

PROJECT
PLOUGHSHARES
CALGARY

Peace News

J U N E 2017



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

Office hours:
Mon, Tues & Thurs
10 am - 3 pm
Wed 2 pm - 7 pm

*Encouraging informed dialogue on peace and
social justice issues since 1982*

**THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS and STAFF of
PROJECT PLOUGHSHARES CALGARY (PPC)
Invite you to attend
PPC's 2016-2017**

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14TH 2017
7—9 pm, Parkdale United Church,
Conference Room (in the basement)**

Light Refreshments will be served.

**Please RSVP by June 9th by emailing
office@ploughsharescalgary.ca or
calling 403-270-7366**

We look forward to seeing you there!

Ploughshares News

Celebrating Project Ploughshares Calgary (1982-2016) and Looking forward to many successes with, Ploughshares Calgary Society

Update :

In the past, Project ploughshares Calgary was able to send our donations to National Project Ploughshares group and they organized receipts from the Canadian Council of Churches (CCC) for our donors. As we mentioned in our letter to our supporters in March of this year, after an audit and review done by the Canadian Revenue Agency (CRA) of CCC, CRA felt CCC is not engaged with the operations of the various regional and local branches of Project Ploughshares and so donors to Ploughshares Calgary will not be able to get receipts from CCC.

The result is that we need to legally separate our relationship from the National Project Ploughshares. After many, many hours of doing the Mission Statement, Objects and Bylaws, we have applied as an Alberta Society under the name Ploughshares Calgary Society. This will enable us to continue using our domain name for the website and email address. While we are hoping to be registered by our AGM on June 14th, we will still not be qualified as a charity and so we will for at least some period of time, be unable to issue charitable tax receipts and we ask people to donate simply because our work is worthy. We have been working together on peace projects such as Puppets for Peace, two separate social studies curriculum modules (on Anti-Bullying and nuclear weapons abolition), 31 annual Holiday Peace Fairs, and scores of educational meetings and events since 1982. We are sincerely grateful for your support in the past and hope you will continue to support us with your financial and physical support. Please join us at our Annual General Meeting.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Followed by
World Café Discussion

“ENHANCING OUR WORK”

Is the story of humanity in danger of culminating in a devastating finale? As part of PPC's AGM, we are inviting you to join a 'world café conversation' to explore our successes and the process of our transition. We will focus on creating and strengthening our work on peace and human security. Every human being holds within his or her heart the hope and dream of peace. When human beings focus our attention upon something—that something gains substance. Come prepared for some stimulating conversation, and ideas on how we can step by step; person by person, change our chaotic world and focus on creating and strengthening a more peaceful and pluralistic world.

Light snacks of pakoras, hummus/pita and dessert will be served.

Catholic World News

Nations have moral duty to destroy nuclear weapons, Vatican envoy tells UN

“The threat of mutually assured destruction through nuclear weapons cannot be the basis for an ethics of fraternity and peaceful coexistence among peoples and states,” the Vatican’s delegate said in an address to a UN session on nuclear disarmament.

Archbishop Bernardito Auza called the attention of UN members to the call by Pope Francis for the complete elimination of all nuclear weapons. He said that all states have a moral obligation to stop nuclear proliferation and to destroy their own stockpiles of nuclear arms.

Nuclear weapons cause “unnecessary suffering” for survivors, the archbishop argued, and “merit unequivocal and unhesitating condemnation.” He argued that states should provide compensation for people harmed by radiation from nuclear tests.

Archbishop Auza said that the UN’s discussion of disarmament was itself “an act of defiance against the logic of fear.” He called for universal acceptance of the principle that conflicts should be resolved by dialogue.

Negotiations stemming from L41 began the last week in March at the United Nations in New York and, after the first round, will continue June 15 to July 7. All UN member states, along with international organizations and members of civil society, were called on to participate. Yet, Canada did not. Canada would be welcomed to join the negotiations in June. Let your MP know you would like Canada to be at the negotiations table.

Appeal for a nuclear free world

Red Cross calls on all States to join UN negotiations to eliminate nuclear weapons.

Appeal by the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement

An excerpt from the meeting in Nagasaki:

We are standing at the brink of what will be the turning point in efforts to end the era of nuclear weapons. By negotiating and adopting a treaty that recognises the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons and contains a clear and unambiguous prohibition, States have the opportunity to ensure that Nagasaki is the last place in history to have suffered the effects of an atomic bombing.

Prohibiting nuclear weapons will strengthen current nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation efforts. Achieving a world without nuclear weapons is an obligation to future generations and imperative to preserve our common humanity. Weapons that risk catastrophic humanitarian consequences cannot possibly be viewed as providing people's security.

Protecting humanity requires courage, commitment and concerted action; it is time to put humanity first by prohibiting and completely eliminating nuclear weapons.

Nagasaki, 26 April 2017



<http://www.redcross.org.au/news/appeal-for-a-nuclear-free-world.aspx>

SAVE THESE DATES

Project Ploughshares Calgary Events:

Wednesday, June 14th 2017

Project Ploughshares Calgary Annual General Meeting

7—9 pm

Parkdale United Church, Conference Room (in the basement)

World Café Conversation to follow the AGM

Light refreshments of pakoras, hummus/pita and dessert will be served.

Please bring your cheques books to support our ongoing efforts towards nuclear disarmament and human security

Saturday, August 5, 2017

Floating Lantern Peace Ceremony

8—10 pm

Olympic Plaza, Calgary

In memory of all those impacted by the atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and I In solidarity toward a peaceful world without nuclear weapons.

