

PROJECT  
PLOUGHSHARES  
CALGARY

# Peace News

MAY 2014



We are located:

Parkdale United  
Church  
2919 8<sup>th</sup> Ave NW  
T2N 1C8

403-270-7366

Office hours:

Mon Tues & Thurs  
10:00 am - 2:30pm

Wed 12 - 4 pm

## Peaceful Parenting and Violent Toy Trade-In

Saturday May 24th, 12 - 4 PM

Parkdale United Church Auditorium, 2919 - 8 Avenue NW

**A free workshop for parents and children ages 2- 8**

Parents will be immersed in a positive parenting climate with a practical talk and discussion about the 'how' of peaceful parenting with specialists Mahendra Singh and Naomi Terner. The children will engage in gardening and age-appropriate activities while their parents are in the discussion, then will create new toys from natural materials with their parents and volunteers.

Children are invited to bring one toy to the workshop that could be considered violent. In exchange, they will go home with fresh ideas and the toy(s) they make. Ultimately the violent toys will be turned into a sculpture of peace by a local arts group.

**Naomi** teaches in a cooperative and inquiry-based school pursuing authentic learning in a diverse environment. She emphasizes the importance of relationships in education, noting that the essence of peace is recognizing our interconnectivity with everything.

**Mahendra** has been involved in various social, environmental and educational movements over the years. 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.

Contact Karen at 403-270-7366 or [office@ploughsharescalgary.ca](mailto:office@ploughsharescalgary.ca) to register. FREE!



## Beyond the WW1 Centenary Celebrations

June 4th 7 - 9 PM

Parkdale United Church

Conference Room

2919—8 Avenue NW

We are developing a panel discussion for this evening. In addition, we would like to call on all Ploughshares members and all Calgarians to consider submitting a letter (or any creative expression - art, music, etc.) ostensibly written to or created for a WW I soldier from the perspective of a conscientious objector. What would you like to say to a grandfather, brother, uncle, or son who was fighting in the war? We will share your letters and other expressions of objection to war at this meeting. We are striving to create a peaceful world without having our identities as Canadians defined by the glorification of a war.

# Ploughshares News



Save the Date for the following Special Event!



## Special Workshop - Local and Global Justice Education

Wednesday June 18th, 4 - 9 PM

Parkdale United Church Auditorium, 2919 - 9 Avenue NW

Facilitated by **Toh Swee-Hin**, Ph.D., (U of A), Distinguished Professor, University for Peace, Costa Rica & Laureate, UNESCO Prize for Peace Education and **Virginia Cawagas**, Ed.D. (Notre Dame), Professor and Head, Dept. of Peace & Conflict Studies, University for Peace, Costa Rica

Join us in welcoming two of the **superstars** in the field of peace and justice education! This workshop will provide a critical understanding of key concepts and issues in building a world where all nations, communities and peoples can live and inter-relate based on principles of local and global justice. Through creative and participatory pedagogical strategies, participants will be facilitated in:

- ~ integrating social and economic justice themes and issues in the high school social studies and English curriculum, such as the urgent need to reduce the gaps between rich and poor;
- ~ transforming over-consumption and consumerism that fuel unsustainable use of resources toward a culture of voluntary simplicity and equitable sharing of global resources;
- ~ and the role of global North nations, including Canada, in promoting people-centred aid and just and sustainable international economic policies and globalization for the common good.

**Light dinner provided. Cost: \$25; Students & Low Income: \$15**

For more information and to register, contact Karen at 403-270-7366;  
[office@ploughsharescalgary.ca](mailto:office@ploughsharescalgary.ca); [www.ploughsharescalgary.ca](http://www.ploughsharescalgary.ca)

## Donations

Spring is our time for annual giving to Ploughshares! When did you last donate? We need your help! Thank you very much if you give annually. We count on your regular support to continue our important work for peace education and peace-building in Calgary. We value each and every contribution. We received \$325 during the month of March from individuals and sincerely thank them.



