

PROJECT
PLOUGHSHARES
CALGARY

Peace News

APRIL 2016



We are located:

Parkdale United
Church
2919 8th Ave NW
T2N 1C8

403-270-7366

Office hours:

Mon Tues & Wed
11:00 am - 5:00 pm

WE WERE CHILDREN



We Were Children is a 2012 Canadian documentary film about the experiences of First Nations children in the Canadian Indian residential school system.

For over 130 years till 1996, more than 100,000 of Canada's First Nations children were legally required to attend government-funded schools run by various Christian faiths. Most children were sent to faraway schools that separated them from their families and traditional land. These children endured brutality, physical hardship, mental degradation, and the complete erasure of their culture. The schools were part of a wider program of assimilation designed to integrate the native population into 'Canadian society.' Told through their own voices, 'We Were Children' is the shocking true story of two such children: Glen Anaquod and Lyna Hart.



A Project Ploughshares Calgary Presentation

Wednesday April 13, 2016, 7:00 – 9:00 PM

Parkdale United Church, 2919 – 8 Avenue NW

Contact: 403-270-7366 / office@ploughsharescalgary.ca /
www.ploughsharescalgary.ca

Ploughshares News

WE ARE ALL TREATY PEOPLE



Tuesday March 8, 2016, Central Library
Review by Tracey Braun, Ploughshares Chair

“We don’t need guilt. We need people to make change and ask questions.” - Lee Crowchild

Our final seminar in the “We Are All Treaty People” series was held March 8, and although the crowd was small the words were powerful. Lee Crowchild, who spoke of his personal experience at the TRC with his family, shared with us his perspectives and ideas for what can, and should, happen next. What I heard was a call for holding space: the idea that First Nations peoples now need to explore what has been uprooted for them, and the larger community has a role to play in supporting that work by witnessing, listening, and holding the boundaries of the space so that healing can occur. He explained that it may be the younger generations that make these changes because there is so much hurt amongst those who had stronger experiences (for example, those who attended residential schools).

In his assessment of the churches and their role in reconciliation Crowchild was not afraid to be controversial. “The power of the churches is still there for many of us, and we have a long way to go in addressing their role in what has happened, what continues to happen, and what needs to happen next.” I attended an excellent presentation related to this topic earlier in the year and it is clear that there is a specific role for the churches to play in regards to the TRC recommendations, especially in the area of education. This is one of the reasons that the PPC executive felt it was important that we focus many of our events this year on this topic, and why I believe Crowchild was spot-on with his assessment that, “We [First Nations people] don’t have to blame anyone else for what has happened to us. We’re doing it to ourselves. Christianity has done this to us, taught us to judge each other. That’s not our beliefs.”

Crowchild’s final point was about the role of the TRC and the land, noting that “We all come from the land, we have to safeguard it.” He called for action that was concrete and meaningful, echoing much of what we have heard from previous speakers like in our Can Peace Be Green? workshop. Overall, I believe the audience left with a good sense of where we are going and how we can continue to be engaged, individually and collectively, with the work that we must take on to fulfill our obligations, for indeed we are all Treaty Peoples.

SAVE THE DATE

April 13th, 7 - 9 PM. Film Night. Parkdale United Church. “We Were Children” - poignant documentary about two children in Alberta’s residential school system

May 11th, 7—8:30 PM. Peace Education Topic TBA. Parkdale United Church

June 8th, 7- 9 PM. Peace Education Topic TBA. Ploughshares AGM. Parkdale United Church

August 4th, 5 - 10 PM. Floating Lantern Festival. Olympic Plaza

Resistance Studies Initiative - University of Massachusetts Amherst

The UMass Amherst Resistance Studies Initiative, the first of its kind anywhere in the world, supports unarmed struggles against all forms of exploitation and violence. A generous donation from a Quaker activist family has underwritten the Initiative and the creation at UMass of an Endowed Chair in the Study of Nonviolent Direct Action and Civil Resistance. For more information on this unique and important program, please see their website:

<http://www.umass.edu/resistancestudies/>

Calgary Peace Events



Calgary Peace Prize

AWARD CEREMONY

Join us in celebrating the 2016 recipients of the Calgary Peace Prize recognizing the Honourable Justice Murray Sinclair, Dr. Marie Wilson and Chief Wilton Littlechild of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada for their many contributions in the advancement of indigenous rights and reconciliation in Canada.



April 7, 2016

Bella Concert Hall, Taylor Centre for the Performing Arts
6 p.m. Reception | 7 p.m. Doors open | 7:30 p.m. Award ceremony
Honourable Justice Sinclair and Dr. Wilson in attendance

TICKET INFORMATION

Award ceremony: \$35 general, \$20 students (plus service fees)
Reception with Honourable Justice Sinclair and Dr. Wilson, including award ceremony: \$100

mru.ca/peacetickets

PRESENTED BY

Mount Royal University's
Faculty of Arts, Peace Studies Initiative
mru.ca/peaceinitiative



**Truth and
Reconciliation**
Commission of Canada

Commission de
vérité et
réconciliation
du Canada

Peace Studies Initiative at Mount Royal University

The former Consortium for Peace Studies has been moved to Mount Royal University, and is housed in the Faculty of Arts. It is now called the Peace Studies Initiative and is under the very capable direction of Professor Mark Ayaash. We will keep you posted regarding upcoming peace activities at MRU!

