

PROJECT  
PLOUGHSHARES  
CALGARY

# Peace News

APRIL 2013



We are located:

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

403-270-7366

Office hours:

Mon Tues & Thurs  
9:30 am - 2 pm

Wed 12 - 4 pm

## BUILDING ALLIANCES FOR CHANGE NONVIOLENT POPULAR ACTION



Friday April 26<sup>th</sup>, 7 - 9 PM - 'On the Line' Documentary and commentary

Saturday April 27<sup>th</sup>, 9:30 AM - 4 PM - Workshop with **Ben West** of Forest  
Ethics Advocacy, Vancouver; **Mike Byerley** of NextUp;  
and **Jill Crop Eared Wolf** of the Kanaiwa Nation

Lunch and snacks provided

Workshop fees: \$20 Early Bird (until March 31<sup>st</sup>); \$25 reg; \$15 Low Income  
Friday Documentary Only - \$10  
100% Calgary dollars accepted

Registration by mail or on-line at <http://allies4change.eventbrite.ca>

Parkdale United Church Auditorium 2919 8 Ave NW

Hosted by Project Ploughshares Calgary & NextUp

With thanks to the Parkdale United Church, the George and Brenda Weaver Memorial Fund, and  
Parkdale United Church (Calgary) Foundation

Sessions will be photographed and/or videotaped



More info: [office@ploughsharescalgary.ca](mailto:office@ploughsharescalgary.ca)

Website: [www.ploughsharescalgary.ca](http://www.ploughsharescalgary.ca)

Phone: 403-270-7366





**Project Ploughshares Calgary**  
**Wednesday April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2013, 7:30—9 PM**  
**Parkdale United Church**  
**Conference Room**  
**2919 – 8 Avenue NW**

**HOW TO START A REVOLUTION** is the remarkable untold story of Nobel Peace Prize nominee Gene Sharp, the world's leading expert on nonviolent revolution. Gene Sharp hardly seems like one of the world's most dangerous men. White-haired and soft-spoken, the 83-year-old professor mostly keeps to himself, spending much of his time in his small Boston home reading, writing, and tending to his orchid garden. But to the world's most brutal dictators, Professor Sharp's ideas have proven catastrophic. In this fascinating new film, director Ruaridh Arrow details how an obscure list of nonviolent actions authored by Sharp in 1973 has served as a blueprint for anti-authoritarian revolts everywhere from Eastern Europe and the Balkans to the Arab Spring. As much about the substance of Sharp's "198 Methods of Nonviolent Action" as it is about the courageous democratic rebels who have made these methods their own, *How to Start a Revolution* bears witness to the power of nonviolent struggle, and shows how one person of conscience can quietly influence the lives of millions of people. Features commentary from Sharp's close ally Retired U.S. Army Colonel Robert Helvey, Sharp himself, and many of the revolutionary leaders his work has inspired.

**How To Start A Revolution** is the story of the power of people to change their world, the modern revolution and the man behind it all.

Commentator: **Dr. Pablo Policzer**  
 University of Calgary Political Science Professor  
Canada Research Chair in Latin American Politics



### **Restorative Justice Programs for Youth with Cyndie Shouldice & Debbie Nowakowski of Community Conferencing March 13, 2013 Presentation**

This presentation featured the work of Calgary Community Conferencing, which brings together a young person and their victim(s), their respective families and supporters, other key people affected by the conflict and relevant community members to address what's happened and find solutions beneficial to all. Community

Conferencing is a collaborative program between the City of Calgary Youth Probation Services, the John Howard Society and the Mennonite Central Committee.

The conference is organized and guided by a facilitator. Personal meetings are held with participants in their homes in preparation for the community conference. An agreement is developed and then provided, along with a summary of the conference, to each participant, as well as to the referral source (youth court & schools).

