

PROJECT
PLOUGHSHARES
CALGARY

Peace News

SEPTEMBER 2012



We are located:

Parkdale United
Church
2919 8th Ave NW
T2N 1C8

403-270-7366

Office hours:

Mon Tues & Thurs
10:30 am - 3 pm

Wed 2 - 6 pm

The Calgary Peace Walk & Run
Celebrating the International Day of Peace
A collaborative event organized by:

**Project Ploughshares Calgary, The Consortium for
Peace Studies, cdpeace in Sierra Leone.**

Sunday September 23, 2012

**Race Start: Running Room at Eau Claire Market
8:30 am Zumba Warm-up / 9:00 am Race Start
5K and 10K run or walk - all timed events**



**We are currently just \$1500 away from our covering all expenses
related to putting on this race!**

DONATE to the Calgary Peace Run (100% tax deductible):

<https://netcommunity.ucalgary.ca/peacerundonation>

SPONSOR the Calgary Peace Run: <https://netcommunity.ucalgary.ca/peacerunsponsorship>

100% of your donations and sponsorships go to support our programs!

Walkers and runners are encouraged to participate, and to collect donations from their friends and family that will ultimately support the cause of peace!

[Click here to register as a runner or walker for this event](#)

www.runningroom.com

We have fantastic door prizes to give away after the race, including: two 3 month YMCA membership; 20 class pass at the Yoga Studio; 4 gift certificates for Notable; two tickets for Lunch Box Theatre; 2 therapeutic massages; Bonton meats gift certificate; and much more!

There will be prizes for walkers and runners who bring in the greatest amount of money from people who sponsor them personally - the link to a printable pledge form is [here](#). We will give first, second and third place prizes to those individuals who collect the highest total of donations!

Race Directors:

Saima Jamal (peaceuc@ucalgary.ca, 403-220-2136)

Karen Huggins (office@ploughsharescalgary.ca, 403-270-7366)

**Be a part of this exciting new event and
help us in promoting peace and non-violence
and in creating a better world for everyone!**

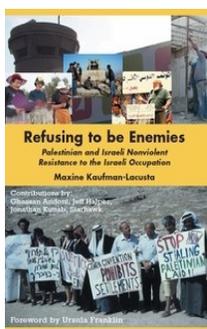
Project Ploughshares Calgary's 30th Anniversary!
Friday October 12 - Anniversary Dinner, Danish Canadian Club
Saturday October 13 - Seminar with Ernie Regehr, O.C.,
Founder of Project Ploughshares

Save the date for this incredible weekend! Friday evening there is a dinner for Ploughshares members to commemorate our 30th Anniversary (\$50 per person), and Ernie Regehr will be speaking on 'Ending War: How and How Soon?' On Saturday there will be a special workshop presented by Ernie Regehr at Parkdale United Church. Ernie will present his views on the international obligation of 'Responsibility to Protect' vulnerable people, in light of recent events and peacekeeping. Please see attached invitation - YOU are cordially invited to attend! Please contact the office at 403-270-7366 or office@ploughsharescalgary.ca for more info or to register. Mail or bring dinner reservations and seminar registrations to the office.



Project Ploughshares Annual Peace Fair
Saturday November 3, 2012 at St. David's United Church
9:30 am—4 pm Save the Date!

The Annual Peace Fair is always a crowd-pleasing event! Come do your holiday shopping with free-trade, environmentally friendly products! Let us know of any groups who might be part of the Peace Fair.



Upcoming Monthly Presentation
November 14, 2012 - 7:30 pm
Maxine Kaufman-Lacusta

Maxine will talk about her experiences living and working in Jerusalem, and will be promoting her new book, *Refusing to be Enemies*. She is a Quaker who believes greed is the biggest obstacle for peace with fear being "a close second..." Maxine Kaufman-Lacusta lived in Jerusalem for seven years and has written widely on Palestinian and Israeli nonviolent activism and related topics.

Memorial Service for Rick Collier
Thursday August 23, 2012

It is with both great sadness and great gratitude that we celebrate the life of Rick Collier. He will be forever remembered as an integral part of Calgary's activist community and for his kindness, compassion and caring for others. Rick was a former literature professor at Mount Royal University, and he continued to write essays about the outdoors as part of his professional writing consultant business. He was an avid outdoorsman who climbed 1350 mountains and cycled the circumference of the continental United States. He lived in Calgary for the better part of 44 years. He earned three degrees before moving to Canada from the United States in 1967. A United Church supporter, he served with dozens of social justice, environmental and labour groups such as Nose Hill Preservation Society, the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society, and Project Ploughshares, addressing issues in Alberta and abroad. Rick will be greatly missed!



