

**PROJECT
PLOUGHSHARES
CALGARY**

Peace News

NOVEMBER 2016



We are located:

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

32nd Annual

Holiday Peace Fair

Sat. November 12, 2016

Parkdale United Church

2919 - 8 Avenue NW

9:30 AM - 4 PM

Supporting Social
Justice, Fair Trade and
the Environment

Unique items from 30
vendors working for peace,
social justice and the
environment

Light lunch available
for purchase

\$5.00 admission
\$3.00 for seniors & students
(Free for children
12 and under)

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Project Ploughshares Calgary

www.ploughsharescalgary.ca

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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

17 GOALS TO TRANSFORM OUR WORLD

Sustainable development for sustainable peace – Excerpts of article by Cesar Jaramillo, Executive Director, Project Ploughshares

(Reprinted from “*The Ploughshares Monitor*” -Autumn 2016, Volume 37, Issue 3)

Efforts aimed at reducing armed violence and decreasing the international community’s reliance on military force to tackle political grievances have been – and will continue to be – central to the work of Project Ploughshares. At the same time, we have long recognized that, as important and necessary as such efforts may be, they are insufficient to achieve sustainable peace.

Guns are too often used to maim and kill civilians..., sustain autocratic regimes..., and commit human rights violations.... But silencing the guns that continue to cause so much human suffering around the world is only part of the solution.

A ceasefire is often seen as “peace achieved.” But even with guns out of the picture, we cannot really believe that peace has been gained when

- Newborns are more likely to die of malnutrition than to survive past their fifth birthday;
- Gross gender inequality is rampant and women are subjected to systemic discrimination;
- The environment – including land, air, and water – is so degraded that it fails to provide sustenance;
- Children have no access to basic education and are forced to work to survive; and
- Entirely preventable diseases cut millions of lives short because adequate health care is not accessible.

Put simply: sustainable peace is more than the mere *absence* of armed violence. It involves the *presence* of certain attributes, relationships, social systems, and institutions that enable the full realization of human potential.

These are not new concepts for Project Ploughshares. We have always identified development – understood as measures to create the kinds of economic, social, and environmental conditions that are conducive to sustainable peace and stability – as a critical element of a comprehensive package for advancing sustainable peace. Such conditions include, among others, equal opportunity, gender equality, the rule of law, access to education and health care, and inclusive power relationships.

...Our friends and supporters will start to notice a greater emphasis on this dimension (sustainable development) of peacemaking – not instead of our work on disarmament and international security, but as a necessary complement to it.

The timing for this expansion of our work comes on the heels of the recently adopted Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), also known as the Global Goals or the post 2015 global development agenda. The SDGs lay out a framework to achieve sustainable development by 2030 by incorporating economic, social, and environmental factors. In September 2015 all 193 United Nations member states agreed to advance this universal set of 17 goals.

The SDGs expand on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), While none of the eight MDGs was fully achieved across the globe, there was significant progress on every one of them – from efforts to eradicate extreme poverty to providing access to improved sanitation. A key conclusion from these global efforts, ... is that “goal setting can lift millions of people out of poverty, empower women and girls, improve health and well-being, and provide vast new opportunities for better lives.”

The SDGs are universal in scope, and broader and more ambitious than the MDG The goals are as diverse as zero hunger, climate action, reduced inequalities, and economic growth. Advancing SDGs will require collaboration, shared responsibilities, and capacity-building.

..., Note Goal 16, which refers to peace, justice, and strong institutions. However, no goal can be understood in isolation from the others. The under-lying premise is that progress on one goal will facilitate, and be tied to, efforts to achieve the other. Further, the SDGs are to enshrined in national legislation to facilitate advancement of the objectives.

..., The allocation of sufficient resources to see this ambitious global enterprise through will also be critical. Allocation could mean RE-allocation in some instances. Consider the billions of dollars (some estimates put the price tag at more than \$1-trillion) slated to be spent on modernizing nuclear arsenals and related infrastructure. Consider what might happen if some of this money were diverted to satisfying the most basic needs, currently unmet, of a significant segment of the world’s population.

While implementation challenges no doubt lie ahead, Project Ploughshares is heartened by the adoption of the post-2015 Development Agenda and eager to contribute to policy discussions around their effective implementation – in Canada and beyond. Our work on disarmament and hard security matters will, of course, continue unabated.