Cyndie and Debbie provided an in-depth look at the three programs offered for youth, with examples of each. A Community Conference is an opportunity for everyone affected by a crime or harmful act committed by a teenager to participate in acknowledging and addressing the harm caused. This program runs parallel to the criminal justice system. The offenders are still sentenced by a judge but the rehabilitative results of the Conferencing Program are factored in to the sentencing. Below the offender's bravado is usually shame. By focusing on the victim's hurts and needs, and how to repair the harm done, the program provides practical ways for the offender to come to terms with what they have done and to make amends, thereby lessening their shame and giving them a new chance to start again.

The presentation gave detailed information on ways in which this restorative justice program strongly benefits young offenders. The focus lies in the offender taking responsibility and on their rehabilitation which has proven good results. Those present were shocked to hear that this method is only used for youth offenders in Calgary, not adults. Innisfail has face to face processes for adult offenders and their victims.

## Ploughshares Calgary News



### We'd Love to Have YOU on Board!

We would still like to have a couple of people to sit on committees for a new group, 2020 Vision for Humanity Network. This group is working towards nuclear abolition and building a healthy global society, among other things. One of the committees needing people will be working on organizing an **academic symposium to take place in the fall of 2013**, in partnership with the Consortium for Peace Studies and the Calgary Centre for Global Community.

Additionally, we are looking to fill the following position for the **2013 Calgary Peace Run: Food and Beverage Coordinator**. We would like someone who could cheerfully take on the task of the bulk of the work related to this job would take place in August and September of 2013, although there would be some organizing to do prior to that time. We would also like to put out the call

now for anyone who might be interested in helping out on any of the committees for the Peace Run, which include: **Volunteers, Fundraising, Draw Prizes, Food & Beverage, Marketing & Promotions, and Social Media.**

We are also looking for about 10 volunteers to help out with our **Toy Audit**, which will take place towards the end of October 2013. Training will be provided for this exciting new initiative.

**If you are interested in any of these positions,  
please call Karen at: 403-270-7366  
or email her at: [office@ploughsharescalgary.ca](mailto:office@ploughsharescalgary.ca)**



**Please look at the last page of this newsletter for ordering  
Information for our annual Spolumbo's fundraiser.  
Order deadline is Monday May 6th.**

**September 21 Day of Peace** "...a fixed calendar date ..a day for you to act, to become involved, to make a difference ....no matter how big or small, please do it...a day of cease fire, non-violence and cultural cooperation .. the 21st of September is that starting point...to come together as one to lift the consciousness around the most fundamental issue, the protection of each another. Please, please, don't wait for government to make the difference. Make the difference yourself. By working together there will be peace one day." ---[Jeremy Gilley](#)

**In Calgary, September 21st 2013 will be the date for the 2nd Annual Calgary Peace Run! You can register on-line now at <http://www.events.runningroom.com/site/?raceId=9173>**



### Donations

We did not receive any individual donations during the month of March, while the organizational donations totalled \$700. Please think about Project Ploughshares this spring

and give generously! We value your contributions, and would like to thank all those who continue to contribute generously to Project Ploughshares. We can't continue to do the important work of peacebuilding without you!



"We must not allow ourselves to become like the system we oppose. We cannot afford to use methods of which we will be ashamed when we look back, when we say, '...we shouldn't have done that.' We must remember, my friends, that we have been given a wonderful cause. The cause of freedom! And you and I must be those who will walk with heads held high. We will say, 'We used methods that can stand the harsh scrutiny of history.'"

~ Desmond Tutu



## Moving towards a ban on nuclear weapons

Beatrice Fihn and Ray Acheson

On 4–5 March 2013, the Norwegian government hosted a [conference on the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons](#) in Oslo during which governments, UN agencies, international organisations, and civil society analysed the effects of the use of nuclear weapons on human health, the environment, economies, development, and more. The discussion was instrumental in reframing the discourse around nuclear weapons, focusing on the direct humanitarian consequences of their use rather than on myths of their alleged value for state “security”.

The key conclusions from the conference, highlighted by Norway’s Foreign Minister in his [closing summary](#), were that no state or international body could adequately address the humanitarian emergency caused by a nuclear weapon detonation; that nuclear weapons have a demonstrated devastating immediate and long-term effects; and that such effects will not be constrained by national borders, and will have regional and global impacts. At the end of the conference, the government of Mexico announced that it will hold a follow-up meeting to continue this discussion.

