

PROJECT
PLOUGHSHARES
CALGARY

Peace News

OCTOBER 2010



We are located:
Parkdale United Church
2919 8th Ave NW
T2N 1C8
403- 270-7366

Office hours:
Mon, Tue, Thurs
10:30am - 3pm
Wed 2 - 6pm

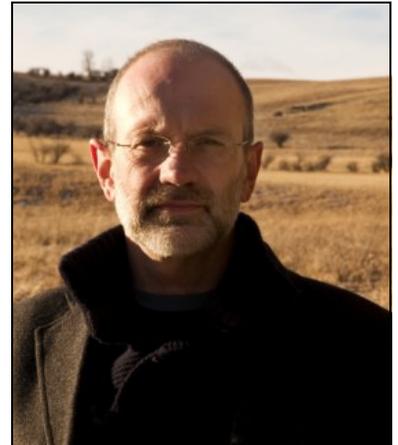
Singing for Peace

Singing a Story of Hope
Saturday October 16th 7:30—9:30pm
Parkdale United Church
2919 8th Ave NW

With folk/root singer/songwriter **Paul Rumbolt**
www.paulrumbolt.com

And accomplished violinist **Jonathan Lewis**

Original as well as much loved songs. Ploughshares' annual Fall fundraising concert and dessert evening.



Tickets: \$15 at the door, \$13 in advance, \$8 students / low income

At intermission: dessert \$2, beverages \$1

Call 403-270-7366 to order your tickets



Holiday Peace Fair

Supporting Social Justice and Fair Trade

Saturday November 6th 9:30am—4pm

St. David's United Church

3303 Capitol Hill Cres NW

Buy unique and magnificent gifts from over 25 vendors working for peace, social justice or the environment.

Admission: \$3, children 12 and under free

Remembering Peace on Remembrance Day:

What should we get out of this day?

Wednesday November 10th 7:30pm

Parkdale United Church (2919 8th Ave NW)

Come and hear several perspectives on peace and Remembrance Day from individuals who have different experiences of living through times of war.

Ploughshares Calgary News

Helping Calgary Win Peace in the Mayor's Race

Out of the brainstorming session at the September 8th monthly public meeting attendees came up with the three questions below that have been sent to each of the mayoral candidates. In addition to sending these questions to each of the candidates we have also submitted them as candidate questions on CivicCamp's website www.civiccamp.org. You can create an account on this website using your email address and a display name that you'd like to use. Once you are logged in you can comment on any of the questions that have been submitted and you can vote on the questions – you are allowed 10 votes. Before each of the Ward Aldermanic Forums and the All-Candidate Mayor's Forum CivicCamp volunteers will take 15 questions with the top number of votes to ask at the forum.



Ploughshares Calgary's three questions that you can vote on are:

- Will you work for Calgary to become an official "City of Peace?"
- Will you call for conflict resolution strategies to be taught in schools & municipal workplaces?
- Would you support council establishing a Calgary Committee for Peace to promote peace and justice?

Picnic at the Peace Pole had to be cancelled on September 19th due to bad weather. We will try again next year to organized something for families to mark the International Day of Peace.

Artisans for Peace—Ploughshares Calgary is seeking local artisans who would like an opportunity to sell their work on the Ploughshares table at our upcoming Peace Fair on November 6th, and donate a percentage of the proceeds to Ploughshares. Interested individuals should contact the office at 403-270-7366 for more information and to arrange for a meeting with our table coordinator to show samples of their work.

For Sale!!!



2011 Entertainment Coupon books for the Calgary area are available at the Ploughshares office for \$40. This fundraiser supports the peace work of Ploughshares Calgary—Ploughshares receives \$8 for each book sold.

Peace Doves Ploughshares Calgary is offering these white peace dove pins for \$1 each, and we encourage supporters to wear them each year for the International Day of Peace on September 21, and also with their red poppy for Remembrance Day. The White Peace Dove Campaign was inaugurated in 2009 with the goal of providing Canadians with a symbol that they could wear to demonstrate their profound commitment to the cause of Peace. See www.whitepeacedoves.org for more information about this campaign.



Seeking Volunteers!

