



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

## To Do

**Sept. 22-24<sup>th</sup>**  
Castlegar & Nelson **International Peace Conference.** Info on how to register and agenda go to [www.selkirk.ca/mir](http://www.selkirk.ca/mir)

**International Day of Peace:** Castlegar Sept. 21<sup>st</sup> @ Mir Center for Peace. Due to the International Conference at Selkirk College Grand Forks will not hold an event this year.

The **BC Southern Interior Peace Coalition** will hold its Fall Conference on **Oct. 22** hosted by the **Kelowna Peace Group:** details to follow.

### **Selkirk College and the Mir Centre for Peace Presents the International Peace and Justice Studies Association Conference 2016**

September 22-24, 2016 Nelson & Castlegar, BC

The annual **Peace and Justice Studies Conference** is the largest North American gathering of people interested in furthering the causes of peace, justice and nonviolence. The conference is open to academics, researchers, public school (K-12) educators, activists, community organizers as well as the general public.

Canadian Indigenous leader, hip hop artist, broadcaster and politician, Wab Kinew will open the conference with the keynote lecture. This will be followed by an array of workshops on the latest research on peace, justice and non-violence from academics and activists all over North America, a series of community-based peace cafes on timely global and local peace issues that will also feature local musical talent. Participants also are encouraged to attend a traditional Doukhobor feast followed by a Mir Lecture/Endnote address with Guatemalan activist extraordinaire, Sandra Moran. Seats are limited, so be sure to register early ([special rates for locals!](#)).

#### **Highlights:**

- Keynote Speakers: Wab Kinew and Sandra Moran
- Internationally renowned speakers
- Latest research in peace, justice, nonviolence
- Local musicians and community organizations
- Workshops
- Concurrent Youth Conference

For more information and for conference schedule... [selkirk.ca/mir](http://selkirk.ca/mir)

*Ed. Note: The BPI endorsed the bid to host this conference and will be hosting a workshop on the 23<sup>rd</sup>.*

## 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](http://www.boundarypeace.20m.com)

## International Day of Peace

Copied from the official website

"The people of the world have asked us to shine a light on a future of promise and opportunity. Member States have responded with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development... It is an agenda for people, to end poverty in all its forms. An agenda for the planet, our common home. An agenda for shared prosperity, peace and partnership."—

*UN Secretary-General, Ban Ki-moon*

Each year the International Day of Peace is observed around the world on 21 September. The General Assembly has declared this as a day devoted to strengthening the ideals of peace, both within and among all nations and peoples.

The Day's theme for 2016 is "The Sustainable Development Goals: Building Blocks for Peace."

The 17 Sustainable Development Goals were unanimously adopted by the 193 Member States of the United Nations at an historic summit of the world's leaders in New York in September 2015. The new ambitious 2030 agenda calls on countries to begin efforts to achieve these goals over the next 15 years. It aims to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure prosperity for all.

The Sustainable Development Goals are integral to achieving peace in our time, as development and peace are interdependent and mutually reinforcing.

"The 17 Sustainable Development Goals are our shared vision of humanity and a social contract between the world's leaders and the people," said UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon. "They are a to-do list for people and planet, and a blueprint for success."

Sustainability addresses the fundamental needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Modern challenges of poverty,

(Continued page 2)

## International Day of Peace

hunger, diminishing natural resources, water scarcity, social inequality, environmental degradation, diseases, corruption, racism and xenophobia, among others, pose challenges for peace and create fertile grounds for conflict. Sustainable development contributes decisively to dissipation and elimination of these causes of conflict and provides the foundation for a lasting peace. Peace, meanwhile, reinforces the conditions for sustainable development and liberates the resources needed for societies to develop and prosper.

Every single one of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals is a building block in the global architecture of peace. It is critical that we mobilize means of implementation, including financial resources, technology development and transfer, and capacity-building, as well as the role of partnerships. Everyone has a stake and everyone has a contribution to make.

**On 16 September 2016, from 9:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m., the Secretary-General will celebrate the Day in the Peace Garden at United Nations Headquarters by ringing the Peace Bell and observing a minute of silence. Women Nobel Peace Prize laureates and the United Nations Messengers of Peace will be invited to participate in the ceremony. The United Nations Education Outreach Section will hold a global student videoconference on the same day, from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., also at United Nations Headquarters.**

## Sustainable Development Goals: Improve Life All Around The Globe

"Sustainable Development Goals: Improve Life All Around The Globe" is a hip hop music video that was produced by Flocabulary in partnership with the Education Outreach Section of the Outreach Division of the United Nations Department of Public Information. It aims to teach young people throughout the world about the importance of the Sustainable Development Goals and how they can help build peace.