Seventeen Sustainable Development Goals. One hundred and sixty-nine concrete target. Undertaken by 193 UN member states. Deadline: 2030. Primary aims: end poverty and hunger, improve health and education, make cities more sustainable, combat climate change, protect the environment, promote social inclusiveness.

And why is this so important? Because without sustainable development there can be no sustainable peace.

Synopsis of October Public Meeting—Facilitating Syrian Refugees Settlement:

At the Ploughshares, October public meeting we heard the stories of two Syrians who have experienced the caring and concern of their Canadian 'neighbors', the origins of the Syrian war and the major local contributions of the Syrian Support Group Calgary.

Sam Namourra, Co-Founder of the latter organization, described how, after living in a culture of fear in Syria in the 80's and 90's where no one dared to speak of politics, Syrians suddenly felt much hope when the father of the present president died in 2000. About that time there was a satellite that was transmitting news of the outside world into various closed societies in the Middle East. Suddenly the ordinary people learned of other ways of seeing things. The grip of the regime was loosened by contacts with the external world. On March 18, 2011, a peaceful protest asking for 'freedom and dignity' in Daraa province brought a violent reaction from the new president, Bashar al-Assad. Syrians had liked their new president very much. This violent reaction, and the media spreading word of the conflict, caused many Syrians to turn against their government.

Saima Jamal, also Co-Founder of the Syrian Support Group Calgary, was moved by the refugee drownings in the Mediterranean, to work through the Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) to bring refugees to Calgary. Saima and Sam discovered two Syrian families who were already here, but all alone. They knew no English, had serious health issues and could not even read signs to get themselves to the hospital and around the city, let alone be able to communicate in the case of an emergency. The Syrian Support Group was formed and within days a website and some volunteers had started. They met with resistance initially, however as people were educated and informed, individuals offered to help and get involved. Now, they have some 700-people volunteering their time and assisting with the settlement of refugees. Refugee families may have the help of 5-10 volunteers per family depending on their needs – e.g. emotional support, ESL, rides to appointments, activities for youth. These volunteers are available to their refugee families day and night. "This is how great this City is", said Sam.

The second phase, now in process, is to find the adults jobs. They are already reading and speaking a little. Some of them went up to help with the Fort McMurray fires and most donated money. They explained, 'We know exactly what's happening. We, too, had our houses turned into rubble. We must help'.

The quote of the night came from Jihav, in Calgary and learning English for only 8 months. "For all this time we though the West hate us and want to kill us, but now what I see is this is lies and they need to see that too".

Calgary is set to receive some more Syrian refugees end of October. If you would like to volunteer, please see www.yycsy.ca and make contact! (This website spells Calgary+Syria)



Once social change begins,
it cannot be reversed.
You cannot uneducate
the person who has learned
to read.
You cannot humiliate the
person who feels pride
And you cannot oppress
the people who are not afraid
anymore



Please join us at the Alternative Remembrance Day Service on Friday, November 11th from 1-2 pm at the Community Peace Pole on the Bow River Path near 9th and 3rd Avenue.

White Poppies are available at the office.

The Sustainable Development Goals

Goal 1: No Poverty – End poverty in all its forms everywhere.

Goal 2: Zero Hunger – End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture.

Goal 3: Good Health and Well Being – Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages.

Goal 4: Quality Education – Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.

Goal 5: Gender Equality – Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.

Goal 6: Clean Water and Sanitation – Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.

Goal 7: Affordable and Clean Energy – Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all.

Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth – Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth; full and productive employment; and decent work for all.

Goal 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure – Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation.

Goal 10: Reduced Inequalities – Reduce inequalities within and among countries.

Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities – Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.

Goal 12: Responsible Consumption and Production – Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns.

Goal 13: Climate Action – Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.

Goal 14: Life Below Water – Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.

Goal 15: Life on Land – Protect, restore, and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems; sustainably manage forests; combat desertification; halt and reverse land degradation; and halt biodiversity loss.

Goal 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions – Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development; provide access to justice for all; and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.

Goal 17: Partnerships for The Goals – Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnerships for sustainable development.



