

**PLOUGHSHARES  
CALGARY  
SOCIETY**



We are located at:

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

403-270-7366

Office hours:  
By Appointment

# Peace News

JULY/AUGUST 2018



## *Floating Lantern Peace Ceremony*

Saturday, August 4th, 2018

8 pm – 10 pm

Olympic Plaza, Calgary

*Rain or Shine*

In memory of all those impacted by the atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki,  
and in solidarity toward a peaceful world free from nuclear weapons



## Live Music

Speaker: Hon. Douglas Roche, O.C.

Visit our Facebook page. [Floating Lantern Peace Ceremony 2018](#)

Support us with your donation at our Eventbrite page [Eventbrite](#)

Info: [office@ploughsharescalgary.ca](mailto:office@ploughsharescalgary.ca); [www.ploughsharescalgary.ca](http://www.ploughsharescalgary.ca)

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United Nations Association in Canada  
Calgary Branch



## **PLOUGHSHARES CALGARY UPDATE:**

Thank you to all who attended our Annual General Meeting last month. Rev. John Pentland gave an inspiring presentation on “Leaving Things Better Than We Found Them”. Some of the take home messages he delivered were:

- we need to leave the planet in better condition than we found it
- we are living in spiritual time right now
- we are spiritual beings; bound together
- religion and spiritual needs go together

Rev. Pentland said there were five things to consider and keep in mind as we contemplate leaving the planet in better condition:

1. Discover we have a different relationship with earth than we thought. We need to cultivate and take care of the earth rather than have dominion over it. It is a Call to Action!
2. View of the world has changed. God is no longer out there; God is as close as our breath. We are intimately connected—we’re all a part of it. The first text in not the Bible, it’s the Earth. Earth is God’s Body. Earth is alive and we’re part of it. We come from earth and we return to earth. God won’t fix the problems—we have the responsibility to fix earth. Earth is for us to cherish.
3. Location of God—God is in you. Jesus said, “love your enemies”; when we bring God from the clouds to between us and in us and we recognize God’s Divinity, we will change the way we treat each other.
4. Public Theology is real, and it matters. People who have spiritual beliefs and are acting on them need to be explicit and clear about what they are doing and why. At the same time, they need to be careful about what they say.
5. We live in an age of religion, faith, and spirit. We can find connectedness and love if we descend into our soul.



We would also like to congratulate all who were elected to the Board of Ploughshares Calgary for the term of June 2018 to June 2019:

**Trudy Govier, Chairperson**  
**David Boutland, Vice Chairperson**  
**Kathleen McWilliams, Secretary**  
**Carl Svoboda, Treasurer**

**Jean Tollefson, Director**  
**Bev Delong, Director**  
**Sally Hodges, Director**  
**Al Coats, Director**

We look forward to continuing to bring you new events and programs that educate and inform you on current topics.

We thank the outgoing Board Members most sincerely for their dedicated services, guidance and time in guiding Ploughshares Calgary in uncertain times. Your commitment and friendship are appreciated and will be missed at meetings.

We sincerely thank our supporters and donors who have continued to support us financially to keep our doors open. Your support is truly appreciated. We do remind everyone that as we are legally known as Ploughshares Calgary Society now, to please make your cheques out to **Ploughshares Calgary Society**.

### **THANK YOU TO ALL FOR YOUR ON-GOING SUPPORT!**

*A summary of the June 11th presentation by South Korean Consul General Gunn Kimm, based on notes taken by Bev Delong and Trudy Govier, will be provided in our next issue.*

## Stories at a café near Hiroshima's Peace Park

By Nathan Michon,

Works at [Graduate Theological Union](#)

Lives in [Kinokawa-shi, Wakayama, Japan](#)

After walking through Hiroshima, I had the opportunity to meet and listen to Maki-san, 87-year old 被爆者 victim and survivor of Hiroshima's atomic bomb, and current peace activist. I listened to his stories at a cafe for over 2 hours along with a couple other people.

