



Our Mission

The Boundary Peace Initiative represents a growing number of area residents of diverse backgrounds brought together over the 2002 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

Boundary Peace Initiative suspends regular meetings until at least 3 commit to attend. For info call 250 442 0434.

To Do

The BPI is very grateful to all who donated and volunteered towards our largest (and for the last few years only) annual fundraiser at the No Boundaries Film Festival. Without you this would not be possible. There is a great concern that the fall in attendance the Film Festival as we know it, is not be sustainable. If you feel this event is an asset, as I know many of you do, please let John and Mary Ann Westaway know that you will commit to attend next year.

Refugees Welcome in Grand Forks

By: Laura Savinkoff on behalf of committee

A group of Boundary Residents came together to bring two, *yes 2, refugee families* to our area. Over the last few months a smaller group spearheaded by Ben Jepson and Kerri Martens did the hard task of inquiring of Government and other regions already hosting refugees. Thank you for exploring our possibilities and gathering a meeting to ask if there is enough interest and support to continue the process because it does take a community to extend their collective hands to accomplish this task.

On February 23, 2016 people from various groups and individuals decided we will and can do this and placed a timeline of 2 weeks to have everything in place. Once done a family could arrive within days since there are 700 waiting to get out of temporary housing in Vancouver, which will mean more can be brought into Canada.

We need the following **commitments** to make the application to the Government of Canada:

1. Assured of **2 rental homes** that will be affordable on the Social Assistance provided. The Landlord will receive a Tax Credit. We do have in place a temporary housing arrangement but more permanent housing is vital.
2. At least **two Arabic Interpreters/Translators** (one with basic skills is available).

(Continued page 2)

Where There's a Will, There's a Way!

By: Jack Blower and Laura Savinkoff on behalf of the BPI

Across Canada on March 19th, on the anniversary of the invasion and subsequent occupation of Iraq in 2003 actions are happening to bring attention to-Canada's complicity in the current wars that flaunt International Law. Here the Boundary Peace Initiative's collective opinion.

The battle in Syria is just the latest quest for regime change following Mali, Sudan, Chad, Afghanistan, Iraq, Serbia, Granada, Chile, Nicaragua, Libya, the Ukraine and the list goes on. The resulting de-stabilizing chaos creates enemies (rebels/subversives/militants) labeled as such a threat to the West that we're convinced and compelled to build-up military might to combat this supposed danger. Canada is borrowing millions for a new navy to fight an enemy we never had--until joining NATO. Canada also continues to explore purchasing the F-35 stealth bomber useless for anything other than death and destruction. You and I, the people, pay especially our children, from a lack of funds for good health care, education, and other social programs.

The decision to remove Canada's war planes from the Iraq/Syria conflict is just one aspect of our involvement with NATO. The fact that we had to get permission from NATO to change our military mission points to the extent we've given up our sovereignty. The current NATO and USA missions are not United Nation sanctioned. Even then look what happened in Libya; it was only to be a mission to maintain a 'No Fly Zone' but NATO, with Canada in the lead, went for regime change and is complicit in the illegal assassination of Gaddafi which resulted in a nation at war with itself.

NATO continues to play a major role in the West's interference in other countries Government's, elected (Continued page 2)

(From page 1) **Refugees Welcome**

- 3 **English language instruction** is in place through ESL and CBAL at Selkirk
- 4 Access to **clothes, bedding, all furniture** to set up two households but the amount will depend on the size of the families we are privileged to welcome
- 5 **Ensure that Social Assistance** is in place, which it should be since they're already in Canada
- 6 A minimum of **8 volunteers** to ensure family members are able to get to appointments, school, etc at all times as well as help with transitioning to Canada.
- 7 Confirmation that all family members have access to **Medical, Dental, Optical, Mental, Pharmaceutical Care.** (All have been approached and in principle are on board).
- 8 Ensure that local stores are able to accommodate **cultural food requirements** and if not volunteers to travel to an area that does for shopping.
- 9 Ensure access to **communication—phones, internet, etc**
- 10 **Most importantly at this time we need to raise \$20,000.** A bank account and online funding will be set up for donations. We also need ideas and organizers for **fundraising.**

We seek your generous support. To volunteer, donate or for more information please call: **Ben Jepson at 250-442-7909 or Kerri Martins at 250-0666-0052**

Facebook: Boundary Settlement for Syrian Refugees



(From page 1) **Where There's a Will**

or not, that result in millions of internally displaced people, financial migrants and a growing number of refugees fleeing imminent death. Leaders are assassinated and cherry-picked replacements installed in de-stabilized, physically and financially destroyed countries that essentially become Western colonies easily raped for resources.

Canada, as a member of NATO, must and does share the blame for the millions of deaths, refugees and the destruction. Sadly the carnage is not yet over as more proxy wars rage under the guise of 'bringing democracy' and 'financial freedom' to the world. We need to be very concerned and should condemn rather than support the current drive for domination and control. Those nations not amenable to **military** take-over are being over-run with globalization. Fraudulently named 'Free Trade' deals, such as CETA and the TPP, are simply the devious means employed for usurping sovereignty and placing everything into multi-national corporate hands. There are also many organizations created as tools for the New World Order that are promoted as a path to peace and security but in reality control the global economy and the military. We refer to NATO, NORAD, the EU, the IMF, the WTO and the United Nations. This exercise in Syria is another horrendous attempt at regime change, which results in the blood of children soaking the land. We hope it isn't a prelude to the invasion and destabilization of Iran and other Middle Eastern nations. But, the UN, despite its many shortcomings, remains humanities best chance to 'Stop the scourge of war', inequality, poverty, imperialism, etc. It does need reform so all have an equal voice so that Peace Keeping at the end of a gun becomes Peace Making without violence, force, abuse and fear.

