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### Our Mission

The Boundary Peace Initiative represents a growing number of area residents of diverse backgrounds brought together over the Iraqi crisis.

We support multilateral action for non-violent conflict resolution, human rights, ecological integrity for the planet and international law, through education and dialogue locally and globally.

We encourage everyone's participation as we strive for peace and justice to build a better world for future generations.

**BPI web site: [www.boundarypeace.20m.com](http://www.boundarypeace.20m.com)**

**Boundary Peace Initiative meets on the 2nd & 4th Thursday @ 7 pm in the Slavonic Seniors Center on 72<sup>nd</sup> Ave. & 7<sup>th</sup> Street**

### Canadian Catholic Organization for Development & Peace

**Presented at Sacred Heart Church, Grand Forks, November 17 & 18, 2012 by Joyce Vaugeois**

*Ed. Note: We received this article too late for the Dec. issue. This article speaks to the fact that there are many working for peace and social/economic justice by addressing the issue of poverty. We need to support each other and work together.*

Good Evening (Morning).

It is time again for the Fall Education and Action Campaign of Development and Peace. It was originally intended to carry on with the five-year program on Ecological Justice. For a number of reasons the focus of the campaign has been changed for this year.

This year October 11th marked the fiftieth anniversary of Vatican Council II. In addition Pope Benedict the XVI at the same time declared the beginning of a Year of Faith. It has been decided that the Fall Program this year should try to help people become more aware of the Social Teachings of our faith. It is hoped that if people appreciate the social teachings of our faith, that we may be able to influence our politicians and government. We want to seek peace through the authentic integral development of people. This should be done, rather than through force of arms or the ever increasing desire to produce more goods and make more money.

As Paul VI said in his encyclical, *Populorum Progressio*, authentic development "cannot be restricted to economic growth alone." "It must foster development of each person and of the whole person." It must help other human beings find fulfillment through being able to live fully human lives mentally, physically and spiritually?

This is the year of faith, and an integral part of our faith is the social teachings of the church. Catholic social teaching is a collection of teachings that are designed to reflect the Church's social mission in response to the challenges of the day. (Continued next column)

### (From last column) Development & Peace

The teachings are rooted in biblical values and reflections on Christian tradition. This tradition calls all members of the Church, rich and poor alike, to work to eliminate the occurrence and effect of poverty, to speak out against injustice, and to shape a more caring society and a more peaceful world.

"The work for social justice is first and foremost a work of faith, a profoundly religious task. It is Jesus who calls us to this mission, not any political or ideological agenda."

Sometimes governments do support aspects of authentic development. At other times governments give in to pressure to promote economic interests and to exclude or downplay the total development of those who we interact with in the world. We need to be aware of how governments are managing development aid and to encourage our government to promote world peace by supporting the total authentic development of peoples.

Can peace be attained through force of arms or through purely economic development, or should it be promoted by helping other human beings find fulfillment through being able to live fully human lives, mentally, physically and spiritually? We, through Development and Peace have been working for peace by helping others to attain their full potential as God intends. Changes in the amount and nature of government support and participation will greatly limit what organizations like D&P can do. We need to encourage our government to support authentic development, which "must foster the development of each person and of the whole person." (Paul VI *Populorum Progressio*)

Over the next few weeks we will be including in the bulletins some things to think about with regard to this year's Fall Education and Action Campaign.

### To Do

Watch for announcements on activities of **Idle No More** in the Boundary. The BPI endorses, supports and will participate with our Aboriginal/Indigenous brothers and sisters. We urge all to join us.



February brings the **No Boundaries Film Festival**, so watch for info on dates. The BPI asks our members to contact Laura at 442-0434 to volunteer your time and donate food for our concession and lunch at the event.

## **Steelworkers Humanity Fund: Confronting Global Mining Power in Mozambique**

*Ed. Note: This article is re-printed with permission from the Steelworkers Union. We encourage Boundary union members, as well as individuals, to contribute to the fund.*

Supported by the Steelworkers Humanity Fund, the USW is engaging in global mining struggles like never before.

The Humanity Fund's crucial role was reinforced at the Steelworkers' Mining Conference, held in Toronto in June, which focused on the global abuses of huge mining companies.

