

PROJECT
PLOUGHSHARES
CALGARY

Peace News

WWW.PLOUGHSHARESCALGARY.CA



WE ARE
LOCATED:
PARKDALE
UNITED
CHURCH

2919 8 AVE
NW

270-7366

OFFICE
@PLOUGHSHARES
CALGARY.CA

VISIT US:
MON, TUE, THURS

10:30-2:30

WED 2-6PM

PEACE DAY Fri. September 21

Please post attached poster
Let everyone know we're celebrating!

Friday September 21
11:30 Peace Walk starting at Eau Claire Plaza
12-2pm prayer, speakers, entertainment, food
At the "Peace Park" on the river pathway
at 8 St and 2 Ave SW (underground parking on street)

September 11 Marda Loop Film Festival Showing **Peace One Day**
7pm First Christian Reformed Church 3818 14A St SW Last year we showed this film- the story of how one person's dedication created Peace Day. This year the film will be shown at the Marda Loop Film festival and Project Ploughshares will be a part of the panel discussion to talk about the film and what each of us can do for peace. For more information: <http://www.justicefilmfestival.ca/news.php>

October 8th- Rededication of the "Peace Park" Noon - 1:00 PM in or near the Peace Grove (2ⁿAvenue and 8^tStreet NW)

Oct. 10th 7:30pm Monthly Meeting with Diane Janzen & Ali Rezaei
Diane recently returned from working with the Christian Peacemaker Team in Palestine will share her impressions of life on the ground. Ali Rezaei will give a brief history of the region and comment on the current

Singing For Peace: Songs of Joy & Justice

Another year, another excellent peace music concert with Barry Luft.
Barry Luft and the dynamic Sunday Night Band
Friday, October 12, 2007
St. Andrew's United Church 924 Heritage Dr. SW
Tickets \$13 (\$15 at the door, \$8 student & low income)
Benefit Concert for Project Ploughshares Calgary
For Tickets call the office at 270-7366



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Ploughshares Calgary 25th Anniversary

November 2nd at the Village Park Inn

Come celebrate with us. 25 years of making peace possible in Calgary. Ernie Regher O.C. founder of Project Ploughshares will be with us to share our memories and hopes for the future. He will speak about the next steps for peace from a Canadian Perspective.

MP visits to raise concerns about Canada's mission in Afghanistan

We will be visiting our MPs in the fall to discuss Canada's mission in Afghanistan. If you are interested in helping us out by meeting your MP with PPC, please contact the office.

23rd Annual Holiday Peace Fair
November 17, 2007 9:30 am—4pm
St. David's United Church
\$2 Admission Children under 12 free

Buy unique gifts from organizations working for peace, justice and development. Give to a good cause and find great gifts for your friends. A win-win solution to Holiday giving!



Ploughshares Calgary News

We've been working very hard to bring communities together for the Calgary Peace Pole project—creating a monument for peace in our city. If your community would like to be listed as a supporter or would like to donate money to this project please call the office or go on-line to read our brochure at: www.ploughsharescalgary.ca and click on projects.

Puppets for Peace has hired a stage manager and had four puppeteers learning the new script about taking action for peace. We are proud that its citizenship theme links directly with the new Grade 5,6 social studies curriculum. Pass on the website to interested teachers and parents!

www.ploughsharescalgary.ca/puppets



Thanks to everyone who has donated to our special appeal campaign. We have raised around \$5000 during the spring for our special appeal. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

We are now asking you to **Renew your Membership** as usual. We will need donations through the fall to sustain our work. Our new membership rates are \$35/year. Donations above regular member dues are warmly received. Tax receipts will be sent out in early 2007.

Ploughshares National News

Please check out a number of news items on the national website: www.ploughshares.ca

On it includes letters from the churches on the situation in Afghanistan and the transcript from the 30th anniversary, including the talk by Paul Rogers.

You can also link to Ernie Regher's blog articles using the links below:

"Some Canadians want to end the military effort in Afghanistan because isn't working; others want to increase and extend the military effort because it isn't working yet." (July 18th)

<http://www.igloo.org/disarmingconflict/closingt>

"Afghanistan remains a difficult and faltering assignment, but the path to a more effective effort does not run through debates over withdrawal dates." (July 23rd)

<http://www.igloo.org/disarmingconflict/rethinki>

Global News

Sign up for Global News Every Week

The Human Security Report provides news headlines by e-mail or on-line.

To sign up, go to: www.humansecurityinstitute.ca.

The Afghanistan Conflict Monitor is an initiative of the Human Security Report project at Simon Fraser University. The monitor highlights new research and analysis on the conflict in Afghanistan.

You can read the Monitor at <http://hsrp.typepad.com/>

SUDAN: Sudan Accepts UN Resolution on Darfur Force

Sudan ended months of stonewalling by accepting a UN resolution approving a joint African Union-UN peacekeeping force in Darfur where more than 200,000 people have died in four years. After months of diplomatic wrangling aimed at replacing an under-equipped AU force of 7,000, the resolution authorised the world's largest peacekeeping force for what the UN has called the world's greatest humanitarian catastrophe. In addition to the huge death toll, more than one third of Darfur's six-million population has been displaced because of what the United States has branded a genocidal campaign by Khartoum against rebels. The new force, which could begin deploying in October, will take over from the current AU mission to patrol a vast and mostly arid area in western Sudan roughly the size of France. *Agence-France Presse*

