



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

To Do

Pick up a White Poppy in Grand Forks at Joggas, The Wooden Spoon or New West Trading. Join the millions doing so.



Coming soon reports on the Oct.22nd BC Southern Interior Peace Coalition Conference and the Sept. International Peace and Justice Studies Association Conference.

What do White Poppies stand for?

From: Peace Pledge Union

White Poppies are worn in the run-up to Remembrance Day every year by thousands of people in the UK and beyond. White Poppies have been worn in this way for over eighty years. They are distributed by the Peace Pledge Union (PPU).

There are three elements to the meaning of White Poppies: they represent remembrance for all victims of war, a commitment to peace and a challenge to attempts to glamorize or celebrate war. White Poppies can be bought online and in a number of shops, cafes and other outlets.

Remember all the victims of war

White Poppies recall all victims of all wars, including victims of wars that are still being fought. This includes people of all nationalities. It includes both civilians and members of armed forces. Today, over 90% of people killed in warfare are civilians.

In wearing White Poppies, we remember all those killed in war, all those wounded in body or mind, the millions who have been made sick or homeless by war and the families and communities torn apart. We also remember those killed or imprisoned for refusing to fight and for resisting war.

We differ from the Royal British Legion, who produce Red Poppies. The Legion says that Red Poppies are to remember only British armed forces and those who fought alongside them. {Ed. Note: The same applies to the Canadian Legion} We want to remember British military dead, but they are not the only victims of war. We also remember, for example, civilians killed in the bombings of London, Coventry and Belfast, and in the bombings of Dresden, Hiroshima, Baghdad and Kabul.

Stand up for peace

White Poppies symbolize the conviction that there are better ways to resolve conflict than through the use of violence. They embody values that reject killing fellow human beings for

(Continued page 2)

Parenting is Challenging

By: Amber Nedele (Kelowna)

We as a society and as parents need to help bring the best out in our children. What we say and do with our children is extremely important in forming the immediate future. If we profess to be against Bullying, we also must stand up together against all oppression, including rape and wars. If we work towards a Peaceful world it will need our children to hear *peaceful* language and *peaceful* music and they need all their games to be *peaceful*, in all ways non-violent.

This is the opposite to the majority of the games corporations are pushing onto children and their families, especially boys. These games normalize violence and desensitize us from the severe impacts. This childhood violence is part of the militarization that is being pushed by the corporate military complex that is expanding in Canada, against the will of the Canadian people.

We as Canadians need to wake up together and protect our children. World Peace must be our goal. Peace can be accomplished with us honestly creating caring justice in our homes, our schools and our countries. This includes keeping the military out of all schools—high schools, colleges, universities included. Militarism is violence. When all people are treated in the same loving way we wish to treat our children, then there will be much needed World Peace.



What do White Poppies stand for?

whatever reason. Nearly 100 years after the end of the “war to end all wars” we still have a long way to go to put an end to a social institution that even in the last decade has contributed to the killing of millions.

From economic reliance on arms sales to renewing and updating all types of weapons, the UK government contributes significantly to international instability. The outcome of recent military adventures highlights their ineffectiveness and grim consequences.

The best way to respect the victims of war is to work to prevent war in the present and future. Violence only begets more violence. We need to tackle the underlying causes of warfare, such as poverty, inequality and competition over resources. A temporary absence of violence is not enough. Peace is much deeper and broader than that, requiring major social changes to allow us to live more co-operatively.

Challenge militarism

A message originally associated with Remembrance Day, after the First World War, was “never again”. This message slipped away. In response, White Poppies were developed in 1933 by the Co-operative Women's Guild to affirm the message of “no more war”.

Many of the activities around Remembrance Day are detached from any meaningful attempt to learn the lessons of war. Arms companies allow their staff to pause work for the two minutes' silence. Politicians who plough billions into nuclear weapons lay wreaths at the cenotaph. Arms dealers sponsor Remembrance events even while their work makes war more likely.