## Calgary Peace Run & Walk Festival

### Volunteer Appreciation Event Thursday April 17, 2014



This event attracted approximately 12 people. The number may be small, but the quality of commitment of those who came out was outstanding! The evening was quite lively with lots of discussion and ideas about how to improve the Calgary Peace Run & Walk for 2014. Thanks to everyone who came out and for your enthusiasm for this important community event!



## Creating Earth Democracy: Reclaiming the Commons from Corporate Enclosures with Dr. Vandana Shiva - Thursday April 10th at the Red & White Club

Some 600 people came to the Red & White Club to hear the always inspirational and engaging activist, Dr. Vandana Shiva, talk about her on-going work for justice in the struggle against the corporatization of our world. She focused on the enclosures of the commons - such as the privatization of water, the patenting of seeds, and the corporatization of our educational systems, and shared stories of citizens and communities across the globe who are defending and reclaiming the commons.

## Upcoming Calgary Peace Events

LIVES TOUCHED BY WAR

SUNDAY, MAY 4<sup>th</sup> 2014

2:00 - 4:00 PM  
Endeavor Arts Gallery  
#200, 1209 1<sup>st</sup> Street SW

LEARN FROM THE LIVES, EXPERIENCES AND WISDOM OF OTHERS

### The Human Voice Project - Lives Touched by War Sunday May 4th, 2 - 4 PM

**Endeavor Arts Gallery, #200, 1209 - 1 St SW**

The purpose of the Human Voice Project is to learn from the lives, experience and wisdom of people willing to share what they have discovered about the human condition on life's journey. It also encourages us to reflect on our own lives and the gifts we can share to become more active, engaged and hopeful global citizens.



CALGARY CENTRE FOR GLOBAL COMMUNITY



### Justice for Palestinians Movie & Popcorn Series

**Sunday May 4, 2014 - 1 - 6 PM**

**CommunityWise Resource Centre, 223 - 12 Avenue SW**

Justice for Palestinians Movie and Popcorn Series presents an afternoon of films. Join us for three free (that's right not one, not two, but three) films for our mini film festival. You can choose to attend all three films, or just one or two. Each film will be followed by a dialogue during which viewers will have an opportunity to ask questions or give their thoughts on the film.

For more info, please see 'Justice for Palestinians Mini Film Festival' on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/628038183932333/>

Admission Free Donations Welcome

Organized by Justice for Palestinians

Email: [jfp.calgary@gmail.com](mailto:jfp.calgary@gmail.com)

## Hygiene and Relief Kits Needed in Syria

In partnership with MCC local churches set a goal to fill a semi-load with supplies to help and support for the victims of the Syrian crisis

Help us send  
**2,500**  
RELIEF KITS TO  
**SYRIA**

Help us reach this goal  
Donate a relief kit for just \$25



### Each Kit Includes

- 4 Bars of Bath Soap
- 1 Bottle of Shampoo
- 4 Bars Laundry Soap
- 4 Toothbrushes
- Toothpaste
- 4 Bath Towels
- 2 Wide-Tooth Combs
- 1 Fingernail Clippers
- Adhesive Bandages
- Sanitary Pads

Kits are shipped in sturdy and reusable 5 gallon buckets

All money donated will go 100% to buying relief kits to be sent to Syria through MCC

The UN recently reported that the Syrian crisis has led to 6.5

million Syrians being displaced. To put that in perspective, imagine that everybody in British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba suddenly became uprooted and homeless.

This situation has led to MCC's Material Resources Program to devote half of its goods to help Syrians in Lebanon, Jordan and Syria. As demand grows, MCC warehouses are currently depleted and need 10,000 Hygiene Kits and 4,000 Relief Kits. With each bar of soap, toothbrush and towel, you can help provide dignity and comfort to those in need. Learn more about Material Resources here: [mccalberta.ca/programs/materialresources](http://mccalberta.ca/programs/materialresources)



**Mennonite  
Central  
Committee**

## The Second Nuclear Age

by Douglas Roche, O.C. See full article at [http://roche.apirg.org/public\\_html/index.html](http://roche.apirg.org/public_html/index.html)

When the first atomic bombs destroyed Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945, it could hardly have been imagined that sixty years later more than 30,000 nuclear weapons would be in existence. The Cold War is long over, but still half the world population lives under a government brandishing nuclear weapons. More than \$12 trillion has so far been spent on these instruments of mass murder, which is a theft from the poorest people in the world. The present nuclear weapons crisis has, in fact, led to the opening of the Second Nuclear Age.

