

PROJECT  
PLOUGHSHARES  
CALGARY

# Peace News

JULY/AUGUST 2014



In compliance with Canada's new anti-spam legislation, we are asking all our subscribers to please send us back a short email saying 'subscribe' to confirm that you would like to stay on our mailing list. We are working on a new system over the summer, so that by September if you wish to unsubscribe, you can easily do so by simply pushing the 'unsubscribe' button. Thank you so much for your cooperation!

We are located:  
Parkdale United  
Church  
2919 8<sup>th</sup> Ave NW  
T2N 1C8

403-270-7366

Office hours:  
Mon Tues & Wed  
10:00 am - 4:00 pm



## CALGARY PEACE RUN & WALK FESTIVAL

**August 6th** - 8:30 -10:30 PM, **Hiroshima/Nagasaki Memorial Lantern Event** - Olympic Plaza  
**August 23rd** - 12 - 1:30 PM, **Yoga for Peace**, Calgary Community Peace Pole  
**September 20th** - 10:00 AM Race Start, **Calgary Peace Run & Walk Festival**, Festival Square Market, Eau Claire.

The **Calgary Peace Run & Walk Festival** draws together people from all traditions and beliefs to bring us a step closer to a "just world at peace." This run and walk is designed to promote healthy lifestyles and to highlight the importance of peaceful relationships—locally, nationally, and globally. Please join us in making the 3rd Annual Calgary Peace Run & Walk Festival both a celebration of peace and a catalyst for peaceful living in our city.

To register online, please go to the Running Room's [website](#). If you would prefer to pay by cash or cheque, you can contact Karen at 403-270-7366 or [office@ploughsharescalgary.ca](mailto:office@ploughsharescalgary.ca) to receive a registration form. Please check out the Calgary Peace Run & Walk website at [calgarypeacerun.ca](http://calgarypeacerun.ca) to see the latest updates!

The proceeds from our race this year will go to the following worthwhile projects:

### Peace Programming in Calgary Schools

We plan to create a 'Locally Developed Course' (LDC) for southern Alberta senior high schools on competencies in violent conflict prevention, conflict resolution, mediation and the principles of change. This course will support students becoming 'engaged thinkers and ethical citizens' as outlined by Alberta Education.

### Hiroshima/Nagasaki Memorial Lantern Event

This event memorializes all those who suffered and died in the atomic bomb attacks on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Calgary Olympic Plaza, August 6th. The Hon. Douglas Roche, O.C. will speak.

### Peaceful Parenting and Nature-Based Toys

This community event will engage both parents and children in exploring peaceful play while highlighting the importance of nonviolence in our day-to-day relationships.

# Ploughshares News



## Donations

Spring is our time for annual giving to Ploughshares! Ploughshares received \$1000 during the month of June from individuals and we sincerely thank them

for their support. We count on your regular support to continue our important work for peace education and peacebuilding in Calgary. Details on how to donate can be found at [ploughsharescalgary.ca/support-us/donate.html](http://ploughsharescalgary.ca/support-us/donate.html) or use the form on page 4.

## Memorial Lantern Event, 8:30 - 10:30 PM Wednesday August 6th, Olympic Plaza



This event memorializes all those who suffered and died in the atomic bomb attacks on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Sen. Douglas Roche, O.C. will be the keynote speaker. There will be music as well as the opportunity for people to put together their own memorial lantern and learn how to make origami cranes.



## Beyond the WW1 Centenary Celebrations AGM June 4th 7 - 9 PM, Parkdale United Church

War doesn't just impact those directly involved, but also those who are at a distance. 20 people engaged in dialogue after hearing a bit of history about the impacts of WWI on three different groups of people

(women, labour unions, and First Nations people) from our incoming chair, Tracey Braun. The evening ended with an incredible song by Taloolah Bliss, "Not By Me" that stressed the fact that we need to be active in conveying our abhorrence for war and injustice everywhere.

## Special Workshop - Local and Global Justice Education Wednesday June 18th, 4 - 9 PM

Facilitated by **Toh Swee-Hin**, Ph.D., (U of A), Distinguished Professor, University for Peace, Costa Rica & Laureate, UNESCO Prize for Peace Education and **Virginia Cawagas**, Ed.D. (Notre Dame), Professor and Head, Dept. of Peace & Conflict Studies, University for Peace, Costa Rica

Our spring workshop was attended by 25 people who learned about the elements of creating a culture of peace (holism, dialogue, values formation, and critical empowerment) as well as alternative perspective and approaches to the issue of social justice.

One of the most powerful activities during the evening was an exercise entitled "*Stepping into the Shoes of the Marginalized*", where each person was given a role to play (poor farmer, fisherfolk, Indigenous person, etc.) and was asked to tell a story from that perspective: "What was your day-to-day life like? What about education, food, medical care? How were you treated by employers/owners?" This was an emotionally-charged exercise and made people think from a very different perspective about the lives of others in a new way.

Participants learned that good works alone do not change the systems and structures that promote marginalization and oppression. Structural violence encompasses the root causes of hunger and poverty and is endemic within our social systems and institutions. We often hear about the importance of development, which takes on so many different meanings dependent on where people are in their own life situations. The Peace Paradigm of Development is based on a system that is participatory, equitable, appropriate (to the context), promotes critical empowerment, and promotes ecological sustainability. For those seeking a just world for all, these are some of the characteristics we need to strive for. Thanks to Virginia Cawagas and See-Hin Toh for a very enlightening and aware-raising workshop!