It's Fall and we are asking for your help! What nicer way of furthering peace and making friends than to volunteer for Project Ploughshares? Phone Diane at 403-270-7366 to respond to these opportunities:

- Making an Entertainment Book available to your friends and acquaintances
- Inviting someone to attend the Singing for Peace Concert on Saturday October 16th 7.30pm
- Staffing an information table for 2 hours at an event (Nov 19-21, or Dec 3-4)
- Helping with set-up or clean-up for the Peace Fair
- Helping with publicity for numerous events: disseminating posters, making media contacts, spreading the word electronically
- Phoning specified places of worship to encourage membership in Ploughshares



Canadians for a Nuclear Weapons Convention (CNWC)

Ploughshares Calgary is helping Murray Thompson, O.C. (and one of the founders of Ploughshares national) in hosting an information reception in Calgary in October for CNWC. Murray is hoping to meet with the 14 members of the Order of Canada from Calgary who have joined CNWC by signing on to a letter calling for nuclear disarmament. Just over 500 Order of Canada recipients have signed on to this letter. This will be the fifth time that CNWC members from across Canada have met and shared views on ways to hasten adoption of the nuclear weapons convention, as a key element of Canadian foreign policy. Others have been held in Ottawa, Montréal, Toronto and Vancouver.

Why Joint Strike Fighter aircraft? Program costs rise and benefits carry risks

August 2010 Project Ploughshares Briefing Paper www.ploughshares.ca/libraries/Briefings/brf103.pdf

By Kenneth Epps (excerpt below is the conclusion of the briefing paper)

According to media reports, the July 2010 government announcement of the F-35 stealth fighter aircraft acquisition is not binding. The Department of National Defence has at least three years before it must sign a contract for aircraft delivery. Parliamentarians should make use of this period to undertake a thorough and public review of the case for acquisition of another generation of fighter aircraft. The review should begin with the basics. What are the security missions that fighter – or stealth fighter – aircraft will fulfill? Given the high, and rising, costs of fighter acquisition and operation, the review should examine the full range of Canadian security challenges to establish whether stealth fighter aircraft would meet pressing state and human security requirements and deliver value for money. Indeed, are there alternative programs that would better meet Canadian and international security needs?

To build a compelling case for procuring new fighter aircraft, the government must demonstrate that the aircraft will fulfill roles worthy of the costs involved. Transparent and balanced security goals should drive procurement decisions, especially when program costs could be unprecedented. Joint industrial production of equipment with other states may be a worthy objective, but it should evolve from defined security objectives and the extent to which they can be met by common equipment. Similarly, the choice of military equipment should not be heavily influenced by anticipated industrial benefits, especially when the touted benefits may not be as lucrative as claimed.

Based on what is currently known, it can be said that the case for a Canadian F-35 order has not been made. The JSF aircraft is neither uniquely suited nor suited at all to important security tasks that Canada now fulfills and can reasonably be expected to fulfill in the future. Its stealth characteristics and reported interoperability with US JSF aircraft fit it best to accompany US attacks on well-defended targets rather than to intervene in failed and fragile states and participate in the robust peacekeeping operations that the international community now undertakes. Despite promises of affordability, the JSF production costs continue to rise and the real lifecycle costs of operation, maintenance, repair, and upgrades are unknown and potentially three times current estimates. The economic benefits to Canada are exaggerated and global JSF program benefits to Canada's military aerospace industry are unlikely to be sustained.

The size of the F-35 procurement program and the nature of the aircraft will have a profound impact on Canadian security spending and, therefore, policy for decades to come. Failing the immediate retraction of the announced purchase of the F-35, a final decision on procurement should wait for the completion of a public parliamentary process that convincingly demonstrates the case for the purchase of this or any other jet fighter.

Space Security 2010 *Executive Summary at: www.ploughshares.ca/libraries/Abolish/SS2010ES.pdf*

Space Security 2010 is the 7th annual report on trends and developments related to security and outer space, covering the period Jan-Dec 2009. It is part of the broader Space Security Index (SSI) project, which aims to improve transparency with respect to space activities and provide a common, comprehensive knowledge base to support the development of national and international policies that contribute to space security.