## Background

The International Day of Peace was established in 1981 by the United Nations General Assembly. Two decades later, in 2001, the General Assembly unanimously voted to designate the Day as a period of non-violence and cease-fire.

The United Nations invites all nations and people to honour a cessation of hostilities during the Day, and to otherwise commemorate the Day through education and public awareness on issues related to peace.



## Three Canadian Women on the Women's Boat to Gaza

Three Canadian women are joining the Freedom Flotilla's current campaign to break the illegal blockade of Gaza. The mission highlights the indomitable spirit and women's role in the struggle of daily life under occupation. They join other women from around the world who will set sail from Barcelona September 14 to reach the shores of Gaza by early October.

**Eva Manly**, Canadian Boat to Gaza's delegated participant, is a retired documentary maker and photographer, whose work has been shown nationally and internationally and is distributed by VTape (Toronto) & VIVO (Vancouver), she has worked with First Nations people in Canada, peace & justice issues in Central America, including accompaniment of Mayan refugees and human rights workers, as well as in women's rights. Devoting time to the work for Truth and Reconciliation and to refugee sponsorships on Vancouver Island, she is active in Mid-Islanders for Justice and Peace in the Middle East, (MIJPME), the United Network for Justice and Peace in Palestine & Israel (UNJPPI), and the Canadian Boat to Gaza working for justice in Palestine and Israel.

Crew member **Marilyn Porter** is a retired university faculty member who worked for many years as an activist/academic, focusing on women's rights especially in the developing world. She has served on many Boards, both locally and nationally, including Oxfam and the Canadian Institute for the Advancement of Women. She is currently co-chair of the Social Justice Co-op, which works in the areas of environmental and tax justice. She is also working with a refugee group in St. John's, Newfoundland. Marilyn is an experienced sailor, having cruised and raced mostly off the UK and eastern Canadian coasts, as well as in the Mediterranean.

**Wendy Goldsmith**, an organizer with the Freedom Flotilla Coalition, is a mother of three, a social worker and an advocate for justice who lives with her family in London, Ontario. As a social worker, she has supported many survivors of childhood trauma and abuse, including within First Nations communities. As a mom, she identifies with the suffering that Palestinian women feel as they endure the injustice of supporting their families under an illegal blockade and within an open-air prison, constantly under threat of attacks by the occupier.

The three will be joined by noteworthy international participants such as Nobel Peace Laureate Mairead MacGuire (Northern Ireland), Marama Davidson, Green Party MP (New Zealand), Naomi Wallace, screenwriter

(Continued page 3)

(From page 2) **Women's Boat to Gaza**

and playwright (USA), Gerd von der Lippe, professional athlete and academic (Norway), and Çiğdem Topçuoğlu, professional athlete and coach (Turkey), who sailed on the Mavi Marmara in 2010 and whose husband was among the 10 people from that voyage killed by Israeli forces. Names of more participants will be released over the coming weeks.

For more information please contact:

Wendy Goldsmith at: [wendygoldsmith21@gmail.com](mailto:wendygoldsmith21@gmail.com) or (+1) 519 281 3978.

**Donate:**

You can **support the Women's Boat to Gaza** by donating online:

<http://canadaboatgaza.org/donate/>

Those who can benefit from a **U.S. tax receipt** can contribute online at

<https://womensboatgaza-nonviolenceinternational.nationbuilder.com/contribute>

To find and support other campaigns that are part of the Freedom Flotilla Coalition, please see:

[freedomflotilla.org/about](http://freedomflotilla.org/about)

**Other ways to get involved:**

Follow us at [www.canadaboatgaza.org](http://www.canadaboatgaza.org) and [freedomflotilla.org](http://freedomflotilla.org)

[www.facebook.com/FreedomFlotillaCoalition/](https://www.facebook.com/FreedomFlotillaCoalition/) and

[www.facebook.com/CanadaBoatGaza/](https://www.facebook.com/CanadaBoatGaza/)

Twitter [@GazaFFlotilla](https://twitter.com/GazaFFlotilla) [@CanadaBoatGaza](https://twitter.com/CanadaBoatGaza)

Thank you for your support. Together we can end the blockade of Gaza!

In Solidarity

*the Canadian Boat to Gaza team*

*On behalf of the Canadian Boat to Gaza and the BPI we thank all those who donated from the Boundary/Kootenay to the international attempt to break the blockade/siege of Gaza with the Women's' Boat to Gaza. Hopefully we will relieve the suffering of the people living in the longest and biggest open air prison in world history. The women of Gaza await our arrival and thank us for the support to stop the bloodletting and the destruction of their children's future. Thank you each and everyone for your kind donations.*



## Book Recommendations



### Hope Has Two Daughters

by Monia Mazigh

Publisher: House Of Anansi Press Inc: January 2017

Unwilling to endure a culture of silence and submission, and disowned by her family, Nadia leaves her native Tunisia in 1984 amidst deadly violence, chaos, and rioting brought on by rising food costs, eventually emigrating to Canada to begin her life.

