

PROJECT
PLOUGHSHARES
CALGARY

Peace News

APRIL 2015



We are located:

Parkdale United
Church
2919 8th Ave NW
T2N 1C8

403-270-7366

Office hours:

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

Peacing It Together

Calgary Youth Speak Up

Saturday April 25, 2015 – 9:30 AM – 4:00 PM

St. David's United Church

3303 Capitol Hill Cres NW (across from University C-Train station)



Acting for Change

Facilitated by Ronnie Joy Leah
Expressive Arts Practitioner, Workshop
Facilitator, Community Activist

Hip-Hop Entertainment

Axiom

Conversations with Youth

Facilitated by Firyal Mohamed

Creative Time

Small group planning for a peace and social justice project or action




Janyce Konkin
403-803-5320
janyce.konkin@ca.iofc.org


Karen Huggins
403-270-7366
office@ploughsharescalgary.ca

Tickets: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/peacing-it-together-calgary-youth-speak-up-tickets-16386919718>

Ploughshares News



Women & Peacebuilding: Organizing for Social Change Wednesday March 11, 2015

Project Ploughshares was delighted to have two people speak to the topic of women and peacebuilding. Devan Kublik of Canadian Women4Women Afghanistan shared how the organization works in Afghanistan, and the importance of building schools, libraries, and training teachers to work with Afghani girls. Women in Canada work tirelessly to raise awareness as well as funds for the programs developed in Afghanistan, including their Breaking Bread events, a volunteer fundraising initiative to support education for Afghan women and girls wherein supporters hold pot luck dinners in their homes and communities across Canada. Over 1,400 Breaking Bread Dinners and events have been held all across Canada since 2002. For more info, please see their website at <http://www.cw4wafghan.ca>.

Dr. Ronnie Joy Leah shared information about Women in Black, of which she was one of the founding members in Calgary. She also talked about the importance of women organizing for social change, noting that it is generally a partnership of shared power and cooperation. Women in Black has no hierarchical structure, and operates on a consensus model. She had the audience participate in some interactive exercises regarding what peace means to them, and ended her part of the session with a moment of silence and sharing. You can read more about Women in Black at <http://womeninblack.org/>



2015 Symposium - Parkdale United Church Friday March 27 - Sunday March 29

This year's highly successful Symposium attracted presenters from Pakistan, Nigeria, Colombia, Japan, the U.S., as well as from across Canada. This year's Symposium was co-chaired by Dr. Arthur Clark and Dr. Izzeldin Abuelaish, a Palestinian physician and an internationally recognized human rights and inspirational peace activist.



The keynote speaker was Ernie Regehr OC, co-founder of Project Ploughshares and a Canadian peace researcher and expert in security and disarmament. The title of his address was "Fighting to Lose: The Limits of Military Force". He spoke about the definition of war, and showed maps and shared data that detailed how wars, over a period of time, are actually diminishing globally. One of his primary theses was that military force does not end wars, and more often leads to escalation of conflicts.

Dr. Abuelaish's closing speech was both riveting and deeply emotional. His major points follow - (courtesy of Janyce Konkin): (1) It is now more dangerous to be a woman than an active soldier in war torn areas (due to rape, killing of innocent civilians, drone attacks, abductions, etc.). (2) No one in the world is free as long as someone else is not. (3) The cry of a newborn baby is a cry of hope. (4) I taught my daughters to be human, to be armed with education, and with humanity. (5) Education is the light that leads to the truth. Truth goes along with responsibility. (6) Take responsibility for everything in your life. Ask 'what can I do to make a difference?' Don't be silent. speak out. (7) Stop the bloodshed. Replace it with justice. We all bleed the same colour. ((9) Women are agents of change in this world. Women are the balance our world needs. Women and men are meant to complement each other at all levels. (10) All of us have the right to live from the moment we are born. We all win when we recognize this.

The Symposium featured a wide variety of topics related to human security that left attendees feeling energized and eager to work on some facet of establishing a truly healthy global community.



Upcoming Peace Education Presentations
Parkdale United Church, 2919 - 8 Avenue NW. 7 - 8:30 PM



Wednesday May 13, 2015 - Film Night & Discussion.
Pray the Devil Back to Hell.

Pray the Devil Back to Hell chronicles the remarkable story of the courageous Liberian women who came together to end a bloody civil war and bring peace to their shattered country. A story of sacrifice, unity and transcendence, *Pray the Devil Back to Hell* honors the strength and perseverance of the women of Liberia. Inspiring, uplifting, and most of all motivating, it is a compelling testimony of how grassroots activism can alter the history of nations.

Wednesday June 10, 2015 - Ploughshares AGM



Please remember Project Ploughshares in planning your yearly giving. We are so appreciative of your donations that help us keep the doors open of your local Peace Education Organization!

The month of March saw \$85 in donations. We need your help to maintain some of the best peace education programs and activities

in the city! Thanks so much for your consideration of Project Ploughshares.