First, we must understand the dimensions of the crisis. The long-standing nuclear weapons states, the United States, Russia, the United Kingdom, France, and China, are making nuclear weapons permanent instruments of their military doctrines. India, Pakistan and Israel have joined the "nuclear club." North Korea has tried to get into it. Iran is suspected of trying to convert nuclear fuels for peaceful purposes into nuclear weapons. NATO is maintaining U.S. nuclear weapons on the soil of six European countries and the U.S. is preparing "reliable replacement" warheads with new military capabilities. Russia is also modernizing its nuclear arsenal.

During the Cold War, the U.S. and Russia said their nuclear weapons were only for deterrence purposes; now they are part of war-fighting strategies. The nuclear weapons states refuse to give up their nuclear arsenals, and feign surprise that other nations, seeing that nuclear weapons have become the currency of power in the modern world, are trying to acquire them. So are terrorists. No major city in the world is safe from the threat of a nuclear attack. The risk of accidents is multiplying daily. All these are the characteristics of the Second Nuclear Age.

Thinking that the nuclear weapons problem went away with the end of the Cold War, much of the public is oblivious to the new nuclear dangers. U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan is trying to warn governments and the public, but few are listening. In the case of many politicians, they don't even know that they don't know about this greatest threat to human security the world has ever faced. The continued existence of so many nuclear weapons, most with a destructive power many times greater than the atomic bombs that destroyed Hiroshima and Nagasaki, is not understood.

Nuclear weapons are instruments of pure evil. A nuclear explosion, either by design or accident, would kill massive numbers of people, create international chaos, and cripple the world economy. Nuclear weapons are devoid of the slightest shred of moral legitimacy. Prominent jurists consider their use illegal in any possible circumstance. The nuclear weapons states are deliberately undermining the rule of law in maintaining them. It staggers the imagination to consider what the enormous sums spent on nuclear weapons could have done for education, health, and other requisites for the development of peoples everywhere.

But a historical momentum towards the elimination of nuclear weapons is occurring. We stand on the threshold of the construction of a viable plan for a nuclear weapons-free world resulting from the active cooperation of knowledgeable leaders of civil society working with those politicians and officials of like-minded governments who truly want to move forward.

The day will arrive when nuclear weapons abolition takes effect or the world will be devastated by a nuclear attack. One or the other will happen. No person, informed on the gravity of the situation, can deny it.



Douglas Roche at Hiroshima's Atomic Bomb Dome



### Volunteers Needed for the Calgary Peace Run & Walk Festival!

The **Calgary Peace Run & Walk Festival** is a great way to meet new people and to help out in a very worthy cause - the cause of peace! Among other things we are looking for volunteers who can do facepainting for the children, as well as someone who can make balloon animals. If you or anyone you know has a talent for either of these activities, and you'd like to contribute to a truly amazing community event - please Contact Karen at 403-270-7366, [office@ploughsharescalgary.ca](mailto:office@ploughsharescalgary.ca). We'd love to have your help!

## A principled nuclear disarmament policy for Canada

Op-ed by Cesar Jaramillo & Setsuko Thurlow

Embassy News - April 30, 2014 - <http://www.embassynews.ca/opinion/2014/04/30/a-principled--nuclear-disarmament-policy-for-canada/45462#>



As the prospect for a comprehensive legal ban on nuclear weapons seems to be moving from aspiration to reality, a window of opportunity is open for Canada—hitherto a spoiler rather than a constructive participant in this process—to signal a new direction in its nuclear disarmament policy.

From April 28 to May 9 delegations from the 189 states parties to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty—including Canada—will gather at the United Nations in New York for the last Preparatory Committee before the 2015 NPT Review Conference. This follows a mid-month ministerial meeting of the 12-nation Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Initiative in Hiroshima, which includes Canada. Both gatherings constitute propitious occasions for Canada to embrace the humanitarian imperative for nuclear disarmament, as have dozens of nations.