Canada, through you and I, must demand our Government withdraw all troops, police and their trainers from the Middle East. We must insist that all parties involved continue to uphold the Ceasefire. And, we must demand that the negotiations continue, without reverting to bombing and shooting, until a resolution that is viable and agreeable to all parties is reached. Once the bloodshed stops the refugees will stop and life can return to Syria and the region. But then there are all the other areas that need to do the same.

When there's a will there is always a way! At some point all humanity, must wake up to the fact that military campaigns lead only to death, destruction, displacement of people, suffering, global inequality and contribute exponentially to Climate Change. Military aggression has failed all people, even the 1% whether they realize it or not. Only programs and life-styles offering understanding, respect, honor and equality through non-violent diplomacy can and will bring peace to our very troubled world.

Support the Women's Boat to Gaza

By: International Freedom Flotilla Coalition

The Freedom Flotilla Coalition will send a message of hope and solidarity to the people of Gaza

The **Women's Boat to Gaza** (WBG) is a Freedom Flotilla Coalition (FFC*) initiative. By launching a women's boat, women from all over the world aim to highlight the undeniable contributions and indomitable spirit of Palestinian women who have been central within the Palestinian struggle in Gaza, the West Bank, inside the Green Line and in the Diaspora.

Gaza has been under Israeli blockade for the past decade during which Israel has also launched countless attacks against the besieged population, turning their life into a nightmare and a continuous struggle. The physical wars have not only invaded the economies, markets and the land of Gaza, but have raided and assaulted homes, families, schools, national and museums, destroying civilization, heritage, culture, memory and hopes.

Through Freedom Flotillas and other naval missions we have protested the passivity and complicity of the international community in the face of such suffering while calling for solidarity of civil society with the Palestinian resistance and a coherent response from western governments.

The **Women's Boat to Gaza** seeks not only to challenge the Israeli blockade but to also show solidarity and bring a message of hope to the Palestinian people. With the support of women, men, nongovernmental organizations, civil society groups and from women's collectives and events around the world, we will make this happen.

We intend to officially launch this exciting project across the world on International Women's Day, March 8, 2016 and we would like you to join us!

In 2016, with the **Women's Boat to Gaza**, women from all over the world will sail to highlight the important role of Palestinian women in the struggle of their people. Our inspiration comes from the indomitable spirit of the women in Gaza, the West Bank, inside the Green Line and in the Diaspora.

The **Women's Boat to Gaza** seeks not only to challenge the Israeli blockade but also to bring a message of hope to the Palestinian people. This project will be made possible by the support of women, men, nongovernment organizations and civil society collectives from all over the world.

Therefore **the FFC calls for active participation of individuals and groups in this new campaign.** Can we count on your help to:

1. **Support WBG publicly with a statement from your group or organization**
2. **Announce our project in any International Women's Day events in which you may be participating**

(Continued page 4)

Book Recommendations



Policing America's Empire

The United States, the Philippines, and the Rise of the Surveillance State

By: Alfred W. McCoy

Publisher: New Perspectives in Southeast Asian Studies University of Wisconsin Press

(Excerpts from review by Noam Chomsky, MIT)

At the dawn of the twentieth century, the U.S. Army swiftly occupied Manila and then plunged into a decade-long pacification campaign with striking parallels to today's war in Iraq. Armed with cutting-edge technology from America's first information revolution, the U.S. colonial regime created the most modern police and intelligence units anywhere under the American flag. But security techniques bred in the tropical hothouse of colonial rule were not contained, McCoy shows, at this remote periphery of American power. Migrating homeward through personnel and policies, these innovations helped shape a new federal security apparatus during World War I. Once established under the pressures of wartime mobilization, this distinctively American system of public- private surveillance persisted in various forms for the next fifty years, as an omnipresent, *sub rosa* matrix that honeycombed U.S. society with active informers, secretive civilian organizations, and government counterintelligence agencies. This 'protracted social experiment in the use of police as an instrument of state power' left a devastating legacy for the Philippines, while also contributing substantially to the modes of suppression of independence and social change elsewhere, and returning home to lay the foundations for a national security and surveillance state."

Ed Note: If you read a book or see a film you feel is of value and interest to others, please let me know at L4peace@telus.net.

(From paged 3) **Support the Women's Boat to Gaza**

3. Organize local events in support of WBG
4. Join working groups
5. Make financial donations to our grassroots initiatives

Please follow us on the Web, www.freedomflotilla.org
Facebook www.facebook.com/FreedomFlotillaCoalition/ and
Twitter @GazaFFlotilla .

Please contact us to find out how your organization can be involved!

In solidarity,

Laura Savinkoff
Regional representative from the B.C. Southern Interior Peace Coalition and the Boundary Peace Initiative to the Canadian Boat to Gaza committee.

<http://freedomflotilla.org>

* The FFC is composed of civil society organizations and initiative from many countries. We have been challenging the illegal and inhumane Israeli blockade of Gaza for years and are unconditionally lifted and the Palestinian people everywhere regain their full rights.



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: BC Southern Interior Peace Coalition, Abolition 2000, Lawyers Against the War, affiliate of the Fellowship of Reconciliation; we work with local and global peace, social justice and environmental groups.

Friday the 13th

By: Ehab Lotayef
November 17, 2015

Sink deeper
turn fear into anger
into hate
into bloodshed

False conviction
of protection:
You kill

you are killed
you are hated
so you hate

You need not fire the gun to terrorize
F16s do it for you
and the drones
You need not give the order to be guilty
all you need do
is hate

and blood will flow deep
in the Tigris
in Barada
in the Seine
and the Thames

We drink
we get drunk
with hate

and sink deeper

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 at <http://www.canada.gc.ca>