Nuclear Security Requires Nuclear Disarmament

by Peggy Mason, Rideau Institute President and a former Canadian Ambassador for Disarmament

<http://www.ceasefire.ca/?p=23432>

Leaders from more than 50 countries including Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau met in Washington on Thursday and Friday at a Nuclear Security Summit dedicated to keeping nuclear bomb making materials out of the hands of terrorists. To stave off this horrifying possibility, they pledged not to eliminate nuclear weapons altogether or even to significantly reduce their numbers, currently at some 15,000 warheads in the hands of 9 nuclear weapons states, with the lion's share held by the USA and then Russia. Nuclear disarmament was not even on the agenda. Instead the sole focus was the safe storage and disposal of, and accounting for, nuclear bomb making material, whether in military or civilian facilities.

The initiative to secure nuclear materials was not initially conceived as a substitute for nuclear disarmament. Quite the contrary. In President Obama's visionary 2009 speech that so electrified his Prague audience, the Oslo Nobel Peace Prize Committee and much of the rest of the world, the central goal was to "seek the peace and security of a world without nuclear weapons". And in 2010 there was exciting progress to this end with a review of USA nuclear doctrine to reduce the role and number of nuclear weapons, and a treaty with Russia for verifiable reductions in long-range nuclear arsenals. But this bold vision went no further, thwarted perhaps in equal measure by Russian and Republican intransigence and, as commentators like Joe Cirincione have observed, by Obama's own bureaucracy where vested interests of the "nuclear-industrial complex" won the day.

Instead of further reductions in nuclear weapons, the USA has embarked on a \$1 trillion plan to replace the entire Cold War arsenal. And all of the other 8 nuclear weapons states are to a greater or lesser extent also engaged in modernization efforts. So is it any wonder that former Disarmament Ambassadors like myself and Paul Meyer view the Nuclear Security Summit with a somewhat jaundiced eye? Project Ploughshares Executive Director and tireless nuclear disarmament advocate, Cesar Jaramillo sums up the dilemma:

The point that gets lost is it's virtually impossible to fully prevent the spread of nuclear technology in the absence of credible effort towards abolition.... There are no 'right hands' for 'wrong weapons.'

It is essential that the Canadian government take a leadership role in revitalizing nuclear disarmament efforts. Parliamentarians, disarmament experts, activists, ordinary Canadians must all play a role in convincing the Liberal government to embrace this task. There is a global parliamentary network, Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament (PNND), in which Canadian MPs have long played a constructive role. Former NDP MP Paul Dewar is past Co-President of PNND – Canada and NDP MP Linda Duncan is current co-chair with Conservative MP Blaine Calkins. In preparation for the NDP Federal Policy Convention 8-10 April in Edmonton, both Dewar and Duncan are supporting a grass roots effort by NDP members and their riding associations to specifically include in the NDP policy platform a resolution committing the Party to:

actively supporting international efforts to promote nuclear disarmament".

This is a most timely, welcome and crystal clear initiative to help bring the vital and urgent goal of nuclear disarmament back to the forefront of Canadian international security policy.

Progressive American commentators like Joe Cirincione believe that it may not be too late to see President Obama building on his landmark nuclear deal with Iran by taking equally bold steps to curb nuclear modernization by the United States and other nuclear weapons states.

This is no time for Canadian timidity. We call on the Liberal government to show leadership on global nuclear disarmament efforts.



SPOLUMBO'S SAUSAGES FOR SPRING, ORDER NOW!!

Deadline for ordering: Monday May 16, 2016

Orders ready: Thursday June 9, 2016

Spolumbo's is kindly making a Project Ploughshares fundraiser possible with eight types of their delicious, renowned sausages and burgers. All sausages and burgers are free of the following: gluten – MSG – binders - fillers – preservatives – eggs - dairy – nuts - nitrates. A Calgary homegrown business and 100% prime Alberta pork and poultry.

Great savings over store prices for you!! Trays contain 18 fresh sausage-links.

Burgers (patties) are 165 g size, and they come 36 to a box.

Burgers come frozen and are only available in the case quantity.

Collagen casings available (please state on form) to replace pork casings.

Sausage Type	Price per 2.75 kg (1 Tray)	Quantity Ordered	Price per 5.5 kg (2 trays = 1 case)	Quantity Ordered
Maple Breakfast Sausage	40.00		79.50	
Bratwurst	37.80		75.60	
Whiskey Fennel Pork Sausage	40.50		80.40	
Mild Italian Sausage	37.00		73.60	
Spicy Italian Sausage	37.00		73.60	
Chicken Apple Sausage	47.50		94.70	
Spicy Chicken	47.50		94.70	
Spolumbo's Burgers	N/A		89.70	
SUB-TOTALS				
GRAND TOTAL DUE				

You will be called or emailed about the exact day of availability closer to the day. Spolumbo's requires two weeks to four weeks to process the order. **PICK UP LOCATION:** Distribution will be in Varsity.

If you would like to pay on-line for your sausages, please go to our website, www.ploughsharescalgary.ca go to 'Support Us', then 'Donate' to pay via PayPal!

(Be sure to mail or email your form in so we have your order as well as your money)!

OR

Send the following info along with your cheque to the address below with this completed order form

Name: _____

Email address: _____

Phone number: _____

Cheque amount enclosed: _____

Project Ploughshares Calgary

2919 – 8 Avenue NW

Calgary, AB T2N 1C8

Karen – 403-270-7366 / office@ploughsharescalgary.ca

*Thank you for supporting the cause of peace!
Help us find more customers?!*





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



"Ours is a world of nuclear giants and ethical infants. We know more about war than we know about peace, more about killing than we know about living. We have grasped the mystery of the atom and rejected the Sermon on the Mount." - Gen. Omar Bradley



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 months of February and March, we did not receive any donations, which are 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 Karen at the office: 403-270-7366, or email her at office@ploughsharescalgary.ca.

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

(Project Ploughshares is a charitable organization - we issue tax receipts for all donations over \$20)