A series of meetings over the past few years have underscored the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons as a key reason for their unequivocal prohibition. Most recently, in February in Nayarit, Mexico, the Mexican government hosted official delegations from 146 nations, various multilateral organizations, and international civil society representatives, at the Second Conference on the Humanitarian Impact of Nuclear Weapons. Hiroshima and Nagasaki survivors, or Hibakusha, were there to give first-hand testimony of the utter devastation caused by nuclear weapons and the long-lasting physical and emotional scars suffered by those who survived.

The prevailing sentiment in Mexico was clear: the humanitarian initiative should lead to the pursuit of an explicit legal prohibition on nuclear weapons, even if some or all of the nine states that currently possess them refuse to participate in the process. The frustration is palpable among scores of countries that are increasingly vocal about the failure of nuclear weapons states to meet their disarmament obligations under the NPT. The combined nuclear arsenal of these states is estimated at 17,000 warheads, with as many as 5,000 on high alert status, ready to be launched within minutes. The risk of deliberate use is compounded by the concomitant risks of accidental or unintended use.

The Austrian government will build on the Nayarit conference with another in Vienna later this year. The expectation is that this event will go beyond visceral discussions of the disastrous effects of a nuclear weapons exchange to focus on concrete measures to avoid such an exchange. The difficulties of such a diplomatic undertaking are clear, but nuclear disarmament advocates—in and out of government—are experiencing a rare ray of optimism.

### Missing the boat

Regrettably, Canada is missing the boat on the growing international tide to finally rid the world of the most destructive type of weapon of mass destruction. In April 2013, during the second NPT Preparatory Committee, 80 nations endorsed a joint statement focusing on the devastating humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons use. Canada did not. In October, 125 nations endorsed a similar statement at the UN General Assembly First Committee on Disarmament and International Security. Again, not Canada. Last month in Mexico, Canada went further and publicly questioned the merits of a legal prohibition on nuclear weapons, arguing that this would “not guarantee their elimination.” In fact, nobody was claiming that such guarantees were possible.

In recent years Canada has focused almost exclusively on the admittedly real dangers of proliferation, vehemently condemning any perceived attempts by non-nuclear weapons states to acquire these weapons. At the same time, it has been conspicuously silent on the unmet obligation of nuclear weapons states to disarm. Further, Canada rejects calls for the prompt commencement of preparatory work on a Nuclear Weapons Convention (i.e., a nuclear elimination treaty), arguing instead for the same haphazard step-by-step process that has been pursued unsuccessfully for decades.

For example, Canada is chairing a group of governmental experts on certain aspects of an eventual fissile material cut-off treaty. It's a worthy goal, but the value of such initiatives is greatly reduced by their isolation from a major diplomatic effort to achieve complete nuclear disarmament, with a real timetable for progress.

The humanitarian imperative for disarmament is well entrenched in Canadian foreign policy. A key catalyst for the Ottawa Process to ban personnel landmines was precisely the belief that humanitarian considerations outweigh any purported benefits of entire categories of weapons that produce indiscriminate effects. With nuclear weapons the stakes are significantly higher.

There is little doubt that Canada's support for the humanitarian imperative to advance nuclear disarmament, including the pursuit of an unequivocal legal prohibition of nuclear weapons, would be welcomed both at home and abroad. Perhaps more important, this support would be thoroughly consistent with longstanding Canadian principles.

Cesar Jaramillo is a program officer at Waterloo-based Project Ploughshares; Setsuko Thurlow, member of the Order of Canada, is a Hiroshima survivor. Both were accredited as international civil society representatives to the Second Conference on the Humanitarian Impact of Nuclear Weapons hosted by the government of Mexico in March 2014.



