





**Conversations on Peace & Global Citizenship**  
**Dr. Debra Davidson, U of A Professor**  
**Climate Change, Displacement, Community Resiliency**  
**September 12, 2013 at Parkdale United Church**

Dr. Davidson spoke about displacement, which is defined as forced migration from uninhabitable area and is usually a temporary condition; Migration, which is a more permanent condition and not necessarily forced; and refugees, which indicates that people were forced to leave their country due to persecution, war or a natural disaster. In today's era of climate change, incidents of displacement are rising - two such recent examples highlighted were Hurricane Katrina in 2005. The population of New Orleans prior to the hurricane was 500,000, and is currently just 360,000. The other example given was the quake and tsunami that hit Japan in March of 2011, with 100 dead as a result of the earthquake, and 28,000 due to the tsunami. In this instance, 300,000 to 500,000 people were displaced, with \$360 billion in losses.

Extreme weather events are expected to rise - with the increase in temperatures comes an increase in storms, for example. Habitability is expected to decline, dependent upon a specific region's climate, while over the next century the ocean is expected to rise 1 metre. Asia would suffer the most, with 800,000 sq km under water, affecting some 100 million people. Accompanying the rise in sea level and temperatures will be chronic fiscal imbalances, increasing demand for water, food storage crises, and decreasing food productivity.

Dr. Davidson believes that people are certainly aware of the problems inherent in climate change, but are lacking an equivalent level of concern, with a reliance on government to take care of things. She spoke of the false sense of security given by such things as sea walls and insurance. When we have more and more people living in hazard zones, this increases the level of disasters.

C.S. Holling's 1973 paper on the resilience of ecological systems had a substantial impact within ecology and other natural and social sciences. He has also contributed important ideas to ecological management, including Adaptive management and the Adaptive Cycle. He proposed that it is best to work through change rather than try to prevent natural disasters. He measured the ability to bounce back using twelve equally weighted factors, such as the regional economic capacity to absorb shocks, the socio-demographic capacity to accept change, and community connectivity capacity. Calgary did well in the recent flood due to high scoring in these areas.

Dr. Davidson cited the work of Jabareen (<http://dx.doi.org/10.4236/ns.2012.46051>) on four steps for cities to take to be prepared for a disaster, as follows:

1. Conduct vulnerability analysis using a matrix (demographics, spatial distribution of risks)
2. Governance structures - better to have an integrated approach across departments; environmental costs also need to be taken into account.
3. Prevention/Mitigation - How to re-structure a city.
4. Uncertainty-oriented planning - this means the ability to engage in planning when there are a large number of uncertainties.

A lively discussion followed Dr. Davidson's presentation regarding how Calgary handled the recent flood, the response of Calgarians, and how climate change is integrally related to peace, particularly in areas of the world that have poor infrastructure and inadequate economic capacity. There were over 30 people in attendance.



**29th Annual Peace Fair**  
**Saturday November 23, 2013, 9 AM - 4:30 PM**  
**Parkdale United Church**

**Please note the new location of the Peace Fair for this year!**

Mark your calendars for this annual event, featuring the work of many organizations that support social justice, fair trade and the environment. More complete info will be available in the November newsletter.

# Ploughshares Calgary News



## The Calgary Peace Run Festival September 21, 2013, Festival Market Square

The Calgary Peace Run Festival concluded on the International Day of Peace with the Calgary Peace Run, comprised of some 150 runners and walkers and 50 volunteers. It was a fantastic day of community-building and awareness-raising, with peace-inspired music provided by Sparrow, Chantal Stormsong Chagnon and Cheryl Chagnon Greyeyes, Justin Parsons, and others. The day ended with Circles of Rhythm, with Judy Atkinson leading a large, rousing and truly moving drum circle in Festival Market Square.

