



APRIL
2019

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Wanted: Donation
of a workable
laptop, speakers,
projector, and
microphone.

We need to update
our electronic
equipment. If you
have any of the
following that you
can donate, please
call our office at
403 270 7366:
a workable laptop,
speakers, a
projector, and a
microphone.



Photo by sergee bee on Unsplash

Spring has sprung!

It's been a cold few months; now that Spring is here, we invite you to join us
for the next event in our Spring program:

The Venezuelan Crisis

**April 10, 2019, 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m., Parkland United Church
2919 – 8th Avenue N.W., Calgary, AB**

Tonight we welcome Pablo Policer, Director of the [Latin American Research Centre](#) and an Associate Professor of Political Science at the University of Calgary, where he held the Canada Research Chair in Latin American Politics (2005-2015). He obtained his PhD in political science from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and his BA (Honours, First Class) in political science from the University of British Columbia. Dr. Policer will discuss the background to the Venezuela crisis, and speculate about its possible outcomes. He will be joined by Maria Cristina Parra, a Venezuelan sociologist with a Master of Science degree in Sociology and a PhD in Development Studies. Dr. Parra is a Visiting Fellow at the Latin American Research Centre and will bring much direct personal experience to the discussion.

Our annual fundraising drive: Don't forget to place your order with us by April 9, 2019, for quality foods from Spolumbo's and Community Health Foods and flower bulbs and seeds from Vesey's Bulbs

This year, we have partnered again with Spolumbo's and Community Foods to bring you an extensive list of quality food products that you can order from us and pick up from one convenient location on Thursday, May 2nd. See order forms for food in the attached email. You can also order Vesey's flower bulbs and seeds from us by filling out the order form in the attached email. Pick up for the flower bulbs and seeds will be on Thursday, May 9th.



- ❖ **'Your tears are our tears': Jewish community to form rings of peace around Toronto mosques for Friday prayers.** This CBC Radio segment/article from March 22, 2019, describes how as Muslims in the Greater Toronto Area gathered for weekly prayers after the mass shooting at two mosques in New Zealand, they were met by members of the Jewish community keeping watch outside their mosques in "rings of peace." In the radio segment portion, Ibrahim Hindy, an imam in Mississauga, Ont., and Rabbi Debra Landsberg discuss attacks on places of worship with host Megan Williams and the necessity of looking at security in their places of prayer. However, both faith leaders caution against letting fear paralyze us, express that we need to speak out against extremism in any form, and convey gratitude for the communities of support they see being developed. See [Your tears are our tears](#).
- ❖ **What's at stake when restraints on nuclear power go out the window?** In this commentary, Paul Meyer, a former Canadian Ambassador for Disarmament, current chair of the Canadian Pugwash Group, Fellow in International Security, and Adjunct Professor of Internatioal Studies at Simon Fraser University, and a Senior Fellow with the Simons Foundation shares his views on the recent Carnegie International Nuclear Policy Conference, in Washington D.C. Meyer points to a disturbing event this year in many ways, given the current US-Russian assault on the strategic arms control framework and the lack of strong protesting voices from other stakeholders. He also points to the Canadian government's silence on nuclear disarmament issues. See [What's at stake when restraints on nuclear power go out the window?](#)
- ❖ **North Korea abandons liaison office, shows signs of reverting to 'hermit kingdom.'** By Jonathon Gatehouse, CBC News, March 22, 2019. Three weeks after the failed summit between Donald Trump and Kim Jong-un, North Korea is showing signs of turning back into the Hermit Kingdom. See [North Korea abandons liaison office](#).
- ❖ **An EU-Russia deal to replace the INF Treaty?** By Sico van der Meer and Micael Onderco, European Leadership Network. In this article, van der Meer and Onderco argue that the INF Treaty's collapse, although a risk, may offer an opportunity for the EU to show that it can act independently from the US in arms control. See <https://www.europeanleadershipnetwork.org/commentary/an-eu-russia-deal-to-replace-the-inf-treaty/>
- ❖ **The Ploughshares Calgary Society sent a letter of condolence and support to the people of New Zealand on March 22, 2019,** due to the recent tragic events at two New Zealand mosques. You can also send your own individual condolence message to either their email: info@nzhottawa.org or to the New Zealand Commission Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/NZinCanada/> These messages will be included in New Zealand's official book of condolences.
- ❖ **I spent three months working in a Syrian refugee camp.** By Ali Amad, *The Walrus*, Jan. 22, 2019. In this article, Ali Amid, a Canadian-Palestinian, recounts his three-month experience working for an NGO in Greece, the scenes he witnessed in Syrian refugee camps, and his reflections on the Syrian refugees he met there. Amad's article puts real faces and experiences to the Syrtian refugee crisis. See [I spent three months working in a Syrian refugee camp.](#)