**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.

**SPOLUMBO'S SAUSAGE FUNDRAISER!**

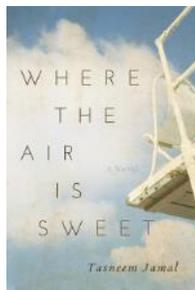
**Order Deadline: Monday May 26th**  
**Pick-up Date: Thursday June 19th**

Please see the order form on the last page of this newsletter. Orders can be mailed to:

Project Ploughshares Calgary  
 c/o 24 Varston Place NW  
 Calgary, AB T3A 0B7



**Where the Air is Sweet**  
**A New Book by Tasneem Jamal**  
**The Ploughshares Monitor, Spring 2014**



A luminous first novel by Ploughshares Communications and Fundraising Officer Tasneem Jamal, *Where the Air is Sweet* tells the story of three generations of a South Asian family living in Uganda. Between 1921 and the early 1970's the family grows and prospers, until the policies of Ugandan President Idi Amin force them, with 80,000 other South Asians, to leave.

As we learn to care for these characters, who came from British India seeking a better life, we share the fears and anxieties that grow with Amin's increasingly erratic and mad behaviour. Among the many things that author Jamal teaches us in this book is the wrenching, deadening pain of the persecuted and the exiled:

*The realization of her own powerlessness, of her family's impotence descends slowly on Mumtaz. For her, acceptance does not come in a moment, in a second, or a few seconds. The notion of being thrown out, of being discarded, penetrates little by little, like drops of water filling a bowl, until one day it is full, overflowing, seeping into every crevice of her life. A face, simple and familiar.*

*Where the Air is Sweet* goes on sale June 3 and can be pre-ordered anywhere books are sold



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

- |                          |                        |                          |                       |
|--------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | \$50                   | <input type="checkbox"/> | I'd like to make a    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | \$100                  | <input type="checkbox"/> | monthly donation      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | \$250                  | <input type="checkbox"/> | of \$_____            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | \$500                  | <input type="checkbox"/> | I'd like to volunteer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | \$1000                 |                          |                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Other Amount (Specify) | \$_____                  |                       |

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](http://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)**



**SPOLUMBO SAUSAGES FOR SUMMER, ORDER NOW!!**

**Deadline for ordering: Monday May 26, 2014**

**Orders ready: Thursday June 19, 2014**

Spolumbos is kindly making a Project Ploughshares fundraiser possible with nine types of their delicious, renowned sausages - all natural, gluten-free with no fillers, binders or preservatives. A Calgary homegrown business and 100% prime Alberta pork and poultry. Great savings over store prices for you!! Trays contain 18 fresh sausage-links.

A slight reduction for a case (two trays).

Burgers (patties) are a little smaller this year – and cheaper!

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 |
|------------------------|---|----------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------|
| 200                    | Maple Breakfast Pork Sausage            | 39.00                      |                  | 77.20                               |                  |
| 902                    | Chorizo Pork Sausage <b>NEW!</b>        | 40.00                      |                  | 78.50                               |                  |
| 904                    | English Banger Pork Sausage <b>NEW!</b> | 35.75                      |                  | 71.00                               |                  |
| 909                    | Mild Italian Sausage                    | 35.50                      |                  | 69.50                               |                  |
| 911                    | Spicy Italian Sausage                   | 35.50                      |                  | 69.50                               |                  |
| 930                    | Chicken Apple Sausage                   | 43.50                      |                  | 85.00                               |                  |
| 938                    | Chicken Sundried Tomato Sausage         | 43.50                      |                  | 85.00                               |                  |
| 951                    | Turkey Cranberry Sausage <b>NEW!</b>    | 45.00                      |                  | 88.50                               |                  |
| 9212                   | Spolumbo's Burgers                      | 34.00                      |                  | 66.30                               |                  |
| <b>SUB-TOTALS</b>      |   |                            |                  |                                     |                  |
| <b>GRAND TOTAL DUE</b> |   |                            |                  |                                     |                  |

You will be called or emailed about the exact day of availability closer to the day. Spolumbos 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.org](http://www.ploughsharescalgary.org), 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  
c/o 24 Varston Place NW  
Calgary, AB T3A 0B7**

*Thank you for supporting the cause of peace!  
Help us find more customers?!  
May you have a peaceful summer!*