This conference was the first time that governments have come together to seriously address the catastrophic humanitarian impact caused by the use of nuclear weapons. It also marked a significant change in perspective for many non-nuclear weapon states, which recognise that the current discourse on nuclear weapons has been insufficient to address the grave threats they pose to human existence and that the challenge posed by nuclear weapons to human and planetary survival must be addressed through preventative measures.

Another encouraging aspect of this conference was the key role played by international organisations and civil society. As NGO representatives working on nuclear weapons issues, it is very uncommon to be able to ask for the floor. But the interventions by the [International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons \(ICAN\)](#) and other international organisations and NGOs brought a dynamic dimension to the proceedings and should be a precedent for any upcoming nuclear weapons discussions.

Only two of the nuclear possessing states, India and Pakistan, attended the meeting. The other countries with nuclear weapons—China, Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, France, Israel, Russia, United Kingdom, and the United States—did not participate. The five permanent members of the UN Security Council boycotted the meeting, saying that the conference would “divert discussion and focus” away from other fora. The same day as the conference was held, the [UK ambassador to the CD](#) said that “all efforts should be focused on getting the CD back to work” and the [Russian ambassador](#) argued that the Oslo conference might “pull apart the CD agenda”. [China’s ambassador](#) warned that discussions external to the CD or UN system would undermine existing processes, while the [US ambassador](#) emphasised the need for a “practical, step-by-step approach to disarmament.”

These arguments do not make sense. The CD has failed for more than 15 years to even adopt a programme of work, let alone engage in substantive work. The notion that addressing the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons could undermine any work on disarmament and non-proliferation of nuclear weapons is illogical. By any definition, nuclear weapons would be classed as inhumane, triggering both humanitarian and environmental disasters. Therefore, focusing on the humanitarian consequences challenges the foundation of maintaining nuclear weapons and undermines any incentives for proliferation, something that should be in the interest of all states around the world.

In addition, it is worth highlighting that the nuclear weapon possessing countries engage in “alternative” process outside of the UN or CD frameworks all the time in order to address their non-proliferation concerns, such as through the Nuclear Security Summit or the Proliferation Security Initiative, among others. Yet no one accuses these processes of undermining the NPT or other existing processes. In fact, addressing the humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons is complementary with efforts to implement the [2010 NPT outcome document](#), in which all NPT states parties expressed their “deep concern at the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons” and reaffirmed “the need for all States at all times to comply with applicable international law, including international humanitarian law.”

The P5 missed an opportunity for dialogue in Oslo, but it did not stop countries and international organisations from moving forward. On the contrary, Mexico’s decision to host a further meeting on this issue was welcomed in all closing statements and received much appreciation by civil society representatives present in the room and around the world. Norway and Mexico’s initiative on this issue recognises that nuclear weapon free countries have an important role to play. The follow-up meeting is a key opportunity for all states, international organisations, and civil society to continue this discussion and to “deal decisively with nuclear weapons,” as the representative from the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies said.

In the end, the conference was important not only because it provided the space needed to reframe the discourse around nuclear weapons, but also because it was a significant first move towards negotiations of a treaty banning nuclear weapons.

[Click here to download this report in PDF >>](#)



## Oslo, Ottawa, and the need for a nuke-free world

By Cesar Jaramillo

Published by *Embassy*, an Ottawa-based foreign policy weekly.

The endgame to nuclear disarmament is remarkably straightforward: a global legal ban on the development, possession, testing, and use of nuclear weapons by any actor. Call it a multilateral treaty or a Nuclear Weapons Convention—there is no clearer path to rid the world of the most destructive weapons ever made. Regrettably, more than four decades after the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, or NPT, came into force, nuclear-weapons states still call a ban ‘premature.’

But demands for a ban are mounting. Calls come from a growing number of scientists, legal scholars, mayors, and parliamentarians, as well as active and retired diplomats and statesmen—from both nuclear and non-nuclear weapons states.