Conference guest Andrew Vickers, Mining and Energy Sector Secretary of the Australia's CFMEU union, exposed a common strategy of mining transnationals:

No third parties – in other words, no unions.

Production in remote enclaves, often fly-in, fly-out, free from public scrutiny or organizing drives.

A push to make health and safety purely a management task.

Propaganda campaigns to sell the idea that modern mining can be sustainable and companies should be self-regulating.

Capital-intensive mining, few highly skilled workers and heavy use of contractors and foreign workers.

Extracting highly favourable deals from governments.

Vickers' presentation resonated strongly with recent experiences of Canadian miners.

After taking over Inco, Brazilian giant Vale – intent on weakening unions in Canada – provoked lengthy strikes in Sudbury and Port Colborne, Ont., and Voisey's Bay, NL. Rio Tinto, which took over Alcan, locked out Steelworkers in Alma, Que., to try to replace unionized jobs with contractors.

In developing countries, where inexperienced workers, union activists and communities are confronted head-on by these mining giants, help from the Steelworkers Humanity Fund is vital.

A prime example is the coal-mining boom in Mozambique, where Vale and Rio Tinto are major players.

The Humanity Fund has promoted exchanges in which Brazilian and Canadian Vale miners visit Mozambique to help local workers and communities build capacity to deal with big mining companies. The Humanity Fund also has sponsored visits to Canada by Mozambique union activists to attend health and safety courses hosted by USW District 3 in Kimberley, B.C.

In Mozambique's Tete coalfields, the displacement of residents from their lands and livelihoods to allow open-pit mining has been even more explosive than workers' struggles.

Vale claims its resettlement program was highly successful. But people who were forcibly resettled disagree. They have demanded the company and government fulfill broken promises of land, water and energy, compensation for lost property and repairs of new houses that had leaking roofs and cracking walls after the first rainy season.

When no response was forthcoming, earlier this year community members blocked the railway line carrying coal to port. Protest actions also were carried out in Mozambique by those resettled by Rio Tinto.

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## **(From last column) Humanity Fund**

Similar protests against Vale have occurred in Brazil, including a blockade of a Vale rail line in September.

Humanity Fund work in the Tete coalfields includes support for the Baobab Labour and Community Centre, which provides training for labour, human rights and community activists.

In South Africa, the Humanity Fund has long supported the International Labour Resource and Information Group and now works with Bench-Marks, an ecumenical initiative on corporate social responsibility, particularly in the mining sector.

The shocking deaths this summer of 39 South African miners at the Lonmin platinum mine came as no surprise to Bench-Marks.

Bench-Marks carried out a study of South African platinum mines in 2007 and highlighted key problems at Lonmin operations, including numerous fatalities, appalling living conditions for workers and the negative impact of mining on local farming.

Lonmin's workers live in improvised shacks with broken-down sewage systems and no electricity. Almost one-third of Lonmin's workforce is contracted labour, creating tensions with local community demands for jobs.

Unions worldwide are confronted by the sheer power of mining transnationals that are typically supported by right-wing governments. Traditional union representation and bargaining relationships are challenged by mining companies' use of contractors, foreign experts on short-term contracts, ghost workers and labour brokers.

Unions are challenged to expand their traditional focus on their members and pursue the strategic necessity of forging alliances with community-based initiatives driven by mega-projects in the mining sector.

Our global mining connections through the Humanity Fund are among the most vital work we do as Steelworkers. Our motto "an injury to one is an injury to all" was never more relevant than in current global struggles with powerful mining giants.

***Ed. Note: For details on contributing to the fund and other information, contact the union at: [www.usw.ca/union/humanity](http://www.usw.ca/union/humanity).***



## Humanity Fund Contributes \$130,000 to Canadian Food Banks

*Ed. Note: Reprinted by permission of the Steelworkers Union.*

The Steelworkers Humanity Fund is contributing \$130,000 this year to 58 food banks in communities where USW members live and work.

The Humanity Fund's annual food bank contributions supplement the tremendous local support Steelworkers provide to their communities, said USW National Director Ken Neumann.

