

**PLOUGHSHARES
CALGARY
SOCIETY**

Peace News

MARCH 2018



We are located at:

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

**Ploughshares Calgary Society
presents
Professor Dr. Mark Ayyash**



Topic: Islamophobia

When: Wednesday, March 14th, 2018

Time: 7 pm to 8:30 pm

**Where: Parkdale United Church,
Conference Room (in the basement)
2919-8 Avenue NW**

Admission: by donation

OPINION

A new nuclear arms race is upon us



LAWRENCE MARTIN

WASHINGTON

SPECIAL TO THE GLOBE AND MAIL

PUBLISHED ON FEBRUARY 6, 2018

One of the more comforting developments of modern times has been the decline in nuclear-arms stocks and the threat they constitute. Sanity among the superpowers has been evident for three decades – ever since Mikhail Gorbachev took the evil out of his empire and reached arms agreements with Ronald Reagan.

But the run of prudent oversight is drawing to a close. U.S. President Donald Trump, as one magazine headline [puts it](#), is Making America Nuclear Again. Overshadowed by all the sabre-rattling with North Korea are pivotal changes he is bringing to nuclear-weapons policy.

To read the full article please visit:

<https://www.theglobeandmail.com/opinion/a-new-nuclear-arms-race-is-upon-us/article37878764/>

MILITARY PARADES

Russian p President Vladimir Putin has them. So does North Korean leader Kim Jong Un and French President Emmanuel Macron.

Now, President Trump wants his own military parade in Washington, with soldiers marching and tanks rolling down the boulevards. Officials told The Washington Post on Tuesday that they have begun planning a grand military parade later this year showcasing the might of America's armed forces.

**Why Trump's
Military parade won't
Be 'like the one in France'**

To read the full article please go to:

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/worldviews/wp/2018/02/07/why-trumps-military-parade-wont-be-like-the-one-in-france/?utm_term=.ed7d54ca7880



Calgary Peace Prize 2018

JUSTICE AND EQUITY

Join us in celebrating the 2018 Calgary Peace Prize awarded to the **Honourable Justice Rosalie Abella** for her efforts in advancing justice and equity for a more peaceful society.

April 4, 2018

Jack Singer Lobby
Arts Commons
205 – 8 Ave SE

Tickets on sale at mru.ca/peacetickets



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Under the patronage of Her Honour, the Honourable Lois E. Mitchell, CM, AOE, LLD, Lieutenant Governor of Alberta, the Calgary Peace Prize recognizes outstanding individuals from the global community who work towards making the world a more just, safer and less violent place.

For the first time in decades, it's hard to ignore the threat of nuclear war. But as long as you're far from the blast, you're safe, right? Wrong. In this sobering talk, atmospheric scientist Brian Toon explains how even a small nuclear war could destroy all life on earth -- and what we can do to prevent it. A professor in the Department of Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences at the University of Colorado-Boulder, Brian Toon investigates the causes of the ozone hole, how volcanic eruptions alter the climate, how ancient Mars had flowing rivers, and the environmental impacts of nuclear war. He contributed to the U.N.'s Nobel Peace Prize for climate change and holds numerous scientific awards, including two NASA medals for Exceptional Scientific Achievement. He is an avid woodworker. This talk was given at a TEDx event using the TED conference format but independently organized by a local community.

To watch, visit: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M7hOpT0IPGI>

Canada and the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons

Petition e-1402 initiated by Barbara Birkett, and sponsored by her Liberal MP Pam Damoff, is now open for signatures for 120 days.

Please take a moment to go online to sign the petition and forward this email to friends and family encouraging them to sign as well.