From March 1 to 5, Oslo was the epicenter of the latest international push for a world free of nuclear weapons. Back-to-back conferences—the first organized by the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons and the second by the Norwegian Foreign Ministry—shone the spotlight on the use of nuclear weapons and prospects for adequate emergency response.

Despite the disappointing boycott of the governmental conference by the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council—also the sole possessors of nuclear weapons among states parties to the NPT—representatives of more than 130 states, various United Nations agencies, the Red Cross, Hiroshima survivors, and about 500 civil society activists examined in detail the effects of a nuclear attack.

Grim first-hand testimonies alternated with disturbing scientific findings. The message was clear: effects of the use of nuclear weapons on the environment, the global economy, and life on the planet would be catastrophic; effective emergency relief, impossible. Underlying the visceral reaction to the presentations was frustration with the anomalies, contradictions, and fundamental injustices underpinning the nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime that delay progress to disarmament. Among them:

- the mistaken notion that the primary risk of nuclear weapons is their potential proliferation—not their existence;
- the imbalance between disarmament and non-proliferation obligations, with the former framed as a mere aspiration and the latter a hard obligation;
- the rationale by which nuclear-weapons states claim nuclear arsenals as vital for their national security, but express outrage when others pursue nuclear weapons;
- a discriminatory approach that imposes sanctions against some states suspected of pursuing a nuclear weapons capability, while ignoring the undisputed, illegal possession of nuclear arsenals by others.

### Canadian leadership needed

Especially problematic is the determination of several nuclear-weapons states to retain a nuclear arsenal as long as such weapons exist. This strategic, political, and logical straitjacket all but ensures that a world without nuclear weapons will never be achieved. The alternative necessarily has to be a concerted effort to negotiate a global legal ban on nuclear weapons.

Achieving such a ban would require determined leadership, and Canada is uniquely positioned to assume this role. Besides enjoying credibility as a responsible international actor, Canada is a member of NATO (a nuclear alliance), an active player in the global nuclear energy industry, a state party to the NPT, and a member of the G8 and G20. The current Canadian government has not made nuclear disarmament a top foreign policy priority. But it should. And such a stand would have wide public support.

In 2010 a unanimous motion by the House and Senate urged the Canadian government “to engage in negotiations for a nuclear weapons convention as proposed by the United Nations Secretary-General” and “to deploy a major worldwide Canadian diplomatic initiative in support of preventing nuclear proliferation and increasing the rate of nuclear disarmament.”

Civil society organizations, former diplomats and government officials, and more than 600 recipients of the Order of Canada are urging the Canadian government to support UN resolutions calling for formal negotiations toward a nuclear weapons convention. Polls indicate that more than 88 per cent of Canadians support a legal agreement to eliminate nuclear weapons. Canada’s current position—and that of most NWS—focuses on a step-by-step process. From this perspective, the international community cannot negotiate—or even plan for—a global legal ban on nuclear weapons until, for example, the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty enters into force or a Fissile Material Cut-Off Treaty is negotiated. But if the end goal is clear, are intermediate steps necessary?

If street racing in a residential neighbourhood poses a grave danger and has already caused deaths, steps could be taken to limit the number of vehicles in each race. New drivers could be forbidden. But the obvious course of action would be to seek a ban on street racing. The Canadian government should move past the step-by-step approach that its delegation in Oslo reiterated, and embrace the opportunity to make a significant contribution to international peace and security by leading the call for a global legal ban on nuclear weapons.

The double standards sustaining the nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime will not and cannot hold indefinitely. Citizens aware of the dire consequences of nuclear weapons will pressure governments to move toward complete nuclear disarmament. Mexico has already announced that it will host a follow-up to the Oslo conference. In an eventual process to negotiate a legal prohibition on nuclear weapons, Canada should be a key player and not merely a spectator.