Honouring Bev Tollefson Delong—37 years of service and still going strong

By Kathleen McWilliams

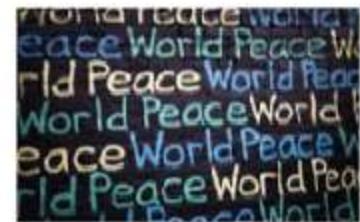


Over the years, many of us have had the honour and pleasure of meeting Bev Tollefson Delong as she educates us about issues of nuclear disarmament and peace at Ploughshares Calgary Society events. Bev co-founded Project Ploughshares in 1982 and has served on our executive board since then.

This year, Bev also celebrates her 20th year as chairperson of the Canadian Network to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (CNANW), which was established in 1996 by national organization representatives who shared the conviction that nuclear weapons are immoral, should be abolished, and that Canada should lead in working to eliminate them. CNANW's 18 member organizations include faith communities, professional groups, and peace and women's organizations—all of whom work in various ways for nuclear abolition. With the purpose of advancing the cause of nuclear disarmament, CNANW and its members educate the public, and conduct seminars, consultations, and meetings with the public, officials, and politicians in Canada. Bev's role as Chairperson will be assumed on April 1st by Earl Turcotte, a former diplomat, who has since his retirement been doing strong work with CNANW and the Group of 78 on nuclear disarmament issues.

Bev graduated from Queen's University Faculty of Law then practiced law for 11 years: first with the Department of Justice (Canada), and then with the Macleod Dixon law firm in Calgary. In 1986, Bev began directing all her work to public education and advocacy concerning the risks posed by nuclear weapons, with attention to the laws affecting the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons. She served as President of Lawyers for Social Responsibility from 1991 to 2005, and participated in the Steering Committee for Mines Action Canada and the World Court Campaign (Canada). Bev is also a member of the Board of the International Association of Lawyers Against Nuclear Arms (IALANA) and the Canadian Pugwash Group. She supports Canadians for a Nuclear Weapons Convention, a group composed of over 1,000 recipients of the Order of Canada, through work on its Steering Committee. Bev was honoured with the YMCA Peace Medal in 1994, the Alberta Centennial Medal in 2005, and in 2012 with the Annual Achievement Award from Canadians for a Nuclear Weapons Convention, as well as a leadership award from CNANW.

Bev is an inspiration and role model for all of us. She is a person who works tirelessly behind the scenes to make the world a better place. If there is one lesson that we can take from Bev's life, it is the importance of personal example and personal responsibility. She has been a driving force on the Canadian scene through her advocacy work for the abolition of nuclear weapons and the resolution of disputes through nonviolence. She did not leave it to the government to do or others, but has shown in her words and actions her commitment towards working for a world of peace. Congratulations, Bev. Well done!



More upcoming events

Marda Loop Justice Film Festival
JustREEL Film Series presents:
Most Likely To...
Tuesday, May 14, 2019, 7:00 p.m.
River Park Auditorium, 3818 14A Street S.W., Calgary
FREE ADMISSION



Children are not born criminals. And one city is making sure of that. ***Most Likely To . . .*** is a look at the Calgary Police Service's (CPS) approach to youth-at-risk crime prevention through intervention, education, and most importantly, human connection.

Disruptive. Defiant. Dangerous. Everyone remembers one kid in their class unanimously voted most likely to end up behind bars. If we know that kids need help, then why aren't we helping them?

Most Likely To . . . follows the lives of Kevin and Timmy, 8 and 18, over the course of a year as they fight for a better life than they were born into. With the help of CPS, Kevin and Timmy realize that their future doesn't have to be decided by their past.