In 2014 for example, the British Legion Young Professionals' ball was sponsored by Lockheed Martin, one of the world's largest arms companies. Lockheed Martin plays a major role in manufacturing the Trident nuclear weapons system. Each Trident missile is capable of killing far more people than the 888,000 people represented by the Red Poppies that were displayed at the Tower of London at the time.

Working for peace is the natural consequence of remembering the victims of war. If, for example, we were remembering the victims of road accidents, we might well do so by working to prevent further road accidents. This logic, which would apply in other areas of life, is rejected by those who seek to misuse Remembrance Day to promote militarist values that only make war more likely.

Whenever you are confronted with an opponent,
conquer him with love.”

Mahatma Gandhi

An eye for an eye will only make the whole world blind.
Mahatma Gandhi

Canada says NO to historic UN Vote on Nuclear Disarmament October 27, 2016

By: Peggy Mason

Peggy Mason, Former Canadian Ambassador for Disarmament to the UN, now President of the Rideau Institute released the following statement after Canada's UN vote today against Resolution L.41.

The First Committee on Disarmament and International Security of the UN General Assembly today passed an historic resolution, mandating the launch in 2017 of negotiations for a legally binding instrument prohibiting nuclear weapons. Such a ban would reinforce customary international law against the threat or use of nuclear weapons and pave the way for further negotiations on their verifiable destruction and ultimate elimination.

Tensions between Russia and the USA are dangerously high. Massive nuclear weapons modernization programmes are underway. The negotiation to be launched by this resolution is the best hope the international community has to move away from the nuclear brink.

Canada's vote against this resolution puts this country, quite simply, on the wrong side of history. Canada was one of only a handful of countries to vote NO. In so doing we joined with most other NATO member states, in blatant contradiction of our legal obligation under the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty (NPT) Article VI to enter into good faith negotiations for nuclear disarmament. This is the exact opposite of what Canada should be doing. We should be working as hard as we can to reduce NATO's unconscionable and unnecessary reliance on nuclear weapons, not using that reliance as a reason for opposing nuclear disarmament negotiations at the UN. In that regard, we note that fellow NATO member, Netherlands, withstood American pressure and abstained rather than voting no.

Canada has another opportunity to put this right when the General Assembly votes on this resolution in early December. We call on Canada to change its vote ideally to a YES but, at a minimum, to an abstention and at the same time to signal its intent to contribute constructively to the negotiation, once launched. These actions would be worthy of a country seeking to be elected to the UN Security Council in 2021.

For more information contact:

Peggy Mason, President of the Rideau Institute, 613-565-9449 ext. 24 cell: 613-612-6360;
pmason@rideauinstitute.ca

(Ed. Note: 123 nations voted in favour of the resolution, with 38 against and 16 abstaining. Canada votes no when even China, India and Pakistan abstain... and North Korea votes yes!)

What is My Purpose?

i remember one year
a long time ago
glorious thanksgiving weekend
lying on a rooftop
in the basking sun
waves below
smiling, breathing
letting go
of all the lies

i remember this vision
because it is true
because in those precious moments
of community and forgiveness and love
in those moments
i truly knew what i was thankful for

in these precious days ahead
i encourage us all to look inward
and then to look upward
look up into the stars
ask whoever you need to ask
what is my purpose here
how can i make a difference
seek clarity
seek connectivity
seek truth

we ARE the people we have been waiting for

Wendy Goldsmith MSW RSW
www.womensboattogaza.org

*Ed. Note: Wendy was one of the representatives from
Canada on the Women's Boat to Gaza*



Book Recommendations



Testament of Youth

By: Vera Brittain

Publisher: Penguin Classics; Reissue edition
(May 31, 2005) First published in 1933

Much of what we know and feel about the First World War we owe to Vera Brittain's elegiac yet unsparing book, which set a standard for memoirists. This edition features a new introduction by Brittain's biographer examining her struggles to write about her experiences and the book's reception in England and America.