*Cesar Jaramillo is program officer at Waterloo-based Project Ploughshares. He can be reached at [cjaramillo@ploughshares.ca](mailto:cjaramillo@ploughshares.ca).*



## Project Ploughshares Calgary

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

## Calgary Peace Events



**Yes!** I want to become a Project Ploughshares Calgary donor and partner in building peace.

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

Here is my donation for 2013 of:

\$35    \$50    \$100    \$500    \$\_\_\_\_\_

(donations of \$10 or more will receive a tax receipt)

I'd like to become a Friend of Ploughshares and give a monthly pre-authorized  debit donation, please send me an application  form:

I'd like to receive the monthly newsletter by:

Email (recommended)    Mail (with \$35 donation)

### Wednesday April 10th, Parkdale United Church, 7:00 PM

Join us for the Calgary Keynote of Public Interest Alberta's Annual Advocacy Conference & our Public Interest Award Presentation. Featuring: Linda McQuaig, Author of the Trouble with Billionaires; Crystal Lameman, Beaver Lake Cree Nation; Gregor MacLennan, Amazon Watch. We have seen, and continue to see, corporate control extend over all aspects of our lives: from democratic processes, to essential services, to the basic necessities of life. If we sit back and watch, what will this mean for our futures? How and why are so many people, locally, and around the world waking up to collectively challenge corporate control? How do we nurture, coordinate, and channel people power, across differences, across issues, across generations? We will hear from individuals and communities who are creatively and strategically "fighting for our future".

More information about the conference: <http://piaalberta.org/content/pia-2013-annual-conference>

### The Social Work Faculty, Consortium for Peace Studies & MCCA present a new "Peace Potluck Series"

Friday April 12th, 12 - 1pm

Professional Faculties 4th Floor Social Work Lounge



**Live Music / Potluck/ Peace talk & discussion with international and local professionals. Everyone welcome!**

Our desire is to foster community and build knowledge around peace building.

Music is a huge vehicle in peace building as such it was a natural choice. The discussion will center around topics such as What is Peace work & why does it matter, what are the complications involved and what does peace work look like in our everyday lives. We will be bringing in a variety of speakers with diverse backgrounds.

April 12th - Musician: Kim Thiessen (folk artist) Speaker: Karen Huggins from Project Ploughshares Calgary with an interactive session entitled **What IS Peace Education?**



### The Seed Event

**April 20th 2013, BMO Centre, Calgary Stampede Grounds—10 AM—10 PM**

Seed Events are inspiring, educational, expansive, healing, entertaining and may also be a life-changing experience. The Seed Event is a not-for-profit event that exists to share messages of global oneness, truth and realization with all who seek positive change within themselves and in the world.

The Seed Marketplace hosts local and national businesses & organizations committed to providing you the very best in lifestyle choice. Don't miss a visit to Canada's most unique and transformative marketplace! The Seed Event supports and creates awareness for select global, local and environmental charities as well as select universal spiritual organizations. Created on the principle of inclusivity, and dedicated to the realization of Oneness, The Seed Event is *for everyone*. **For more info, see [www.seedevent.org](http://www.seedevent.org)**



## SPOLUMBO'S SAUSAGES FOR SUMMER ORDER NOW!!

**Deadline for ordering: Monday May 6, 2013**  
**Orders ready: May 23 – 24, 2013**

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. Enormous savings over store prices for you!! Trays contain 18 fresh sausage-links. A slight reduction for a case (two trays).

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
911	Spicy Italian Sausage	34.40		68.50	
909	Mild Italian Sausage	34.40		68.50	
901	Bratwurst Sausage	35.10		70.00	
930	Chicken Apple Sausage	41.25		82.00	
938	Chicken Sundried Sausage	45.50		90.50	
200	Maple Breakfast Sausage 35g	38.50		76.00	
932	Red Wine & Orange Pork	39.10		78.00	
9212	Spolumbo's Burgers	39.60		78.00	
9238	Chicken Sundried Tomato Burgers	47.30		94.00	
<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. Spolumbo's requires two weeks to four weeks to process the order. **PICK UP LOCATION:** Distribution will be in Varsity.

**Please 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 Rashi Ghai**  
**103 Citadel Grove NW**  
**Calgary, AB T3G 4G8**



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