The petition reads as follows:

PETITION TO THE HOUSE OF COMMONS IN PARLIAMENT ASSEMBLED

Whereas:

- The use of any nuclear weapons would have catastrophic consequences; and
- Nuclear Weapons are the only weapons of mass destruction not yet prohibited by international agreement

We, the undersigned, **residents of Canada**, call upon the **Government of Canada** to sign and ratify the United Nations Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

Go here to sign the petition online: <https://petitions.ourcommons.ca/en/Petition/Details?Petition=e-1402>

We Need Your Help and Support

Given the conflicts in the Middle East and elsewhere plus the horrifying possibility of nuclear war, it seems appropriate to take stock and consider alternative solutions. This is what Ploughshares Calgary Society is doing, however, we need your help. If the state of the world causes you concern, please consider joining us at the community conference on May 5th and at our monthly meetings and/or by donating to our cause advocating for nuclear disarmament and human security. Finally, please consider leaving a bequest to Ploughshares Calgary society in your will, to leave a legacy as a Peace Maker. Please make your cheques payable to Ploughshares Calgary Society.

We do appreciate your consideration and support!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Ploughshares Events:

- **Wednesday, March 14th, 2018** 7 to 8:30 pm
Parkdale United Church 2919-8 Avenue NW Conference room (in the basement)

ISLAMOPHOBIA

presented by Prof. Dr. Mark Ayyash

Mark Ayyash is an Assistant Professor of Sociology and Director of the John de Chastelain Peace Studies Initiative at Mount Royal University. He teaches and writes in the areas of social and political theory, the study of violence, decolonial movements, as well as culture and politics in the Middle East, particularly focusing on the Palestinian-Israeli struggle. He has published several academic articles in journals such as the *European Journal of Social Theory* and *Interventions: International Journal of Postcolonial Studies*. His co-edited book with Dr. Ratiba Hadj-Moussa titled *Protests and Generations: Legacies and Emergences in the Middle East, North Africa and the Mediterranean* (Brill) was published in 2017. In his capacity as Director of Peace Studies, Mark organizes a Lecture Series, the Annual Calgary Peace Prize Ceremony, and has recently developed a Minor in Peace and Conflict Studies.

Please join us for this educational and informative discussion.

- **Wednesday, April 11th, 2018** 7 to 8:30 pm
Parkdale United Church 2919-8 Avenue NW Auditorium (upstairs)

Peace and Justice work in the Palestine - Israel region

presented by Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) Alberta, a region MCC has worked in for nearly 70 years.

- **Saturday, May 5th, 2018** 9:30 am to 3:30 pm
Varsity Acres Presbyterian Church, 4612 Varsity Dr. NW

Challenges of Peace and War

A community conference co-sponsored by Calgary Association of Lifelong Learners (CALL) and Ploughshares Calgary Society (PCS)

Given conflicts in the Middle East and elsewhere plus the horrifying possibility of nuclear war, it seems appropriate to take stock and consider alternative solutions. The program will focus on dilemmas and possibilities with regard to peacekeeping and Canadian foreign policy and will feature :

- Keynote address, "A Return to Power Politics? What Does It Mean for International Peace and Security?"
Dr. Rob Huebert, Associate Professor of Political Science, University of Calgary
- An expert panel
- A film (In Pursuit of Peace)
- Q & A and conclusion

Coffee and lunch will be provided.

Registration: TBA

INFORMATION OF INTEREST

The Romeo Dallaire Child Soldiers Initiative is bringing its world-leading prevention oriented approach to South Sudan, to end the recruitment of child soldiers with the awarding of a three million dollar grant from Global Affairs Canada.

Tickets for the 2018 Calgary Peace Prize are now on sale. Please purchase your tickets at: <http://mru.ca/peacetickets>

Free online course : War Abolition 201

To register: http://www.classroom.worldbeyondwar.org/?link_id=6&can_id=c4ae6614973b033849a7d29e2d1d3436&source=email-free-film-online-next-3-days-new-online-course-next-week&email_referrer=email_303842&email_subject=free-film-online-next-3-days-new-online-course-next-week

Free online course : War Abolition 201
To register: http://www.classroom.worldbeyondwar.org/?link_id=6&can_id=c4ae6614973b033849a7d29e2d1d3436&source=email-free-film-online-next-3-days-new-online-course-next-week&email_referrer=email_303842&email_subject=free-film-online-next-3-days-new-online-course-next-week

March 8 is International Women's Day — a day to recognize women's achievements and acknowledge the challenges they continue to face in the quest for gender equality.