Our thanks goes out to the Organizing Committee for the Peace Run: Kim Follis, Sharon Lea Hill, Faith Takeda, Monica Rose Evangeline, Terry Smales, Saima Jamal, Chris Eddy, Karin Nybo, Sally Hodges, Aisha Zaman and Shahin Bhura. You helped make this all possible! Many thanks to our sponsors: Freshwater Creative, UNAC, Elan Construction, TSGI, Trotter & Morton, and PPI - as well as donors, businesses giving draw prizes and runners and walkers who brought in sponsorship dollars for their efforts! The volunteers for the day of the run are too numerous to list here, but you know who you are! There will be a volunteer appreciation event taking place in late October or early November, so please watch for news about this in your in-boxes!



## Calgary Toy Audit, October 2013

Project Ploughshares Calgary will conduct a toy audit of several Calgary toy stores in October, looking at specific criteria regarding placement of violent toys, the number of violent toys, as well as the prevalence of peaceful toys for children. The results of this audit will be shared with Calgary media in time for the busy holiday shopping season. Stores that have few to nonviolent toys will receive a special recommendation and receive certificates of merit, while other stores will receive report cards indicating problems!



## Rick Collier Memorial Fund Established

The Department of English at Mount Royal University has created a **Richard Collier Memorial Award** in honour of our late colleague. This endowed award will provide scholarships to English majors who demonstrate academic achievement and leadership in outdoor pursuits, community engagement, and/or social activism. We are now seeking donations to meet our endowment target and allow us to begin offering the Award to students.

Richard Collier was an activist, environmentalist and political candidate who stood for social justice and making our community a better place for all. He came to Mount Royal in 1967 as a Vietnam War draft dodger and spent nearly 30 years as a faculty member in the English department. Passionate about literature and writing, he established the student magazine *Skylines*, developed a freelance writing certificate program, and was instrumental in building the foundation for Mount Royal's Bachelor of Arts degree. His passion continues to resonate through the department, our programs and our teaching.

Richard was also an avid outdoorsman and long distance runner who had climbed over 1,300 mountains and cycled the circumference of the continental United States. Tragically, in August 2012, he was killed in a climbing accident in the mountains he loved and where he spent so much time.

Memorial contributions would be gratefully received, not least by the students who will benefit from this award. The Mount Royal Foundation receives all donations, which can be designated to the Richard Collier Memorial Award. Gifts can be made online at <http://www.mtroyal.ca/Alumni/donate> or by mail or fax using the form at [http://www.mtroyal.ca/wcm/groups/public/documents/pdf/cfe\\_friends\\_gift\\_form.pdf](http://www.mtroyal.ca/wcm/groups/public/documents/pdf/cfe_friends_gift_form.pdf)

If you have questions or need further information, please contact David Hyttenrauch at [dhyttenrauch@mtroyal.ca](mailto:dhyttenrauch@mtroyal.ca) or 403-440-6453.



## We'd Love to Have YOU on board as one of our EXTRAORDINARY VOLUNTEERS!

We are looking for about 10 volunteers to help out with our **Toy Audit**, which will take place **mid-to-late October 2013**. Training will be provided for this exciting new initiative. We will send out teams to several Calgary toy stores with a specific set of criteria that they will use to look at and assess displays of toys, and afterward we will collate the results and send them out to Calgary media. This will be not only a fun project, but also a very important one in determining the best places to shop for holiday toys!



We are also looking for a few more volunteers to help out with the Annual Peace Fair on November 23rd. If you would like to greet people at the door, help out with Ploughshares table sales, serve food in the kitchen, or maybe help out in setting up and taking down the tables and chairs pre and post Peace Fair, we'd love to hear from you!

Please give us a call if you're interested in exploring these or other options.

**Karen** at **403-270-7366** or **office@ploughsharescalgary.ca**

### MAKE A DIFFERENCE. Donations



## DONATE»

We received \$3485 during the month of September from individual donors. When you're planning your charitable donations, please think about Project Ploughshares and give generously! We value your contributions, and would like to thank all those who continue to contribute big-heartedly to support Project Ploughshares. We can't continue to do the important and meaningful work of peacebuilding without you!