The definition of space security guiding this report reflects the express intent of the 1967 Outer Space Treaty that space should be preserved as a global commons to be used by all for peaceful purposes: ***The secure and sustainable access to, and use of, space and freedom from space-based threats.*** The primary consideration in the SSI definition of space security is not the interests of specific national or commercial entities using space, but the security of space as an environment that can be used safely and sustainably by all.

The actions and developments related to space security are assessed according to nine indicators that are organized under three themes:

- *The condition of the operating environment* - 1) The space environment 2) Space situational awareness 3) Space laws, policies, and doctrines
- *The type of actors in space and how space is used* - 4) Civil space programs and global utilities 5) Commercial space 6) Space support for terrestrial military operations
- *The status of space-related technology as it pertains to protecting or interfering with space systems, or harming Earth from space* - 7) Space systems protection 8) Space systems negation 9) Space-based strike capabilities.



Project Ploughshares Calgary

2919 8th Ave. NW

Calgary AB T2N 1C8

(403) 270-7366

office@ploughsharescalgary.ca

www.ploughsharescalgary.ca

Special thanks to Diane Janzen, Larry Kennard and Sally Hodges for their work writing and editing this issue of the newsletter.

Calgary Peace Events

Sunday October 10th 3pm

University of Calgary, ICT 102

Talk: A Woman Among Warlords: Malalai Joya's Struggle for Afghanistan

Malalai Joya became widely recognized in 2003 after shocking the world with her fierce condemnation of the warlords at the Loya Jirga, the assembly of the most powerful political stakeholders of Afghanistan. In 2005, she

became the youngest woman elected to Afghanistan's parliament and has since emerged as one of the most prominent voices against the NATO occupation and the Karzai regime. Her fiery criticism and fearless advocacy of women's rights has won her recognition as one of TIME magazine's most influential people in the world, yet has also triggered her expulsion from parliament and has led to five attempts on her life.

Tickets: \$10 advance, \$12 at the door contact acsa@ucalgary.ca for more information.

Hosted by The Afghan Canadian Students' Association

Friday October 15th 12:30-1:30pm University of Calgary Science Theatres 127

PeaceTalk: Toward a Framework of Trustbuilding in Community with Rob Corcoran

Hosted by the Consortium for Peace Studies at the University of Calgary

Saturday October 16th

Continental Breakfast and Fundraiser to Launch Calgary's "Hope in the Cities" Campaign

Keynote Speaker: **Rob Corcoran**—International speaker on honest conversations and trustbuilding between ethnic, racial and religious groups, and building peace across the world's divides.

Breakfast: 9:30am - Noon Cost: \$15/person (food by Ethnicity)

Kahanoff Centre Room 201, 1202 Centre Street SE

Trustbuilding Training Workshop 1 – 4:30pm

Cost: \$50/person (lunch included @ Noon)

Kahanoff Centre Room 201, 1202 Centre Street SE

Attend both the morning fundraiser and the afternoon workshop and pay only \$55.

Limited seating, please RSVP by Wednesday, October 13 (advance purchase only)

Tickets: <http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=59kh9odab&oeidk=a07e30n5neabc70423a>

or e-mail: iofc.calgary@ca.iofc.org, phone: 403-270-0975

Hosted by Initiatives of Change

Thursday October 28th 6:30pm Professional Faculties Building Room 120

PeaceFilm: Falsos Positivos

Director: Simone Bruno, Dado Carillo, USA & Columbia, 2009, 55 minutes

The Colombian Army dressed the bodies of more than 1600 innocent people in military fatigues to claim monetary rewards for the fight against the FARC guerrilla under President Uribe's policy called "Seguridad Democratica." *Falsos Positivos* follows the trip of two families to retrieve the bodies of their beloved, along with shocking interviews with activists, a former General, political analysts and witnesses of this huge scandal which was exposed in October 2008.

Hosted by the Consortium for Peace Studies at the University of Calgary

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

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Here is my donation for 2010 of:

\$35 \$50 \$100 \$500 \$_____

(donations of \$10 or more will receive a tax receipt)

I'd like to become a Friend of Ploughshares and give a monthly pre-authorized debit donation, please send me an application form:

I'd like to receive the monthly newsletter by:

Email (recommended) Mail (with \$35 donation)