"The Humanity Fund supports communities as diverse as Port Alberni, Goose Bay, Montreal and Sault Ste. Marie, because poor and vulnerable Canadians continue to rely on food banks to make ends meet," Neumann said.

"The fact is that right across this country we are collectively failing in our attempts to eliminate poverty. And we will continue to fail until we start to see the elimination of poverty as a human rights obligation that requires positive, committed government action at all levels."

Recipients of 2012 food bank contributions are listed at [www.usw.ca/union/humanity](http://www.usw.ca/union/humanity).

## Web-site recommendations:

Canadian Arab Federation: [www.caf.ca](http://www.caf.ca)

Canadian Boat to Gaza: [www.tahir.ca](http://www.tahir.ca)

Canadian Peace Congress:

[www.canadianpeacecongress.ca](http://www.canadianpeacecongress.ca)

Canadian Islamic Congress:

[www.canadianislamiccongress.com](http://www.canadianislamiccongress.com)

Canadian Network to Abolish Nuclear Weapons:

[www.web.net/~cnanw](http://www.web.net/~cnanw)

Abolition 2000: [www.abolition2000.org](http://www.abolition2000.org)

Nuclear Age Peace Foundation:

[www.wagingpeace.org](http://www.wagingpeace.org)

U.S. Campaign to End the Israeli Occupation:

[www.endtheoccupation.org](http://www.endtheoccupation.org)

Jewish Voices for Peace:

[www.jewishvoiceforpeace.org](http://www.jewishvoiceforpeace.org)

United National Anti-War Coalition:

[www.unacpeace.org](http://www.unacpeace.org)

Rabble: [www.rabble.ca](http://www.rabble.ca)

Canadians for Justice and Peace in the Middle East:

[www.cjpme.org](http://www.cjpme.org)

Lawyers Against the War: [law@portal.ca](mailto:law@portal.ca)

*We will continue adding to the list, check out last months list and look for more in subsequent issues.*

## Idle No More: MANIFESTO

### We contend that:

The Treaties are nation-to-nation agreements between First Nations and the British Crown who are sovereign nations. The Treaties are agreements that cannot be altered or broken by one side of the two Nations. The spirit and intent of the Treaty agreements meant that First Nations peoples would share the land, but retain their inherent rights to lands and resources. Instead, First Nations have experienced a history of colonization, which has resulted in outstanding land claims, lack of resources and unequal funding for services such as education and housing.

### We contend that:

The state of Canada has become one of the wealthiest countries in the world by using the land and resources. Canadian mining, logging, oil and fishing companies are the most powerful in the world due to land and resources. Some of the poorest First Nations communities (such as Attawapiskat) have mines or other developments on their land but do not get a share of the profit. The taking of resources has left many lands and waters poisoned – the animals and plants are dying in many areas in Canada. We cannot live without the land and water. We have laws older than this colonial government about how to live with the land.

### We contend that:

Currently, this government is trying to pass many laws so that reserve lands can also be bought and sold by big companies to get profit from resources. They are promising to share this time... Why would these promises be different from past promises?

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## Book & Film Recommendations



### Freedom Sailors: An Extraordinary Story of Courage and Determination

Co-edited by Greta Berlin, tells the story of 44 passengers on two dilapidated boats that sailed to Gaza in August 2008. The boats, launched by the Free Gaza Movement, were the first international boats to land in the port of Gaza in 41 years to breach the illegal blockade.

"A riveting account of one of the great moments in the history of non-violent resistance: breaking the criminal and sadistic siege of Gaza, and letting the prisoners know that at least some of the outside world care about them and their grim fate. The Free Gaza flotillas are truly an inspiration." Says Noam Chomsky, Ph.D. - Professor, MIT

**For those activists wanting to buy the books in bulk and sell them to raise money, please email us at [freedom4sailors@gmail.com](mailto:freedom4sailors@gmail.com)**

**Most of the money raised will go to the Gaza Community Mental Health Programme and to Gaza's Ark, an initiative for sailing a boat out of Gaza.**



### Films donated by the No Boundaries Film Club to the Grand Forks Public Library

*Ed note: After the club purchases new films recommended by you, the viewer, we will list them. Remember to join us at the Film Festival this February.*



(From page 3) **Idle No More: MANIFESTO**

We will be left with nothing but poisoned water, land and air. This is an attempt to take away sovereignty and the inherent right to land and resources from First Nations peoples.

