special Thanks to Tracey Pickup, Sylvia Hawkins and Larry Kennard for editing & writing this issue of the newsletter

Local News

Nuclear Power in Alberta

Renowned Nuclear Energy Activist, Paul Gunter, is coming to Calgary to talk about the issues around Nuclear energy in our province.

November 15th 7pm at the Orpheus Theatre at SAIT

hosted by the Parkland Institute & CAUSE
Call 270-9669 for more information

Project Ploughshares maintains the **Peace-I mailing list** for Canadian discussions of general peace issues including emerging crises. To subscribe go to:
www.ploughshares.ca/libraries/Listservs.htm

Special thanks to Larry Kennard for promoting Ploughshares at the Green Market, the Singing for Peace concert and Shanti Day! His peace resources, buttons, stickers, flags and more are making an impact in Calgary. All these and more will be at the Holiday Peace Fair! Don't forget we will have peace books and cooperative games for sale too!

Yes! I want to become a Project Ploughshares Calgary donor and partner in building peace.

Here is my one time donation

\$35 ___ (includes 1 yr to newsletter)

\$50 ___ \$100 ___ \$500 ___ Other \$___

I'd like to become a Friend of Ploughshares

And give a monthly donation

(include void cheque)

___ \$10 ___ \$15 ___ \$20 ___ \$25 Other \$___

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____

E-mail: _____

Fair Trade Week 2007

Nov. 20-24th



Fair Trade movies, workshop, forum and market place.

For more information on the week of events:

www.ucalgary.ca/fairtrade

Or Call Carlos at: 220-8530

Concerned about Iran?

For those concerned about the situation in Iran one option may be to visit the country as a part of a solidarity delegation. These tours help you to understand the situation first hand, to meet people and understand on a personal level what's going on. The Fellowship of Reconciliation and the Mennonite Central Committee are sending peace missions in the new year

For more information:

<http://www.forusa.org/programs/iran/>

<http://mcc.org/iran/delegation/>

Or call the office to learn more: 270-7366