



JULY/AUG
2019

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**Please don't
forget: We need
your ongoing
financial support**

Our office will be open during the summer as our planning work continues on upcoming Fall activities such as our conference. Our expenses continue also. If you haven't yet made your 2019 donation, please consider doing so soon.



Floating Lantern Peace Ceremony 2019

Date: August 3, 2019

Time: 8:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Location: Calgary Olympic Plaza

Come experience the breathtaking beauty of lanterns floating on the Olympic Plaza pool and vibrant live music as we remember the 226,000 lives lost in the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki and take a stand for peace on this special commemoration night. We'll release hundreds of lanterns into the pool at Olympic Plaza in solidarity with other groups participating in similar events around the globe. Bring your family and friends and launch your lanterns with your own special message on them for peace and goodwill. Lanterns will be available to rent for a \$5 donation; this is a free, family event.

Program of Events

Multicultural children and youth choirs

Youth speakers

Keynote address by the Very Reverend Bill Phipps

Calgary Women's Chorus with Cody Obst

Greetings of peace from mayors around the world

Write your message of peace on a lantern, light it, and float it in the pool



- ❖ On June 25, 2019, the Government of Canada announced that the Canadian Armed Forces, in partnership with the Roméo Dallaire Child Soldiers Initiative, is establishing the Dallaire Centre of Excellence for Peace and Security within the Canadian Defence Academy. The Centre of Excellence's initial focus will be to support the Canadian Armed Forces' implementation of the Vancouver Principles on Peacekeeping and the Prevention of the Recruitment and Use of Child Soldiers. The Department of National Defence will also contribute \$1.175 million to the Roméo Dallaire Child Soldiers Initiative to conduct research and identify lessons learned and best practices regarding preventing the recruitment and use of child soldiers. See [link](#).
- ❖ On June 11, Swedish Foreign Minister Margot Wallström was the host for a high level meeting in Stockholm aimed at focusing attention on nuclear risks and the nuclear disarmament commitments made by States' parties to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). However, while most countries were represented by their Foreign Ministers, Canada's Foreign Minister, Chrystia Freeland, did not attend. See [Meeting on Ceasefire.ca](#).
- ❖ Canada is in the final stages of becoming a member of the Global Arms Treaty, and Canadian civil societies including Project Ploughshares applauded this move. However, this action occurs against the controversy surrounding Canada's continuing export of light armoured vehicles to Saudi Arabia, despite that country's record of internal repression and war crimes in Yemen. See [Arms Trade Treaty](#) in this [Ceasefire.ca](#) article.
- ❖ On June 12, 2019, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced that Jacqueline O'Neill has been appointed as Canada's first ambassador for women, peace, and security. This is a full-time appointment for the next three years. Ms. O'Neill previously advised the government on its women, peace, and security policies. See [O'Neill](#).
- ❖ On June 5, 2019, the Roméo Dallaire Child Soldiers Initiative (Dallaire Initiative) and Child Soldiers International (CSI) announced that the Dallaire Initiative is taking over the international programs from CSI, which is officially closing its operations on June 7, 2019. CSI was a UK-based partner in the fight against the recruitment and use of child soldiers. Both CSI and the Dallaire Initiative have championed the belief that it is immoral for adults to use children in war. See [News Release](#).
- ❖ This June 7, 2019, article in *The Guardian* reports that 4 million Venezuelans have now fled the economic and humanitarian chaos taking place in Venezuela. About half of this group have sought shelter in Columbia and Peru, with significant numbers heading to the Caribbean, Central America, Mexico, and the United States. The UN's refugee agency has called this a "staggering" exodus. Some governments have begun introducing more stringent entry guidelines for Venezuelans in an effort to slow the increase. See [Venezuela](#).
- ❖ This article by Tom O'Connor in *Newsweek* outlines the alarming results of a survey showing that one-third of the U.S. population would support nuclear war on North Korea, knowing it would kill more than one million people. See [Newsweek](#).
- ❖ On June 26, 2019, the Canadian government announced initiatives to address violent extremist and terrorist content online. See [Announcement](#).

Save the Date

Ethical Responses to Refugees' Needs

Conference

Saturday, September 21, 2019

9:30 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.

Parkdale United Church

Planning is well underway for the conference “**Ethical Responses to Refugees' Needs**” to be held on Saturday, September 21st (which is also the International Day of Peace). This conference will be hosted by the Ploughshares Calgary Society in collaboration with the Calgary Catholic Immigration Society (CCIS), the Mennonite Central Committee Alberta (MCCA), and the African Community Association Calgary. The event will be held at Parkdale United Church and feature local experts on immigration speaking on various key issues surrounding refugees, sponsorship, immigration processes, resettlement, integration, education, employment, language learning, systemic barriers, and more. We look forward to seeing you at this very educational and informative conference. Please stay tuned for more information to come.

Introducing your Board

The Annual General Meeting for the Ploughshares Calgary Society took place on June 12th, at 7:00 p.m., followed by the Very Rev. Bill Phipps' talk on *Expressions of Peace in Dangerous Times*. Thank you to all who attended the meeting. We are also delighted to introduce you to the Ploughshares Calgary Society Board: Trudy Govier, Chairperson; David Boutland, Vice-Chairperson; Gail Stanfield, Treasurer; Kathleen McWilliams, Secretary; Jean Tollefson, Director; Bev DeLong, Director; Sally Hodges, Director; Al Coats, Director; and Shinobu Apple, Honourary Board Member. Sultana Virani also continues as our Program Director. Thanks to all board members and our program director for their ongoing work in championing our society. All board members look forward to a fruitful year sustained by your ongoing moral and financial support.

We wish you a wonderful summer!



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.