New Group! The Calgary Nuclear Weapons Abolition Planning Group

This new group welcomes all who are interested to join them. Activities include education of selves and other Calgarians, and awareness raising for the 50th Anniversary of the Cuban Bay of Pigs crisis in October. Be one of the people who said "I made an effort", in regard nuclear weapons. This is an urgent and critical issue! Email sjhodes@telus.net to hear the next meeting date. Resource person: Dr. Arthur Clark

Farewell to the arms treaty – for now

Kenneth Epps

The Globe and Mail

Published Wednesday, Aug. 01 2012, 2:00 AM EDT

Lost in the hoopla of the opening ceremony of the Olympics, a vital international marathon of another kind ended Friday with a race suspension just before the finish line. At the United Nations in New York, a month of intensive multilateral negotiations on the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) to regulate international transfers of conventional weapons concluded without agreement, largely because the United States called for more time on the final day.

The U.S. announcement was a surprise. Just a few hours earlier, many participants were anticipating a positive outcome after Ambassador Roberto Garcia Moritan of Argentina, who presided over the conference, introduced a revised text that gained widespread support.

For Control Arms, the international coalition of NGOs that has campaigned for a treaty for more than a decade, Mr. Moritan's text was not perfect. But it contained two core elements of the coalition's humanitarian objectives. First, small arms and light weapons – the weapons of death and mass destruction in many countries in the global South – were included in the arms categories subject to the treaty. Second, the draft called for tough national export standards based on international human rights and humanitarian law, standards that will require improvements even to Canada's comparatively strong military export regulations.

The real reasons the United States pulled the plug are known only within the Obama administration, but many conference delegates suggested the impending U.S. presidential election was a factor.

The ATT has been cynically portrayed by the National Rifle Association as a UN instrument to attack U.S. Second Amendment rights. That the U.S. gun lobby has deliberately misrepresented the treaty for its own ends is not in question. The question is whether the NRA message is believed by U.S. voters, and the assessment of the administration appears to be yes.

The parallels in Canada are too close for comfort. Like its U.S. counterpart, the Harper government has shown a decided lack of leadership on the ATT, although both countries do have meaningful military export controls in place.

Canada was an observer at the negotiations, with its few interventions focused on complaints about technical details. Unlike Australia, Mexico and the United Kingdom, Canada made no effort to bring states closer to the consensus agreement required in this UN process.

And its primary interest during negotiations was protecting the rights of Canadian firearm owners. It is no secret that this focus stems from the influence of the gun lobby, which had a representative among the Canadian delegation. All this despite the fact that the ATT has never been a threat to domestic gun ownership. Like the 2006 UN resolution establishing the ATT process, Mr. Moritan's final text reaffirms the rights of states to regulate transfers within their territories.

Fortunately, the ATT process did not end on Friday. The United States has called for the negotiating conference to reconvene in 2013, again operating on a consensus basis. Other countries may not wait that long nor be willing to negotiate under a consensus constraint.

After the conference concluded, Mexico, speaking on behalf of 90 countries – including Canada – stated that together they “are determined to secure an Arms Trade Treaty as soon as possible.”



Discussion has turned to bringing the tabled text from the conference – with a few widely supported improvements – to the UN General Assembly later this year, where it can pass with a majority vote of member states. In that scenario, Canada still has an opportunity to move up to lead at the conclusion of this essential disarmament marathon.

Kenneth Epps is senior program officer at Project Ploughshares in Waterloo, Ont., and co-chair of the steering board of the international Control Arms coalition.





Project Ploughshares Calgary

2919 8th Ave. NW

Calgary AB T2N 1C8

(403) 270-7366

office@ploughsharescalgary.ca

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

Calgary Peace Events



Women in Black Calgary Silent Vigil each 2nd and 4th Friday of the month, 12:00 - 12:45 pm

Everyone is welcome to join Women in Black in an oasis of peace at Olympic Plaza, downtown Calgary, standing amongst the statues of the Famous Five Women. Standing for a World without Violence

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 2012 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)

The Consortium for Peace Studies

The Uprising National Playwriting Competition: Peace, Politics and Society

Ever thought about writing a play about Peace, Politics & Society? Here's your incentive!

1st Prize - \$1000

2nd Prize - \$250

Deadline: September 24, 2012 For more details, please go to www.ucalgary.ca/peacestudies/playwriting_competition



Calgary Centre for Global Community C3 Forum—Communities Connecting for Change Saturday October 27th, 12:00—7:00 pm Genesis Centre, 7555 Falconridge Blvd. NE

We're inviting Calgarians from across the city to join us for a unique community building event! The C3 Forum is bringing together community members & leaders, community organizations, and people working on civic engagement to share ideas and experiences and to inspire Calgari-

ans from all walks of life to contribute to positive change in their communities. Please check our website at www.calgarycgc.org/programs_001_004.html for more information about registration and how you can get involved!

The Coalition for a Healthy Calgary

We are a coalition of citizens, health care professionals, scientists, landscaping and horticultural professionals, and health and environmental organizations.

Our vision is of a Calgary that is healthy for all its residents—the people and also our pets, birds, insects, and wildlife that share our space. A Calgary that contributes to the health of our planet. The Pesticide By-Law Campaign is our first initiative. For more info, please go to www.healthycalgary.ca



**WAR
RESISTERS
LEAGUE**

"Let us seek a world in which security is gained through disarmament, international co-operation, and social justice, not through escalation and retaliation." - from a statement drafted by New York City staff of the War Resisters League, September 11, 2001.