He was 14 years old at the time and inside a factory. Half his face and his left arm were burned although he was about 20 km away and he was able to recover. But over 60 of his classmates died. He spoke of many of the horrors he saw that day. He said the memories are still very painful and he couldn't speak about them for most of his life, but he eventually wanted to help make sure something like that would not happen again. So now he speaks regularly as long as he is feeling healthy enough. He said he just hopes that whenever people have the urge to fight, that they first stop and take the time to listen to others. He said he hoped people in the world could do this more on many levels, whether between family members or between countries. ...he added with a laugh that his kids and grandkids said that he became more peaceful himself once he started talking more about it to others. A great honor to meet this wonderful おじいちゃん



The cafe itself has a beautifully themed environment with daily gatherings focused around peace, justice, communication, and creating space for human connection located just a couple of blocks from Hiroshima's famous peace park. One of the three co-owners previously worked for the non-profit Peace Boat and as part of their event schedule, they regularly bring in survivors of the atomic bomb or their children who are able to tell stories of the effects of these horrendous weapons. There are very few direct survivors left in the world and those who regularly come to this café, see some of the disturbing rhetoric in the world today and feel a responsibility to share their experiences in the hopes that such wars do not arise again.

## WMA COUNCIL RESOLUTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

<https://www.wma.net/policies-post/council-resolution-on-the-prohibition-of-nuclear-weapons/>

*Adopted by the 209th Session of the Council, Riga, April 2018*

The duties of physicians are to preserve life and safeguard the health of the patient and to dedicate themselves to the service of humanity.

Concerned about current global discussions on nuclear proliferation and given the catastrophic consequences of these weapons on human health and the environment, the World Medical Association (WMA) and its Constituent Members consider that they have a responsibility to work for the elimination of nuclear weapons worldwide.

The WMA is deeply concerned by plans to retain indefinitely and modernize nuclear arsenals; the absence of progress in nuclear disarmament by nuclear-armed states; and the growing threat of nuclear war.

The WMA welcomes the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, and joins with others in the international community, including the Red Cross and Red Crescent movement, International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons, and a large majority of UN member states. Consistent with our mission as physicians, the WMA calls on all states to promptly sign, ratify or accede to, and faithfully implement the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons;

Emphasizing the devastating long-term health consequences, the WMA and its Constituent Members urge governments to work immediately to prohibit and eliminate nuclear weapons.

### A Request from KAIROS

#### Speak for the Silenced

Charities play a vital role in magnifying the voices of marginalised communities in Canada. Audits and antiquated laws compromise those efforts. [Send a letter](#) to Prime Minister Trudeau to voice your concern and protect our free speech.

KAIROS joins with others to help ensure the creation of policies that benefit marginalized communities and contribute to the common good. While we persist in sustained advocacy, these actions are made more difficult by an antiquated charity law that confuses and unduly restricts our efforts.

In 2016 we participated in a consultation, contributing our views on the modernization of the charity law to an expert panel. We were heartened by their recommendations in March of 2017, which include a clear action to fix the broken system.

However, [we and many other organizations](#) have been dismayed that, to date, no action has been taken. Therefore, we need to raise our voice so that it's clear to the government that we want to fix our broken charity laws now. We ask you to [send a letter](#) to the Prime Minister asking him to create a new law to protect Canadians' right to be heard through charities they support. Your letter will also be sent to your Member of Parliament so they can help ensure the right decision is made.

*For more information and for the template of letter to send to the Prime Minister, click here:*  
<https://e-activist.com/page/20647/action/1>

# CALL OUT TO ALL VOLUNTEERS

We need volunteers for set up, lantern retrieval, take down, lantern dismantling...

## *Floating Lantern Peace Ceremony*

**Saturday, August 4th, 2018**

**8 pm—10 pm**

**Olympic Plaza, Calgary**

Keynote Speaker: Hon. Douglas Roche, O.C.

Live music, colorful lanterns, friendships, snacks.

**If you would like to volunteer,  
please email: [office@ploughsharescalgary.ca](mailto:office@ploughsharescalgary.ca)  
Or call 403-270-7366 and leave a message.**

**We look forward to seeing you there!**



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Special thanks to all who submitted articles & Trudy Govier for editing this issue 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 very grateful for your loyal moral and financial support over the past years. Because of you, we have been able to work toward peace and educate about peace. 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.

Please remember to make your cheques out to :  
**Ploughshares Calgary Society**



**Ploughshares Calgary Society**

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

- \$ 50
- \$100
- \$250
- \$500
- \$1000
- I'd like to make a monthly donation of \$\_\_\_\_\_
- I'd like to volunteer
- Other Amount (Specify) \$\_\_\_\_\_

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](http://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.