As she walked the streets of London on November 11, 1918--Armistice Day--she felt alone in the crowds: "For the first time I realized, with all that full realization meant, how completely everything that had hitherto made up my life had vanished with Edward and Roland, with Victor and Geoffrey. The War was over; a new age was beginning; but the dead were dead and would never return."

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

Education can help to build a global culture of peace that rejects all weapons of mass destruction as illegitimate and immoral.

Ban Ki-Moon 2013

Individuals have international duties which transcend the national obligations of obedience. Therefore, {individual citizens} have the duty to violate domestic laws to prevent crimes against peace and humanity from occurring.

1950—Nuremburg War Crimes Tribunal

'Gaza Calls: Canada Answers'

East Hill community Church at 3605 12th Street Vernon, BC on November 26 at 9am.

A live video conference organized by Canadian Friends of Sabeel, several national Canadian churches, church-related organizations (CROs), and local organizers. This three hour live event will be offered in 20 locations across the country.

You may have wondered why Gaza has fallen out of the news cycle. Due to the devastation wrought by Israel over the last 10 years, it has been increasingly difficult to visit Gaza or for Gazans to visit us. Thankfully, technology allows us to strengthen our solidarity and amplify the voices of the churches' Palestinian partners on the ground.

We want to ensure that our Gazan partners' voices are given a wide hearing and that the area remains in the consciousness of Canadian churches and civil society. On November 26th, Suhaila Tarazi, Raji Sourani, and Sami El-Yousef will speak to us live from Gaza and address the Christian presence, medical realities, and human rights situation there, with opportunities for Q&A with them. We will also consider how we can continue engaging concretely with Gaza.

In solidarity,
Robert Assaly
Chair

Collective Defence

German government White Paper 2016, p. 64-65
Provided by Regina Hagan Abolition 2000

NATO is an alliance founded on the principle of collective defence. In the event of an armed attack, Germany can rely on the assistance of its Allies in Europe and North America. At the same time, all our Allies can count on Germany's assistance and support. The target and origin of a potential attack are therefore of little importance.

Effective collective defence is vital to our existence in view of the return of violence and violent threats to European politics

(Continued next column)

(From last column) Collective Defence

and the instabilities in NATO's neighborhood. This is particularly true in light of the worldwide proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery, not to mention the extensive military build-up taking place in many states. NATO will continue to rely primarily on deterrence to counter external threats. For this purpose, the Alliance maintains and develops a coordinated strategic spectrum of nuclear and conventional capabilities, including missile defence.

NATO defence planning is dominated by efforts to strengthen its capabilities for deterrence, collective defence and reassurance, as well as by the provision of crisis management capabilities, which is no less important. This requires the systematic adaptation of NATO's defence forces and those of its members. Fully aware of its responsibility and ability, Germany will continue to make extensive contributions in these areas. As long as nuclear weapons can be employed in military conflicts, there will always be a need for nuclear deterrence. The strategic nuclear capabilities of NATO, and in particular those of the United States, are the ultimate guarantee of the security of its members. NATO remains a nuclear alliance. Through nuclear sharing, Germany continues to be an integral part of NATO's nuclear policy and planning. At the same time, Germany is committed to the goal of laying the foundations for a world without nuclear weapons. NATO adopted this goal as part of its 2010 Strategic Concept.

A significant task of the Alliance, and one that is important for the collective security of our country, is establishing a missile defence system to protect the populations of its European member states. The reason for this is the increasing proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and ballistic missiles, particularly on the southern periphery of Allied territory.

The Alliance is also preparing for asymmetric and hybrid threats, including cyber attacks. The distinguishing feature of hybrid warfare, namely a blurring of the lines between war and peace, presents particular challenges when it comes to invoking Article 5 of the North Atlantic Treaty.

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>**