### Entertainment Books

If you're looking for an inexpensive way to go out for dinner now and then, or ways to save on various retail items, movies, drycleaning, etc.—please consider purchasing a 2014 Entertainment book from Ploughshares Calgary today! Call Karen at 403-270-7366 to reserve your copy.

### 1914-2014: Lessons Learned for Peace

by **David Krieger, July 24, 2013**

The wars of the last century have offered important lessons for peace. Among these are:

- ◆ Wars begin in the minds of men (and women) and are often based on the lies of leaders.
- ◆ Wars can occur when they are not at all expected.
- ◆ Politicians and generals send the young to fight and die.
- ◆ Wars can consume entire generations of youth.
- ◆ Wars are not heroic; they are bloody and terrifying.
- ◆ Wars now kill more civilians than combatants.
- ◆ Long-distance killing and drones make wars far less personal.
- ◆ Any war today carries the risk of a nuclear conflagration and omnicide (the death of all).
- ◆ The terms of peace after a war can plant seeds of peace or the seeds of the next war.
- ◆ The best ways to prevent illegal war are nonviolent struggle and holding leaders accountable for the Nuremberg crimes: crimes against peace (aggressive war); war crimes; and crimes against humanity.
- ◆ Lessons offered unfortunately do not necessarily translate into lessons learned. Philosophers have warned that we must learn the lessons of the past if we are going to apply them to the present and change the future. In a nuclear-armed world, the challenge is made all the more urgent. As Einstein warned, "The unleashed power of the atom has changed everything save our modes of thinking and thus we drift toward unparalleled catastrophe." Today, learning these lessons for peace and changing our modes of thinking to put them into practice are necessary to assure that there is a future.





## Project Ploughshares to return to Conrad Grebel in Spring 2014

### Thursday, September 26, 2013

WATERLOO, ON --President Susan Schultz Huxman at Conrad Grebel University College and Executive Director of [Project Ploughshares](#), John Siebert, are pleased to announce that the Ploughshares office will be moving back to Grebel in the Spring of 2014.

After more than a decade of being located at the Centre for International Governance Innovation in uptown Waterloo, Ontario, Project Ploughshares will be returning to the place of its birth. Ploughshares' office was located at Grebel from its founding in 1976 until 2002.

L to R: Ernie Regehr, Gov. Gen David Johnston, Nancy Regehr

This move became possible because of the generosity of the Mennonite Savings and Credit Union (MSCU) \$1 million gift to Grebel to establish the MSCU Centre for Peace Advancement (CPA) on the fourth floor of [Grebel's current building project](#).

Project Ploughshares will become an anchor partner in the MSCU CPA, which will also provide a new home for Grebel graduate students, peace organization start-ups, artists, musicians, and visiting scholars. Participants in the MSCU Centre for Peace Advancement will be part of a collaborative network of individuals and organizations that provide mentoring and initiate ideas to foster creative peacemaking.

In welcoming Ploughshares' return, Schultz Huxman said she looked forward to deepening the collaboration that already exists with the Peace and Conflict Studies (PACS) program and other Grebel programs. PACS professor Nathan Funk, who sits on the Ploughshares Governing Committee, noted the ongoing contribution of Ploughshares staff to Grebel courses as guest lecturers.

Former President Frank Epp encouraged Ploughshares' co-founder Ernie Regehr in 1976 to establish this ecumenical peace advocacy and disarmament NGO at Grebel. Epp also suggested the name, which is taken from Isaiah 2:4 – “they will beat their swords into ploughshares.”

The Governing Committee of Project Ploughshares also has committed to contributing \$35,000 to the Next Chapter fundraising campaign. “This gift to Grebel is a symbol of our partnership and will be recognized by naming the meeting room in the MSCU Centre for Peace Advancement for Ernie and Nancy Regehr, who played such a key role in the establishment and growth of Project Ploughshares,” said Siebert.