**We contend that:**

There are many examples of other countries moving towards sustainability, and we must demand sustainable development as well. We believe in healthy, just, equitable and sustainable communities and have a vision and plan of how to build them. Please join us in creating this vision.

Check out the website for updates on actions and further information on the movement at:

[http://idlenomore1.blogspot.ca/p/blog-page\\_17.html](http://idlenomore1.blogspot.ca/p/blog-page_17.html)

**Idle No More—U.S. support** (From the website)

Boozhoo,aaniin, Onagaakwe indigoo Odawamong, mikinaak indoodem. Besho Zhigaagongindoonjibaa, besho Nizho-wiikwedong indaa. Carol indizhinikaazhaaganashimong.

Greetings, my name are Carol Reschke. I am an anishinaabe woman of mixed descent; my ancestors were both settlers and native people. I grew up in suburbs of Chicago, and I now live in Minnesota. I am a singer, I sing backup at powwows and round dances, I travel long distances to sing with friends. Because many of my singing buddies are from first nations in Canada, I've been following the Idle No More movement closely, and during the holidays I've been attending several rallies and roundies. On Dec 21 I was in Couchiching First Nation for their rally and walk to the USA border crossing in Fort Frances, Ontario.

(Continued next column)

Because I do it with one small ship, I am called a terrorist. You do it with a whole fleet and are called an emperor.

A pirate, from St. Augustine's "City of God"

The Boundary Peace Initiative (BPI) welcomes articles, which are the sole responsibility of the authors and may not be common consensus. To contribute please contact **Laura** at **250-442-0434** or **l4peace@telus.net**. The BPI is a member of: Southern Interior Peace Coalition, Canadian Peace Alliance, Abolition 2000, Lawyers Against the War, Canadian Voice of Women for Peace and an affiliate of the Fellowship of Reconciliation as well as other local and global groups.

(From last column) **Idle No More—U.S. support**

This past week I sang at flash mob round dances at Miller Hill Mall in Duluth MN, Wal-Mart in Ashland WI, Paul Bunyan Mall in Bemidji MN, and last night at Wal-Mart in Cloquet MN. Below is a message I'd like to share on the Idle No More website. The late Tom Stillday, a spiritual leader from Ponemah (Obaashiing) Minnesota in the Red Lake Nation reserve. Tom passed away in October 2008; he relayed a message to an elder lady in a recent dream.

Last night after an Idle No More flash roundy at a Wal-Mart in Cloquet, Minnesota, we had a beautiful talking circle at the Fond du Lac reservation tribal center.

An elder lady named Mary Moose explained to us that she hoped we understood her English, because she grew up speaking Ojibwe and Cree.

She told us she had a dream in which she was visited by an elder who has walked on, the late Tom Stillday from Obaashiing in Red Lake Nation. She told us how in her dream Tom told her we need to help our relatives in Canada, and he suggested everyone, all anishinaabe, all indigenous people put out a spirit plate on the same day at the same time to awaken the spirits, to ask for their help. Mary relayed that we should choose a date and time, and do it every year on that same day.

So the people in the talking circle decided to do this at noon on New Year's Day...

The instruction was that you may offer your feast food to any of the four elements: you can place the spirit plate in a water body, in a fire, in the air by hanging it in a tree, or on the earth. Mary and other elders will be speaking for the food. She asks everyone to do this, wherever you are. A facebook event has been created for this coming New Year's Day; the event is called "Idle No More! Anishinaabe Calling Around The World!"

Mary also shared that she and her husband had not been aware of the Idle No More flash roundy planned that night at the Cloquet Walmart, they had stopped by to pick up a Batman DVD.

Exercise your democratic rights:  
Voice your opinion to the Prime Minister  
Free postage: Prime Minister, Steven Harper, Parliament Buildings,  
Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0A6  
Phone: 613-992-4211 Fax: 613-941-6900  
Email: [pm@pm.gc.ca](mailto:pm@pm.gc.ca)