Are you finding the winter specially long and cold? Do you need suggestion of books to read during the cold weather? Why not check out: “Refusing to be Enemies” by Maxine Kaufman-Lacusta

Refusing to be Enemies, presents the voices of more than 100 practitioners and theorists of nonviolence, with the vast majority being either Palestinian or Israeli. They reflect on their own involvement in nonviolent resistance and speak about the nonviolent strategies and tactics employed by Palestinian and Israeli organizations, both separately and in joint initiatives. The book considers the obstacles encountered by nonviolent organizations and includes examples of effective nonviolent campaigns. Additionally, it explores ways in which a more effective nonviolent movement may be built.

“Don’t Even Think About It: Why our Brains are Wired to Ignore Climate Change” by George Marshall

A witty, insightful, and ground-breaking take on one of the most urgent questions of our time: Why, despite overwhelming scientific evidence, do we still ignore climate change?

George Marshall will be in Calgary for a workshop moderated by Rev. Bill Phipps titled ‘Faith Encounters Climate’, March 6th 2018 at 4 pm at Telus Sparks Centre (RSVP) - - marilou.legeyt@calgarydiocese.ca

With thanks to Doreen Kot for the reading suggestions.

Other Events of Interest Around Town:

Tuesday, March 6th, 2018

Basic Income Calgary Network Meeting

For info contact: Darrell@vibrantcalgary.com

Tuesday, March 13th, 7:00 pm

River Park Auditorium, 3818—14A Street SW

Marda Loop JustReel Film, “In Dialogue”

Friday, March 23rd, 2018, 7-9 pm

MCC Alberta—2946-32 Street NE, 2nd floor

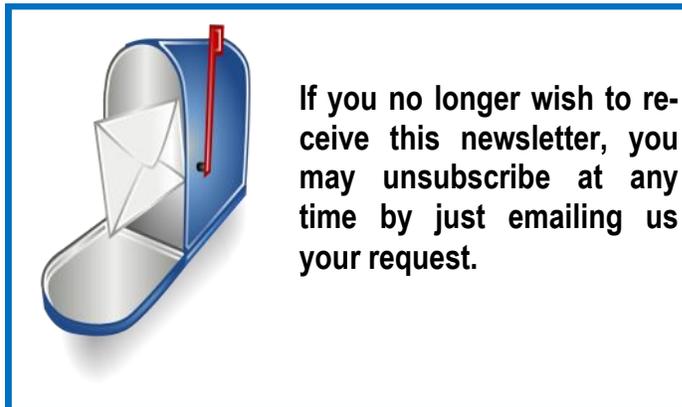
Reader’s Theatre Performance of Souls—A play about the ongoing conflict in Palestine—Israel region

Free event, light refreshment will be served.



Ploughshares Calgary Society
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 Calgary AB T2N 1C8
 (403) 270-7366

Special thanks to all who submitted articles for this issues of the newsletter.



If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, you may unsubscribe at any time by just emailing us your request.



We are a couple of months into 2018 and we are very grateful for your loyal moral and financial support over the past year. Because of you, we have been able to work toward peace and educate about peace. However, in many ways, our world is in a more precarious and vulnerable position now than during the Cold War. We need to continue to stay focused, work hard to make our world a peaceful, nuclear weapon free world. We have started our donation appeal for 2018. If you haven't already sent in your

donation, please consider donating soon. If you have already sent in your donations for 2018, we thank you most sincerely.



Ploughshares Calgary Society

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

- \$ 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 Ploughshares Calgary Society or go to www.ploughsharescalgary.ca to make your payment via PayPal.

Please mail completed form with donation to:

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

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