Young Women's Peace Camp
August 25 - 29, 2015 near Nelson, B.C.



Young women 13 - 35 years old Meet women working for peace in different ways in their communities and the world! Build confidence in powerful and clear communication skills. Make friends, plan peacemaking events and express and enjoy yourself in a beautiful natural environment.

Info: 250-505-4122, peacecampnelson@gmail.com
 Early bird registration to May 30th. Email for application.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

for this annual fundraising event featuring locally-made Spolumbos sausage. This year's fundraiser will be held in

April/May, with delivery in May. If you would like a great volunteer opportunity that involves limited time and meeting lots of great people, this is the job for you! If interested, please call Sally at 403-247-1653 or email office@ploughsharescalgary.ca. Please see order form at the end of this newsletter.



Calgary Centre for Global Community and the Consortium for Peace Studies at the **University of Calgary** are offering these seminars with the goal of introducing participants to basic principles of peace and global citizenship.

Seminar Topics & Dates:

- Building a Community Response to Climate Change - Thursday April 30, 2015
- Social Activism Across Borders - Thursday May 28, 2015
- Social Entrepreneurship to Transform Culture, Economy and the Environment - Thursday June 25, 2015

For more info and to register, please go to <http://www.calgarycgc.org/seminars-in-peace--global-citizenship.html>



"Nonviolence is the answer to the crucial political and moral questions of our time; the need for mankind to overcome oppression and violence without resorting to oppression and violence. Mankind must evolve for all human conflict a method which rejects revenge, aggression, and retaliation. The foundation of such a method is love."~ Martin Luther **King**

Upcoming Calgary Peace Events

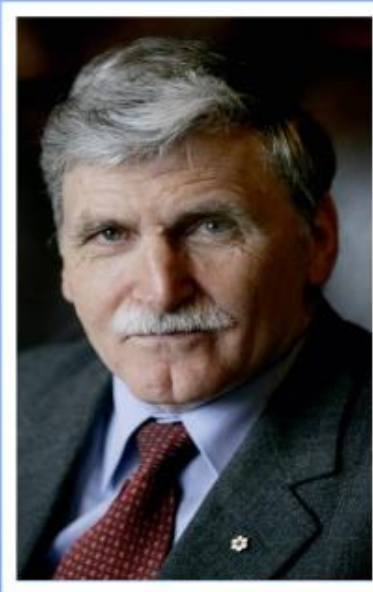
Calgary Peace Prize

Honouring

Lieutenant-General The Honourable
Roméo Dallaire

Please join us for this years Calgary Peace Prize celebration to recognize General Dallaire's many contributions in the areas of human rights, genocide prevention, mental health, and the prevention of the recruitment and use of child-soldiers.

The Calgary Peace Prize was established in 2007 to recognize outstanding individuals from the global community, who work toward making the world a just, safer and less violent place.



Reception and Award
Ceremony

6:00 to 7:15pm

Tickets: \$100 and Includes a
\$50 charitable donation

Award Ceremony Only

(Speech and Q & A)

7:30 to 9:30pm

Regular: \$35
Student & Low Income: \$20

Thursday, April 9th 2015

Presented By:



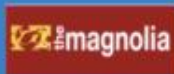
TICKETS AVAILABLE

Scan Code for Details



Call: (403) 457-5534

Email: operations@calgarycgc.org



NEW PROJECT PLOUGHSHARES INITIATIVE - WRITING FOR PEACE

Attention all you literary and artistic people! We would love for you to submit your work for inclusion in a booklet that we would like to have ready for next fall - in time for you to give a copy to a loved one as a holiday, birthday or anniversary gift. We're accepting essays, poetry, art, short stories...if you would like to be a part of this new initiative, please send your work to **Karen at Project Ploughshares Calgary, 2919 - 8 Ave. NW, Calgary T2N 1C8,** or email it to: office@ploughsharescalgary.ca



We would love to hear from you and put together a meaningful and locally-developed booklet based on your own feelings about war and peace.

To kickstart this project, here is a piece recently written by our Program Director, Karen Huggins.

Moving to Peace

by Karen Huggins



The year was 1991. Operation Desert Storm was the name of the invasion. Such value-laden yet ambiguous names these wars were given...Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation Liberate Kuwait, Operation Friction (the Canadian name for Desert Storm). Names that might lead young men and women to think they were fighting for something good and pure...the 'just war' theory come to life.

My nephew from Ohio was there in Iraq – a proud marine fighting for truth, justice and the American way. He was just 20, with a young wife and two little girls at home. Too young to be fighting wars. I remember watching the news night after night - wanting to see my nephew, to reach out to him through the screen. It was filled with video game images of a war being waged right before my eyes, against an entire nation of people...people like you and me...people who loved their children and just wanted the best for them. This was a war that, seen on the television screen, looked impersonal, far-away, giving a fireworks-like impression that could make the viewer forget that there were real people being killed and wounded every day. I was often in tears, sitting cross-legged in front of the screen after I had put my babies to bed, not wanting them to see my grief and absolute rage at what was happening.