More than twenty-five years later, Nadia's daughter Lila reluctantly travels to Tunisia to learn about her mother's birth country. While she's there, she connects with Nadia's childhood friends, Neila and Mounir. She uncovers agonizing truths about her mother's life as a teenager and imagines what it might have been like to grow up in fear of political instability and social unrest. As she is making these discoveries, protests over poor economic conditions and lack of political freedom are increasing, and soon, Lila finds herself in the midst of another revolution - one that will inflame the country and change the Arab world, and her, forever

Weaving together the voices of two women at two pivotal moments in history, the Tunisian Bread Riots in 1984 and the Jasmine Revolution in 2010, Hope Has Two Daughters is a bracing, vivid story that perfectly captures life inside revolution.

**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](mailto:L4peace@telus.net).**

The world spends more on the military in one month than it does on development all year. And 4 hours of military spending is equal to the total budgets of all international disarmament and non-proliferation organizations combined. The world is over-armed. Peace is underfunded.

Ban Ki-Moon 2013

I believe that it is impossible to end hatred with hatred.

Mahatma Gandhi, November 1924

## My Fellow Americans: We Are Fools

By: Margot Kidder (From Counter Punch July 29th)

There is something I am going to try and explain here after watching the Democratic National Convention this evening that will invite the scorn of many of my friends. But the words are gagging my throat and my stomach is twisted and sick and I have to vomit this out. The anti-americanism in me is about to explode and land, god knows where, as my rage is well beyond reason. And I, by heritage, half American in a way that makes me “more” American than almost anyone else in this country except for the true Americans, the American Indians, am in utter denial tonight that I am, as you are, American as well.

I am half Canadian, I was brought up there, with very different values than you Americans hold, and tonight — after the endless spit ups and boasts and rants about the greatness of American militarism, and praise for American military strength, and boasts about wiping out ISIS, and America being the strongest country on earth, and an utterly inane story from a woman whose son died in Obama’s war, about how she got to cry in gratitude on Obama’s shoulder — tonight I feel deeply Canadian. Every subtle lesson I was ever subliminally given about the bullies across the border and their rudeness and their lack of education and their self-given right to bomb whoever they wanted in the world for no reason other than that they wanted something the people in the other country had, and their greed, came oozing to the surface of my psyche.

I just got back from a rather fierce walk beside the Yellowstone River here in Montana, trying to let the mountains in the distance reconnect me to some place of goodness in my soul, but I couldn’t find it. The scenery was as exquisite as ever, but it just couldn’t touch the rage in my heart. The visions of all the dead children in Syria that Hillary Clinton helped to kill; the children bombed to bits in Afghanistan and Pakistan from Obama’s drones, the grisly chaos of Libya, the utter wasteland of Iraq, the death and destruction everywhere caused by American military intervention. The Ukraine, Honduras, El Salvador, Guatemala, Chile, you name it — your country has bombed it or destroyed its civilian life in some basic way.

When I heard all the Americans cheering for the military and the pronouncements of might coming from the speakers in the Wells Fargo Centre, I loathed you. I loathed every single one of you. I knew in my gut that what I was taught as a child was true,  
(Continued next column)

## (From last column) My Fellow Americans:

which is that YOU are the enemy. YOU are the country to be feared. YOU are the country to be disgusted by. YOU are ignorant. And your greed and self-satisfaction and unearned pride knows no bounds.

I am not an American tonight. I reject my Puritan ancestors who landed in this country in 1648. I reject the words I voiced at my citizenship ceremony. I reject every moment of thrilling discovery I ever had in this country.

You people have no idea what it is like for people from other countries to hear you boast and cheer for your guns and your bombs and your soldiers and your murderous military leaders and your war criminals and your murdering and conscienceless Commander in Chief. All those soaring words are received by the rest of us, by us non-Americans, by all the cells in our body, as absolutely repugnant and obscene.

And there you all are tonight, glued to your TVs and your computers, your hearts swelled with pride because you belong to the strongest country on Earth, cheering on your Murderer President. Ignorant of the entire world’s repulsion. You kill and you kill and you kill, and still you remain proud.

**We are fools.**

Why of course the people don’t want war...But after all it is the leaders of the country who determine the policy, and it is always a simple matter to drag the people along, whether it is a democracy, or a fascist dictatorship, or a parliament, or a communist dictatorship...Voice or no voice, the people can always be brought to the bidding of the leaders. That is easy. All you have to do is to tell them they are being attacked, and denounce the pacifist for lack of patriotism and exposing the country to danger.

Hermann Goering (Nazi leader at the Nuremberg Trials following WWII)

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.

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>**