



**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**

**Don't attack Syria**

From The Canadian Peace Alliance: August 27, 2013

The Canadian Peace Alliance (CPA) is calling on all its members and supporters to oppose an impending US-led attack on Syria.

Once again, a report about the use of Weapons of Mass Destruction is being used to justify an intervention. We are always opposed to the use of any weapons on civilians, but as was the case with the last reports of an alleged attack, there is no conclusive proof that the attack came from the Syrian government.

Undaunted by the lack of evidence, US Secretary of State John Kerry has nevertheless declared that the US and its NATO allies will strike Syria. Any intervention by a new "coalition of the willing" will be against international law and must be opposed.

Canadian Foreign Affairs Minister John Baird has said that Canada will be in "lock-step" with its NATO allies. Canadian officials are currently meeting with counterparts from France, the UK and the US to devise strategies for an intervention.

Regardless of what one thinks of either the Syrian government or of the opposition forces, we know from recent experience that:

- NATO and its allies have and will continue to lie about the use of Weapons of Mass Destruction to justify "humanitarian" intervention.
- NATO-led attacks, justified as a "responsibility to protect" (R2P) civilians, have resulted in tens of thousands of civilian deaths. The death toll from military attacks in Afghanistan, Iraq and Libya can be counted in the hundreds of thousands.
- The geopolitical calculations of the NATO powers, and not the interests of ordinary people, are always the main considerations for any intervention.

(Continued next column)

(From last column) **Don't attack Syria**

During the Vietnam War, US officials described a situation where it became necessary to "destroy the village in order to save it." As with all the recent evocations of R2P, it appears that the goal of NATO is to murder civilians in order to save them. We must, therefore, stand in opposition to the actions of the aggressor states in NATO and call on the government of Canada to keep its hands off Syria.

**Call for action**

Many CPA member groups, as well as coalitions in other countries including the US, have devised emergency response plans in the event of an attack on Syria. The CPA calls upon peace and social justice groups to devise such plans, whether or not an attack immediately involves Canada, and to continue to pressure the Government of Canada and NATO to keep their hands off Syria.

Please email details about local emergency actions to [cpa@web.ca](mailto:cpa@web.ca). All actions will be posted on [www.acp-cpa.ca](http://www.acp-cpa.ca).

Please e-mail or call your Member of Parliament and demand that they oppose an attack on Syria. A full list of MP contact information can be found at: <http://www.parl.gc.ca/Default.aspx?Language=E>

It is my conviction that killing under the cloak of war is nothing but an act of murder.

Albert Einstein

Violence can only be concealed by a lie, and the lie can only be maintained by violence.

Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn

We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give."

Winston Churchill

**To Do**  
**International Day of Peace-Sept. 21<sup>st</sup> @ 2 pm** in the Slavonic Senior Citizens Center. Admission by donation to cover rental. Come at 12:30 for the Slavonic vegetarian potluck, either bring a dish or pay \$6 to enjoy a variety of food.



**International Day of Peace at the Mir Center for Peace in Castlegar @ 6 pm.**

## In Loving Gratitude

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

With heartfelt gratitude we thank all who came out on a blistering hot August 10<sup>th</sup> to Gyro Park in honor of the victims of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. We joined thousands worldwide calling for an end to nuclear destruction. This destruction begins with uranium mining and progresses to power production with all the risks of reactor melt down and leak, from unsafe storage of radioactive materials to depleted uranium and nuclear weapons. It is through actions, such as the one in Grand Forks and Castlegar that we share information and support the efforts of our global family to rid the world of the dangers of the nuclear chain.

Thank you to the speakers who shared their insights and concerns; to the singers and dancers who shared their talents giving us time to pause and feel and think of the beauty of humanity at its best while acknowledging that we are also capable of destruction and violence. And of course a warm thanks to the young man who volunteered his time and equipment to ensure all were heard above the traffic noise.

Thank you to the merchants and individuals who so generously donated to the Silent Auction as well as all who made purchases. We must also thank the three wonderful ladies who oversaw the auction table making it a much more enjoyable experience. This fundraiser gives us the means to continue to publish our monthly newsletter, pay for our website and other necessary materials in order to do our work.

This event is an example of a community working together. A community exists and is sustained by the joining of hearts, minds and hands. A vibrant community is one where individuals give freely to each other because they care for and about their neighbors, friends and global family. A community is measured not only by a physical, material and financial yardstick but by the love, care and sharing that goes on among and for all its inhabitants, one that honors and values all equally, the young and the old, the healthy and the infirm, the rich and the poor, without reservation.

As we thank you for your past support we look forward to sharing International Day of Peace with you on September 21<sup>st</sup> at 2 pm in the Slavonic Senior Citizens Center on 72<sup>nd</sup> Avenue and 7<sup>th</sup> Street. We will join thousands worldwide gathered to call for an end to war and violence. Our event will follow the monthly potluck of the Slavonic Senior Citizens group who invite all to share a community meal to which you can contribute either by bringing a vegetarian dish or paying a nominal fee for great food.