I developed a deep political sensibility during the Vietnam era. I was a senior in high school when four students were shot and killed by the National Guard at Kent State University. These were kids shooting other kids because of ideological differences, because of fear, because of listening to orders instead of thinking critically for themselves. This was the time when I began watching the news – seeing horrific images of Vietnamese villagers being bombed with napalm, seeing friends return from Vietnam with deep psychological, if not physical, wounds. I still remember well the iconic image of the young Vietnamese girl after being hit by napalm - an agent used in flamethrowers, bombs and tanks that sticks to the skin and causes severe burning. I struggled to see how this was in any way an effective or humane way to solve conflict.

As a result of my developing awareness of the horrors of war, I campaigned tirelessly as a young high school and university student against the insanity of this, or any, war. I pushed back against the system that promoted war as a means to resolve problems, felt frustration, sadness, anger at the shocking acts of violence I was seeing around me. I knew that there had to be an alternative to this insanity, to the inhumane ways in which humans treated one another... and I was quite keen on seeking out that alternative.

No longer wanting my heart to be broken with pain and grief, I made the decision to dedicate my life to working towards peace. After a long and circuitous path I arrived at Project Ploughshares Calgary (PPC), a place where people who care deeply about peace can meet, share their concerns and interests and be heard. Where working together in constructive and life-affirming ways in such a group, we can create the peaceful and just world that we all want. I now hold the position of Program Director with Project Ploughshares Calgary where I can use the peacebuilding skills I'd been honing over the years.

Martin Luther King has been one of my inspirations and his work a motivating factor in studying and working in the field of peace and conflict transformation. As he said, *"Almost always, the creative dedicated minority has made the world better."*

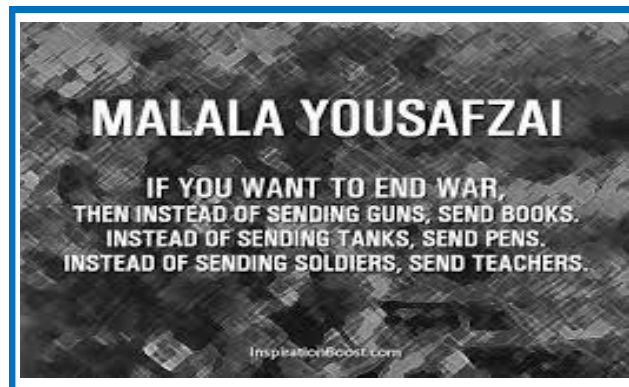


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Special thanks to Karen Huggins & Tracey Braun for their work writing and editing this issue of the newsletter.



Harmony Café
CommunityWise, 223 - 12 Ave SW
Sunday April 12th, Noon - 4:00 PM

Delicious vegetarian food, important dialogue, amazing people!
 Don't miss this opportunity!
 Bring the whole family for an afternoon of sharing, friendship,
 good music and children's activities.

Please visit our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/events/395093220643348/> for more info.

A collaborative program: Centre for Harmonious Coexistence, Initiatives of Change, Project Ploughshares, Intercultural Dialogue Institute, and the Calgary Centre for Global Community



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 **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)



SPOLUMBO SAUSAGES FOR SPRING, ORDER NOW!!

Deadline for ordering: **Monday April 27, 2015**

Orders ready: **Thursday May 21, 2015**

Spolumbos is kindly making a Project Ploughshares fundraiser possible with eight types of their delicious, renowned sausages and burgers. All sausages and burgers are free of the following: gluten – MSG – binders - fillers – preservatives – eggs - dairy – nuts - nitrates. A Calgary homegrown business and 100% prime Alberta pork and poultry. Great savings over store prices for you!! Trays contain 18 fresh sausage-links.

Burgers (patties) are back to the 165 g size, and they come 36 to a box.

Burgers come frozen and are only available in the case quantity.

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
200	Maple Breakfast Sausage	39.70		79.30	
902	Chorizo Pork Sausage	39.60		79.10	
904	English Banger Pork Sausage	38.20		76.40	
909	Mild Italian Sausage	37.00		73.90	
911	Spicy Italian Sausage	37.00		69.50	
930	Chicken Apple Sausage	43.00		86.00	
951	Turkey Cranberry Sausage	44.50		88.50	
9212	Spolumbo's Burgers	N/A		95.75	
SUB-TOTALS					
GRAND TOTAL DUE					

You will be called or emailed about the exact day of availability closer to the day. Spolumbos requires two weeks to four weeks to process the order. **PICK UP LOCATION:** Distribution will be in Varsity.

If you would like to pay on-line for your sausages, please go to our website, www.ploughsharescalgary.ca go to 'Support Us', then 'Donate' to pay via PayPal!

(Be sure to mail or email your form in so we have your order as well as your money)!

OR

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 24 Varston Place NW
Calgary, AB T3A 0B7
Sally – 403-247-1653

Thank you for supporting the cause of peace!
Help us find more customers?!