## Upcoming Calgary Peace Events

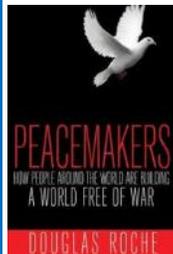
**Wednesday, August 6, 11.30 am to 1 pm**

**Parkdale United Church, 2919 8 Ave NW Calgary T2N 1C8**

**A special invitation to you to a Calgary launch and lunch for Douglas Roche and to hear his words in person.**



Join Douglas Roche, O.C. as he celebrates the launch of *Peacemakers: How people around the world are building a world free of war*. In *Peacemakers*, parliamentarian, former Canadian Ambassador and Senator Douglas Roche shows how hard-headed but idealistic people around the globe - both those in high offices and ordinary citizens - are working to rid the world of war.



\$15/person, \$8 seniors or low income. Books for sale at the event.

**RSVP with cash or cheque made out to Project Ploughshares Calgary by July 31, 2014. Send to above address or arrange with Sally at [sjhodges@telus.net](mailto:sjhodges@telus.net).**

Senator Roche will be in Calgary August 6 for the book launch and to speak at the Hiroshima Day Lantern Memorial event 8.30pm at Olympic Plaza.

## Calgary - City of Harmony Project August 9 - 17, 2014, Various Locations

The event is comprised of several workshops that will provide experiential learning to the participants in sustainable agriculture, eco-building, community gardens, nuclear disarmament, the beginnings of a Harmony Café, as well as a workshop on Co-Existentialism - a philosophy of living in harmony and right relationship with all beings.

For more information and a complete schedule of events, please contact Mahendra Singh at [jivanvidya@gmail.com](mailto:jivanvidya@gmail.com)



## 8th Fire Gathering

**August 15 - 17, 2014**

**MacEwan Hall, University of Calgary**

*The Prophecy of the 8th Fire:*

*"They will come to a fork in the road. One road will lead to Materialism and Destruction.....for almost all living creatures....The other road will lead to a Spiritual Way upon which the Native People will be standing...This path will lead to the lighting of the 8th fire, a period of eternal peace, harmony and a "New Earth" where the destruction of the past will be healed."* - Anishnabe Prophecy

**The 8th Fire Gathering** will be three days of inspiring speakers, powerful performances, informative sessions, interactive workshops, and engaging activities.

The focus of The 8th Fire Gathering will include presenting and sharing information on Idle No More, Human Rights Issues, Workers & Union Rights, Aboriginal Treaty Rights, Indigenous Sovereignty and Canadian Sovereignty, the Environment, Community Activism, Progressive Politics, 2015 Federal Vote, and the future of Canada.

The goal of the 8th Fire Gathering is to share knowledge, experience, insights, and information; build relationships and expand networks; and inspire, empower and enable people with the tools and knowledge required to take action and make positive change. Collaboration is the driving force behind the 8th Fire Gathering; individuals and organizations are each an integral part of that powerful dynamic. For more information and to register, visit [www.8thfiregathering.ca/](http://www.8thfiregathering.ca/).



**Project Ploughshares Calgary**

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

**MIND WITHOUT FEAR** (*Gitanjali*, Verse 35) - Tagore  
 Where the mind is without fear and the head is held high;  
 Where knowledge is free;  
 Where the world has not been broken up  
     into fragments by narrow domestic walls;  
 Where words come out from the depth of truth;  
 Where tireless striving stretches its arms towards perfection;  
 Where the clear stream of reason has not lost its way  
     into the dreary desert sand of dead habit;  
 Where the mind is led forward by thee into ever-widening  
     thought and action—  
 Into that heaven of freedom, my Father, let my country awake.

**Recent Articles of Interest**

**U.S. Nearly Used Nukes During Viet Nam War**

**Marjorie Cohn - June 11, 2014**

<http://www.counterpunch.org/2014/06/11/u-s-nearly-used-nukes-during-viet-nam-war/#.U5iOwxT5K0k.email>

**An Unprecedented Radiation Disaster: Fukushima's Ongoing Fallout**

**John LaForge, Weekend Edition, June 20 - 22, 2014**

<http://www.counterpunch.org/2014/06/20/fukushimas-ongoing-fallout/>

**Iraq and Syria - The struggle against the multi-sided counterrevolution**

**Michael Karadjis, June 25, 2014**

[mkaradjis.wordpress.com/2014/06/25/iraq-and-syria-the-struggle-against-the-multi-sided-counterrevolution/](http://mkaradjis.wordpress.com/2014/06/25/iraq-and-syria-the-struggle-against-the-multi-sided-counterrevolution/)



**Project Ploughshares Calgary**

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

<input type="checkbox"/>	\$50	<input type="checkbox"/>	I'd like to make a
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$100	<input type="checkbox"/>	monthly donation
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$250	<input type="checkbox"/>	of \$_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$500	<input type="checkbox"/>	I'd like to volunteer
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$1000		
<input type="checkbox"/>	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](http://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)**