So, our dear community, thank you for your past support and we look forward to exploring and implementing ways to connect as human beings intent on living peacefully with love for all Creation.

In Universal Kinship and Loving Peace,  
Laura Savinkoff



## End the Repression in Egypt

From the Canadian Peace Alliance: Aug. 22, 2013

The Canadian Peace Alliance is calling on the government of Canada to use all diplomatic channels at its disposal to call for an end to the attacks on civilians, workers and political parties in Egypt.

Since the military took control of the government on July 3<sup>rd</sup>, there has been widespread suspension of civil liberties for many Egyptians and a wholesale killing of those protesting military rule.

In any democratic society, people have the right to protest and the members of the Muslim Brotherhood are no exception. While there are many opinions on the nature of the Brotherhood government, this wave of attacks is a concerted attempt by the Egyptian military to rescind the hard won rights of the Egyptian people to have a say in the future of their country. It is part of a counter-revolution designed to roll back the advances made since the January 25 2011 uprising that removed the dictator Hosni Mubarek.

Egypt has long been a lynchpin in US foreign policy in the Middle East with successive puppet governments, propped up by \$1.3 billion in military aid, ready and willing to do their bidding. Canadian arms manufacturers have also sent more than \$14 million in small arms, military aircraft components and other weaponry to the government of Egypt in the last 6 years. We therefore call for the immediate end to all foreign arms shipments to Egypt.

The people of Canada stand firmly in support of the right to free expression and against arbitrary arrest. The government of Canada must respect the will of Canadians and call on the Egyptian military to end the repression.

### Free Tarek Loubani and John Greyson

Two Canadians, Dr. Tarek Loubani and filmmaker John Greyson, were arrested by Egyptian police on Friday, August 16 in Cairo.

They were en route to the Gaza Strip, where they are working on an academic and medical collaboration between the University of Western Ontario (UWO) and the main hospital in the Gaza Strip, the al-Shifa hospital.

The Canadian Peace Alliance is adding our name to the call for the immediate release of Tarek and John.

For more information please see:

<http://tarekandjohn.com/>

## Hiroshima Day 2013

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Imagine! 68 years have passed since the first attack with Nuclear Weapons and even longer since the testing of nuclear fusion began. People and the environment still suffer from the effects. Sadly, too many have not taken the lessons to heart and continue to mine and process uranium for weapons, electricity, and other products insisting that the processing, storage, safe guards, transportation, mining methods are better than ever. Is it? I don't think so. All it takes is a bit of research and one will realize that the dangers to humanity and the environment are escalating. The effects are evident in the rise of cancer, autoimmune diseases, diabetes, physical deformities and mental disabilities in newborns that can be traced back to radiation. There are those in the scientific community that have consistently warned us that there are no safe levels of radiation but they are regarded the fringe and their research unreliable. Although, these scientists are not intimidated by the nuclear industry or Governmental pressure and continue to issue warnings and plead for disarmament and a total ban of all radiological, atomic and nuclear products, somehow the 'powers that be' convince themselves and intimidate many of our neighbors that there is no danger. Part of the mode of convincing involves reports that minimize the danger; adjust the 'safe levels' as was done in Japan; if any of these reports ever make it into the public domain at all. The most recent disregard for the health and safety of life is the fact that radiated water is leaking into the water and the Pacific Ocean as result of Fukushima, and yet until yesterday we were being assured this was not the case, the danger from the melt down was negligible and clean up and mitigation of the effects was under control. And then there is the fact that Chernobyl is still volatile and emitting radiation, that DU weapons did not affect Iraq and other war zones, yet the evidence stares us in the face; that Hanford, not too far from here, is leaking into the Columbia River. Who do you believe? The Nuclear Industry who pay off scientists, politicians and workers? Or do you believe those who live and work in those areas?

So, then what can we do? Well, we can continue to share information with our friends, neighbors and children, we can continue to gather during Hiroshima/Nagasaki week, lobby our federal, municipal and regional politicians, and support the groups and organizations doing the same, sign petitions, and submit letters and statements to media. We can also reduce



(Continued page 4)



## Book & Film Recommendations



### Dirty Wars, The World is a Battlefield

By: **Jeremy Scahill**

Publisher: New York: Nation Books, [2013]

In *Dirty Wars*, Jeremy Scahill, author of the New York Times best seller *Blackwater*, takes us inside America's new covert wars. The foot soldiers in these battles operate globally and inside the United States with orders from the White House to do whatever is necessary to hunt down, capture or kill individuals designated by the president as enemies.

*Dirty Wars* follows the consequences of the declaration that "the world is a battlefield," as Scahill uncovers the most important foreign policy story of our time. From Afghanistan to Yemen, Somalia and beyond, Scahill reports from the frontlines in this high-stakes investigation and explores the depths of America's global killing machine. He goes beneath the surface of these covert wars, conducted in the shadows, outside the range of the press, without effective congressional oversight or public debate. And, based on unprecedented access, Scahill tells the chilling story of an American citizen marked for assassination by his own government.