Suggestions for items needed:

**Bread, Buns, Muffins,
Cakes, Squares, Cookies,
Fruit Pies, Donuts, Jelly Rolls**

**Please package items in clear plastic bags ready for selling,
ingredient list included.**

**Please bring your items to Parkdale United Church either
Friday November 11 from 12 – 3,
or first thing Saturday November 12 to
Parkdale United Church, 2919 – 8 Ave NW**

**Please let Sally Hodges know if you're able to help out!
403-247-1653 / sjhodges@telus.net**





SILENT AUCTION DONATIONS NEEDED!



Simple ways you can help:

Donate an item

Volunteer your professional services

Ask a business to donate an item or gift card

Ask friends, neighbours, or colleagues to give

Please contact Karen at 403-804-4052
or karenahuggins@gmail.com
if you have any items to donate

All items will be auctioned off at the:



SAVE THESE DATES

Event: Green Sanctuary & Social Justice Movie Night, Conversation & Dessert!
“The Antarctica Challenge”

When: Friday, November 4th, 2016 6:30-9:00 pm

Where: Unitarian Church of Calgary; 1703-1st Street NW

Admission: Donations accepted at door to cover cost
Please bring dessert to share

Event: Writing to Reconcile: A Workshop for New and Seasoned Writers

When: Saturday, November 5, 2016 10:00-3:30 pm

Contact: The Alexandra Writers' Centre to register

[Www.alexandrawriters.org](http://www.alexandrawriters.org)

Event: Feminist Perspective on Justice in Palestine/Israel

When: Wednesday, November 9, 2016 12:30-2:00 pm

Where: Mount Royal University, Room Y224

Admission: Free, no RSVP needed

Event: Alternative Remembrance Day Service

When: Friday, November 11th, 2016 1-2 pm

Where: Community Peace Pole on the Bow River Path
Near 9th & 3rd Avenue

Donations to cover cost of the White Poppies welcome

Event: Holiday Peace Fair

When: Saturday, November 12th, 2016

Where: Parkdale United Church
2919-8 Avenue NW

Admission: \$5.00

\$3.00 seniors and students

Free for children 12 and under

Light lunch available for purchase

Event: Marda Loop Justice Film Festival

When: November 15th—November 20th. (See justicefilmfestival.ca for festival details)

Where: River Park Auditorium, Globe Cinema, Calgary Public Library, John Dutton Theatre

Admission: Free

Faculty of Arts' Peace Studies Initiative presents

Feminist Perspectives on Justice in Palestine/Israel

Guest Speakers: Rabab Abdulhadi, PhD, and Simona Sharoni, PhD



NOV. 9, 2016 | 12:30PM
ROOM Y224 (Y WING)
THIS EVENT IS FREE.
NO RSVP NEEDED.



For more information about the Peace Studies Initiative, visit mru.ca/peaceinitiative



Project Ploughshares Calgary
 8th Ave. NW
 Calgary AB T2N 1C8
 (43) 270-7366

Special thanks to all who submitted articles & Tracy Braun for editing this issue of the newsletter.



Welcome to FALL

Hope you have had a great and peaceful Summer. The Office is now open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday from 10 am—3 pm and Wednesday from 2 pm—7 pm.



We are very grateful to all our donors for their continued support of the important peace work that we do here at Project Ploughshares Calgary. During the month of October, we received \$1,249.15 in donations. Thank You. This is the lifeblood of our organization, please consider PPC your charity of choice.!

We would like to encourage you to continue your support by signing up for a monthly donation plan. This type of sustained donation is very beneficial for the day-to-day running of Project Ploughshares, as we know more clearly from month-to-month exactly what is coming in. This helps us immensely in planning our programs for the year! If you are interested in this option, please contact the office: 403-270-7366, or office@ploughsharescalgary.ca.

Project Ploughshares Calgary

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

___ \$ 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 Project Ploughshares Calgary or go to 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)

PROJECT PLOUGHSHARES' OPEN HOUSE 'CELEBRATING OUR VOLUNTEERS'



SATURDAY DECEMBER 10, 2016

1:00 – 2:00 PM

PARKDALE UNITED CHURCH AUDITORIUM

2919 – 8 AVENUE NW

PLEASE COME OUT TO SUPPORT AND APPLAUD
ALL OUR HARDWORKING VOLUNTEERS
WHO HELP WITH THE PEACE FAIR AND MANY OTHER THINGS
THROUGHOUT THE YEAR!