Release Year: 2019; Run time: 60 minutes; Producer: Calgary Police Service Production

Film: **Modified**

Friday, April 5, 2019

Calgary Unitarians, 1703 1 Street, N.W., Calgary

Doors open: 6:30 p.m., coffee/snacks: 6:40 p.m., film: 7:00 p.m.; discussion to follow
FREE ADMISSION but donations always welcome to cover costs

Please bring a dessert or appetizer to share

Register at Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/modified-tickets-58748405061>

Modified is the season's final presentation in the environmental film series sponsored by the Permaculture Calgary Guild and the Calgary Unitarian Green Sanctuary. Interweaving the personal and the political, the film is anchored around the filmmaker's relationship to her mom, a gardener and food activist, who battled cancer during the film's production. Their intimate mother-daughter quest for answers, fueled by a shared love of food, reveals the extent to which the agribusiness industry controls our food policies, making a strong case for a more transparent and sustainable food system. The film, a visual celebration of food and family legacy, was praised by world-renowned chef Jacques Pépin as "a very personal, tender, touching tribute and a well-researched, enlightening and powerful documentary." *Modified* was an official selection at over 60 international film festivals and a winner of 13 awards, including 4 Audience Favourite Awards. See [Modified, A food lover's journey Into GMO's.](#)



What one man can achieve

By Sally Hodges

What would you be willing to do for world peace? At the March meeting of The Ploughshares Calgary Society, we showcased the film *The World is my Country*, which tells the story of Garry Davis, an international peace activist, and his controversial efforts to promote world citizenship. Garry Davis was a professional actor in the 1940s who was horrified and ashamed that while serving as an American bomber pilot in WWII, he had bombed cities in Germany. He believed that conflicts could be resolved without resorting to war and that our world should be one republic, at peace. Consequently, he decided to give up his U.S. natural citizenship at the U.S. embassy in Paris and to claim the sovereignty of the whole world as his country. Coincidentally, in 1948 the world leaders were gathering at the Palais de Chaillot in Paris for a special meeting of the United Nations General Assembly, and the ground that the palace stood on was given temporary international status. Having renounced his U.S. citizenship, Davis set up a spot on the outside of the palace as a statement about his views. When the police came to remove him, he declared his right as a world citizen to be on that ground. He continued to tangle with authorities and, enduring hardship, began to gain hundreds and then thousands of supporters in Europe, who declared "You are our hope." His arguments for world citizenship were compelling and his rallying cry was "I'm a world citizen; my country is the world."

Davis later interrupted a session of the United Nations General Assembly in November, 1948, proclaiming "We, the people, want the peace, which only a world government can give! The sovereign states you represent divide us and lead us to the abyss of total war." The president of the UN allowed him to speak. He then rallied 15,000 people in Paris to demand that the UN recognize the Rights of Humanity and registered 750,000 people in a International Registry of World Citizens. Eleanor Roosevelt suggested to Davis that he carry it to the next level, (i.e., an international government), but Davis knew he was not someone who could do such a thing. However, his organization, a self-proclaimed international government body, has issued documents such as passports, identity cards, and birth and marriage certificates. (Note: Many countries and territories have stated they do not recognize the World Passport because it is not issued by a competent government authority, and thus does not meet the definition of a passport; however, a few governments such as Ecuador have recognized the principles behind the World Passport). Although Garry Davis died in 2013, his vision lives on in the movie [*The World is my Country*](#), and it is still possible to obtain a world passport through [The World Government of World Citizens.](#)

"*The world is my country, all mankind are my brethren, and to do good is my religion*".

Thomas Paine (1737-1809)

We are very grateful for your loyal moral and financial support over the years that has allowed us to continue working for and educating about peace. Please consider donating for 2019 soon if you haven't already done so. If you have already sent in your donation for 2019, we thank you. Please make your cheque payable to Ploughshares Calgary Society. If you write the cheque to the name of Project Ploughshares, the bank *will not* honour it for us, so please write it to Ploughshares Calgary Society. Thank you.

Yes, I am interested in supporting the peace work of the Ploughshares Calgary Society. I'd like to make a donation in the following amount:

\$10 \$25 \$50 \$100 \$250 or in an amount of

or with a monthly donation of or I am interested in volunteering

Name:

Phone #:

Address:

City: Prov Postal Code Email:

Payment Options

Cheque PayPal Cash

Make cheques payable to **Ploughshares Calgary Society** or go to

www.ploughsharescalgary.ca to make your payment via PayPal. Please mail completed form with donation to the Ploughshares Calgary Society, 2919 – 8 Ave. N.W., Calgary, AB, T2N 1C8.

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