### Films donated by the No Boundaries Film Club to the Grand Forks Public Symphony of the Soil

Director: Deborah Koons Garcia

Drawing from ancient knowledge and cutting edge science, *Symphony of the Soil* is an artistic exploration of the miraculous substance, soil. By understanding the elaborate relationships and mutuality between soil, water, the atmosphere, plants and animals, we come to appreciate the complex and dynamic nature of this precious resource. The film also examines our human relationship with soil, the use and misuse of soil in agriculture, deforestation and development, and the latest scientific research on soil's key role in ameliorating the most challenging environmental issues of our time. Filmed on four continents, featuring esteemed scientists and working farmers and ranchers, *Symphony of the Soil* is an intriguing presentation that highlights possibilities of healthy soil creating healthy plants creating healthy humans living on a healthy planet. Beautiful cinematography and musical score.

**Ed. Note:** If you have read a book or seen a film that you feel would be of interest or informative please let us know and we will include them in this section. Email the name of the book, the author and the publisher with a brief explanation of the book, and for the film the name, the producer and a brief explanation of the contents to Laura at [l4peace@telus.net](mailto:l4peace@telus.net). Thank you.

(From page 3) **Hiroshima Day 2013**

our demand for more electricity because this demand provides the excuse to the Nuclear Industry and Governments to build more nuclear power plants. Don't give into the fear mongering that we need the weapons in order to ensure 'security' dubbed MAD--Mutually Assured Destruction. These are only a few suggestions but there are many other ways to stop the annihilation of all life on Mother Earth for untold centuries.

Some say we are always preaching to the converted when we gather. That is true but at the same time it gives us the opportunity to offer information to our community and invite them to join us. Coming together to honor past and present victims of the nuclear industry also serves as a way to support each other, to inspire each other, to continue calling for the abolition of all that arises from uranium mining and encourage living and working for peace with social, economic and environmental justice. It may seem that all our efforts fall on deaf ears, are not taken seriously, are ignored and therefore a useless effort. All effort for peaceful living is not useless. If we stop striving for a world of love, peace, honor and dignity where all are of equal value, then there will be no voice to educate our children and grandchildren, our global family of the joy that will become the norm, once we put aside our fear, our arrogance, our greed, our protectionism that leads to war mentality. That world will come only if there are those willing to actively work for it. By coming out today and to other peace events we not only keep the dream alive, we do move it forward. Remember everything that is worthwhile takes commitment, dedication and work, it does not happen on its own. On behalf of the BPI, the CPA, Abolition 2000, the Fellowship of Reconciliation and all the other groups we work with, I thank you for having the energy and love to act, to live for a world free of all forms of violence and abuse, a world of peace.

Thank you, my sisters and brothers, for taking time to come out today and ask if I may pass on greetings from you on Saturday. Or even better some of you come and pass on greetings from our Kootenay family yourselves.

Speech delivered by Laura Savinkoff at the Mir Center for Peace in Castlegar, B.C.



The Boundary Peace Initiative (BPI) welcomes articles. All articles are the responsibility of the author and may not be common consensus. To submit an article, 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, an affiliate of the Fellowship of Reconciliation and works with various local and global groups.

Excerpts from the **International Day of Peace** website:

[www\\_internationaldayofpeace\\_org.mht](http://www.internationaldayofpeace.org.mht)

The International Day of Peace, a.k.a. "Peace Day" provides an opportunity for individuals, organizations and nations to create practical acts of peace on a shared date.

In 1981, the United Nations General Assembly, by unanimous vote, adopted Resolution 36/67 establishing the International Day of Peace (IDP) which stated in part, "...to devote a specific time to concentrate the efforts of the United Nations and its Member States, as well as the whole of mankind, to promoting the ideals of peace and to giving positive evidence of their commitment to peace in all viable ways." The first Peace Day was celebrated in September 1982 on the opening day of the General Assembly.

In 2002 the UN General Assembly officially declared September 21 as the permanent annual date for the International Day of Peace.

Peace Day should be devoted to commemorating and strengthening the ideals of peace both within and among all nations and peoples... This day will serve as a reminder to all peoples that our organization, with all its limitations, is a living instrument in the service of peace and should serve all of us here within the organization as a constantly pealing bell reminding us that our permanent commitment, above all interests or differences of any kind, is to peace.

International Day of Peace is also a Day of Ceasefire – personal or political. Take this opportunity to make peace in your own relationships as well as impact the larger conflicts of our time. Imagine what a whole Day of Ceasefire would mean to humankind.

*Ed. Note: In Grand Forks we will gather at the Slavonic Senior Citizens Center at 2 pm with admission by donation to cover rental. We will explore what kind of Peace is meaningful and how we can live it personally and within our local community as well as globally. All are also invited to enjoy a vegetarian potluck lunch starting at 12:30 hosted by the Slavonics, either bring a food offering or contribute \$6.*

Voice your opinion to the Prime Minister and all MPs. Free postage: {Name of MP}, Parliament Buildings, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0A6 Go to the Government of Canada website for emails of all MPs, Ministers and Prime Minister. <http://www.canada.gc.ca>