IRAQ: US Cannot Account for 190,000 Guns in Iraq: Report

The US government cannot account for 190,000 weapons issued to Iraqi security forces in 2004 and 2005, according to an investigation carried out by the Government Accountability Office. According to the July 31 report, the military "cannot fully account for about 110,000 AK-47 assault rifles, 80,000 pistols, 135,000 items of body armour and 115,000 helmets reported as issued to Iraqi forces." The weapons disappeared from records between June 2004 and September 2005. US commanders often accuse foreign powers such as Iran of supplying arms to illegal militias fighting in Iraq, but the report shows they cannot fully account for the hundreds thousands of weapons they brought in themselves. Last month, Turkey raised concerns over reports that separatist Kurdish guerrillas launching cross-border raids from northern Iraq had received US-supplied guns supposedly destined for Iraqi security forces. *Agence-France Presse*

Russian President Proposes Placing Missile Shield Radar in Russia

On July 2nd, Russian President Vladimir Putin proposed placing a new radar facility in Russia for the European-based US missile defense shield. Russia has adamantly opposed US plans to deploy anti-missile facilities in Poland and the Czech Republic, claiming that they are a threat to Russian security. In the past few months, President Putin has threatened to withdraw from a conventional-forces treaty and implied that Bush's international policies are similar to those of Nazi Germany. Addressing the proposal, the Russian president stated, "There would be no need to place any more facilities in Europe. If Bush accepts, it would transform US-Russian ties. The relations between our two countries would be raised to an entirely new level. Gradually, our relations would become those of a strategic partnership nature." Although the newest proposal caught Bush and his advisors off-guard, Putin had previously suggested using a radar facility in Azerbaijan instead of building a facility in the Czech Republic. US officials argued that the Azerbaijan facility would be too antiquated to target incoming missiles. Responding to US officials at this most recent meeting, Putin stated that Russia would modernize the Azerbaijan facility or build an entirely new facility in southern Russia if needed. President Bush called Putin's proposal "very constructive and bold," but would not stop plans to install systems in Poland and the Czech Republic. The Bush administration's plan for a missile defense shield also faced opposition in Congress this month when a committee cut the \$139 million request for a missile interceptor system in Poland. **Source: Baker, Peter, "Putin Proposes Broader Cooperation on Missile Defense," Washington Post, 3 July 2007.**



Project Ploughshares Calgary

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In Memory of Gayle Laird



Long time Ploughshares member, former chairperson and one of the instigators of the Puppets for Peace, Gayle Laird passed away on July 28th. Below are letters from Ploughshares members who worked with her. Her family asked for donations to be given in her name to Ploughshares Calgary.

We are continuing to receive donations in tribute to Gayle.

I met Gayle in 1989, in the early years of Educators for the Environment, Peace and Social Justice. I soon learned of her knowledge of Eastern and Western perspectives on peace and her belief that there can be no outer peace without inner peace. These fully developed ideas about peace were startling in those days and she put her philosophy into practice, helping with five of the annual elementary students' 'Guardians of the Planet' Conferences. She was a cheerful, committed fellow worker with lots of good ideas. In 1999 she became the chairperson for the Project Ploughshares' anti-bullying programs which took form partly due to her guidance.

She chaired the Puppets for Peace program until June 2004, when, with characteristic clarity, she chose to move on to other things. She continued to be a resource to us, willing to run workshops and attend occasional functions. One very worthwhile resource Gayle developed was a manual that taught teachers how to handle aggressive students. Gayle can be seen with Puppets for Peace on the website celebrating the attainment of the 2005 YMCA Peace medal. Puppets for Peace has greatly benefited from her leadership, dedication and vision. We will sorely miss her.

Sally Hodges

I have known Gail Laird for nearly five years and was so saddened to know of her untimely passing. She had such a genuine commitment with Puppets for Peace and although so stepped down last year as a member of the committee, she was always available for us to consult with her. She truly will be missed for her dedication to Puppets for Peace as well as Project Ploughshares.

Helen Negrave, Steering Committee, PFP

I first met Gayle when I became involved with Puppets For Peace. I soon realized that she was an integral part of this organization. I admired her professionalism as we discussed the on-going issues of this committee and any other communication that she and I shared. Her eyes sparkled as she shared her passion of peace.

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

Here is my one time donation

\$25 ___ (includes 1 yr to newsletter)

\$50 ___ \$100 ___ \$500 ___ Other \$ ___

I'd like to become a Friend of Ploughshares

And give a monthly donation

(include void cheque)

___ \$10 ___ \$15 ___ \$20 ___ \$25 Other \$ ___

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____

E-mail: _____

I felt she was a very gracious and humble lady. She didn't seem to want or expect recognition for a passionate belief. I was impressed with her energy, because I knew that she was involved in a number of other personal business endeavors. THE INFECTIOUS SMILE...need I say more! During the Service of Celebration I realized that she touched and had a profound impact on people from all walks of life! Personally, I was very moved and realized that I too had been moved by this remarkable woman. Many Calgary schools are working towards becoming safe, comfortable and peaceful places, thanks to Gayle and her vision. She will truly be missed!

- Lori Teneycke

I met Gayle in 1998 when she and Sally Hodges hired me as coordinator for Project Ploughshares Anti-bullying Drama Project. Later, Gayle came up with the idea of using puppets for our school presentations. Voila! "Puppets for Peace" was born! As chairperson of our committee, Gayle had a knack for keeping us on track and focused on our goals. She was a self professed "Big-Picture" person and would not let little set backs and small details bog us down. I recall spending hours writing a grant proposal and as the deadline drew near, one obstacle after another threatened to ruin our chances of meeting the deadline. I phoned Gayle in a panic. Her calm response was, "Catherine, you can only concern yourself about those things that you can control." I was instantly reassured. Years later, I use this advice often in my life as a wife, mother and teacher. I know that Gayle will be deeply missed by many - she was so involved in various activities and made so many friends. She made a significant mark in this world and I, for one, have benefited from knowing her.

Catherine Ranger

Special Thanks to Sylvia Hawkins, Tracey Pickup and Sally Hodges for proof-reading and editing this issue!