As an operating agency of the 25 member Canadian Council of Churches, Project Ploughshares has established a world-wide reputation for providing evidenced-based research and practical policy recommendations to advance peace and disarmament.

Founded in 1963 by Ontario Mennonites, Conrad Grebel University College is a Christian liberal arts college affiliated with the University of Waterloo. The College's mission is “to seek wisdom, nurture faith and pursue justice and peace in service to church and society.” Conrad Grebel's core values include inspired teaching, scholarly excellence, compassionate service, community building, active peacemaking and global engagement. These are expressed through the academic and student life programs.



***“You spend money on bombs, and in 10 years they're out of date, but [if] you build bridges, they last forever.”***

Tung-Yen Lin's response to President Ronald Reagan when presented with the National Medal of Science in 1986.

Tung-Yen Lin (1912-2003) shocked the President by presenting him with a design for an “Intercontinental Peace Bridge” across the Bering Strait, linking the US with the USSR.



## Project Ploughshares Calgary

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Special thanks to Karen Huggins & Sally Hodges for their work writing and editing this issue of the newsletter.

## Calgary Peace Events

**Project Ploughshares and the  
Calgary Centre for Global Community  
Wednesday November 13 Presentation, Location TBA  
Toy Audit & Peaceful Parenting Discussion  
Discussion led by Naomi Turner & Mahendra Singh**



Please note the date on your calendars for this important discussion. Naomi Turner, B.A. (Environmental Studies and Sociology), B.Ed. is very devoted to meaningful education for children. She has taught in environmental education centres, in a Waldorf School, in an NGO in India as well as in an Inuit community in Northern Canada. Currently she is teaching in the Calgary Board of Education in a cooperative and enquiry based school pursuing authentic learning with children from all over the world. Naomi strives to ensure a more holistic approach to education and provide an atmosphere where children can explore their interconnectivity. She emphasizes the importance of relationships in education and that the very essence of peace is recognizing our interconnectivity with everything. She is devoted to help reveal to children the great possibilities that emerge when we unite. She develops artwork and storytelling as a means to express this understanding. She is currently writing children's books for peace education. Mahendra (M.A., M.Phil. Non-violence and Peace Studies) has been involved in various social, environmental and educational movements over the years. In his quest for a harmonious and holistic way of life, Mahendra explored many philosophies. He lived in a Buddhist monastery as well as in Gandhi's Ashram in India to study and practice a non-violent, peaceful and sustainable way of living. He shows how global relationships, unity and co-existence with everyone and everything on Earth can be achieved through inner transformation and mutually fulfilling relationships. Mahendra is on The Board of Directors of The Calgary Centre for Global Community and is a member of The Consortium for Peace Studies at The University of Calgary.

**Marda Loop Justice Film Festival  
Wednesday November 13th to  
Sunday November 17th  
River Park Church Auditorium  
3818—14A St SW**



Mark your calendars! This year the Marda Loop Justice Film Festival is a five (count 'em 5) -day event! Starting Wednesday November 13, with two screenings (10am & 1pm) at Mount Royal University, and then at River Park Church Thursday November 14 7pm to 10pm, Friday November 15 7pm to 10pm, Saturday November 16 12:30pm to 10pm (this evening includes a free concert after the last film), and Sunday November 17 12:30pm to 10pm. There will be 17 documentary films this year, each only screened once (the Mount Royal venue is no longer a sneak a peak :) so if you want to see the early films, you will have to see them at MRU :) The full schedule and lineup will be announced October 15, so keep your eyes peeled! [www.justicefilmfestival.ca](http://www.justicefilmfestival.ca). **Ploughshares will have a booth there, and we need some lovely volunteers to staff it from Friday through Sunday! Call Karen at 403-270-7366, office@ploughsharescalgary.ca if you are interested in this opportunity!**

**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 2013 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)