Other Events Around town:

Calgary Centre for Global Community & HUMAINOLOGIE

INTRODUCING CALGARY'S FIRST EMPATHY WEEK

Empathy Week is a seven-day festival of events that promotes empathy, human connection and the recognition of our shared humanity. Empathy Week is curated by Humainologie and is a community initiative with numerous partners and Calgarians coming together to host a variety of events.

Check out the [Empathy Week Program of Events](#).

Calgary Centre for Global Community & HUMAINOLOGIE

Wednesday, June 7 th 2017

Second Annual Short Film Festival

6:30 pm

The Global Cinema, 617 8 Avenue Southwest

Hosted by Comedian, Brett Forté, we'll be sharing in an evening of films that allow us to step into the shoes of others and share our human stories; that stimulate empathy, encourage inclusivity and respect for all humans; and that promote the recognition of our shared humanity. Beer, wine and concession available. Check out this year's film selection [here](#).

Reserve your free tickets online now!

Tuesday, June 13th, 2017

Calgary ADR Luncheon

11:30 am - 1:30 pm

Danish Canadian Club

Panel Presentation on Global Citizenship

Explore unique perspectives on global citizenship, geopolitical conflict, the root causes of such conflicts, and what it means to connect as humans despite our many differences. Hosted and moderated by Tracy Nagai from Global TV, four distinguished panelists representing a broad range of humanitarian interests will speak about our complex world, and offer insights into how we can collectively create more humane and cohesive communities.

For info contact: Michelle Phaneuf, 403.483.5520; phaneuf@workplacefairness.ca

Thursday, June 8th 2017

Palestine In My Heart, a presentation by Theresa Wolfwood from Victoria, BC

6:30—8:30 pm

Community Wise. Resource Centre

For more info contact: bdsactioncalgary@gmail.com

To all Ploughshares Calgary supporters:

Due the upcoming change in our legal name, your planned bequests will have to be changed. If your Will instructs that money be left to Project Ploughshares Calgary, and that specific group has been disbanded, we will not get the money. Please amend your Wills to direct the money to **Ploughshares Calgary Society**.

For more information contact the Ploughshares Calgary office.

Thank you for all your current and future support!!

What Books Are You Reading?

We would like to add to our readers' knowledge on peace and nonviolence and ask you to share with us what book (s) you are reading and why. What impact has it had on you?

We begin by sharing with you Rosemary Kabaki, Program Manager for NP in Myanmar, 's book review:

My book choice is *The Dictators Learning Curve: Inside the Global Battle for Democracy* by William J. Dobson. Even before I started the book I was attracted by the initial look of it. Judging this book by its cover, the author has written the title 'The DICTATORS' in a way that reminded me of the child's game tic tac toe. I hence expected to find in the book a variety of strategies about real people and real players and I did.

I recommend this book, as it helped to reflect and learn about the nonviolent strategies utilized, most successfully, by human rights defenders. Through these strategies the HRDs in various parts around the world were able to combat tyranny and protect civilians from abuse of their human rights. The HRDs he picks to discuss are students, housewives and non-governmental organization representatives. What strikes me most, is how these civilians commit to combating violence with nonviolent strategies, the relatively modest profile of these civilians and the diverse reasons why they 'step up.' This book reminded me of how I am rejuvenated in my work with NP Myanmar through the transfer of skills to grassroots village civilians.

In NPs work in Myanmar, we incorporate in our training the giants of nonviolent movements, Mahatma Gandhi, Martin Luther King and Aung San Suu Gyi. As I read the book, I reflected on how NPs programs utilize unarmed civilian protection methods in response to the changing global context and build on activities that enhance civilian roles in protecting civilians. This book explores the impact made by the 'giants' of nonviolent movements but also highlights the ongoing work of relatively obscure civilians in applying innovative nonviolent strategies, as well as their successes and challenges. I would like for you to read it (if you haven't already) and discuss it with somebody the information it shares and the thoughts the book may provoke.

For more information on Nonviolent Peace force please visit: <http://www.nonviolentpeaceforce.org/about-3/about-12>





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Special thanks to all who submitted articles & Kerry Duncan-McCartney for editing this issue of the newsletter.



Welcome to SUMMER

Hope you have had a great and peaceful Spring. The Office is now open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday from 10 am—3 pm and Wednesday from 2 pm—7 pm.



We are very grateful to all our donors for their continued support of the important peace work that we do here at Project Ploughshares Calgary. During the month of May, we received \$140 in donations from individuals, This is the lifeblood of our organization!

We would like to encourage you to continue your support by signing up for a monthly donation plan. This type of sustained donation is very beneficial for the day-to-day running of Project Ploughshares, as we know more clearly from month-to-month exactly what is coming in. This helps us immensely in planning our programs for the year! If you are interested in this option, please contact

the office: 403-270-7366, or email: office@ploughsharescalgary.ca. You may also bring a VOID cheque to the AGM and fill the monthly donation form.

We look forward to providing you with top-quality seminars and workshops on various peace topics, and would greatly appreciate your on-going support! Many, many thanks for your consideration.

Project Ploughshares Calgary

Yes...I am interested in supporting the peace work of Project Ploughshares!



- \$ 50
- \$100
- \$250
- \$500
- \$1000
- Other Amount (Specify) \$_____
- I'd like to make a monthly donation of \$_____
- I'd like to volunteer

Name: _____ Phone #: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Prov: _____ Postal Code: _____

Email: _____

Donation Options: Cheque PayPal Cash

Make cheque payable to Project Ploughshares Calgary or go to www.ploughsharescalgary.ca to make your payment via PayPal.

Please mail completed form with donation to:

Project Ploughshares Calgary, 2919 - 8 Ave. NW, Calgary, AB T2N 1C8

Please note that we are unable to provide tax receipts at this time.