



### **Walking with the Drum and Peace Concert**

We invite all to a big event in Grand Forks. The B.C. Southern Interior Peace Coalition passed a motion in April that all three regions organize an event on International Day of Peace, September 21<sup>st</sup> to 'Envision Canada' as well as honor the First Peoples of this land white man called Canada. These white people invaded and have occupied the land and continue to treat the descendants of the First Nations with disdain as well as so many other minorities, including the Doukhobor people and the Peace, Social Justice and Environmental movement. There is little room in the mosaic of this country for anyone that rejects the notion of justified war and violence and the destruction of our environment. There is no justification for actions that destroy at home and abroad. That is why BC Grand Chief Stewart Phillips is coming. That is why Billy Jo Bray a Sinxit elder from Colville is coming. Together with our local Metis and First Nations we are organizing a great opportunity for the Boundary to dream and express a vision of a community, country, and planet of peace in harmony with itself. We are asking our community, near and far, to join us for a rally beginning AT 5 pm in Gyro Park from where we will walk to the Drum of the Heart to the High School to be met by the Community Powwow drum and a Water Ceremony conducted by a man from Washington State who was at Standing Rock. And then, at 7 pm, we will enter the school for a fundraising concert with local talent and speakers and an opportunity to draw your vision on a community mural. And of course we will provide a concession with homemade goodies. We, the BPI along with our supporters the Boundary Metis Association, the Boundary All Nations Council, the Kootenay Region United Nations Association and the USCC Working Groups for Peace and Social Justice encourage you to walk and drum with open hearts and inspired spirits starting on September 21st. This is also a much needed fundraiser for the BPI so be generous with your financial support as well as your physical presence—there is no set price for admission so give what you can for every dollar counts and it is more important that you come to be part of the solution than put money in a jar. But, we cannot function without funds so we do ask for your support.

On behalf of the BPI Peace Concert Committee  
Laura Savinkoff

**For more info contact Laura at 250-442-0434 or email [L4peace@telus.net](mailto:L4peace@telus.net) or go to Face Book at Concert for Envisioning Canada**

### **Declaration of the International Meeting 2017 World Conference against A & H Bombs**

On July 7 of this year, 72 years after the U.S. atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, a treaty to prohibit nuclear weapons was finally adopted. Having worked with the Hibakusha since the First World Conference against A and H Bombs in 1955 to call for the prevention of nuclear war, the elimination of nuclear weapons and the relief and solidarity with the Hibakusha, we heartily welcome the adoption of the treaty as a historic event, and pledge to move forward with renewed determination to achieve a "Nuclear Weapon-Free, Peaceful and Just World".

The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons is a milestone leading towards their total elimination, the long cherished aspiration of the Hibakusha and the people around the world.

The treaty recognizes that nuclear weapons are inhumane weapons that would cause catastrophic consequences, running counter to the U.N. Charter, international law, including international humanitarian law and international human rights law. It thus stigmatizes them. Nuclear weapons are now not only immoral, but also explicitly illegal for the first time in history.

It rightfully acknowledges the struggle of the A-bomb survivors in their call for "No More Hibakusha", stating that it is "mindful of the unacceptable suffering of and harm caused to the victims of the use of nuclear weapons (Hibakusha), as well as of those affected by the testing of nuclear weapons", and by describing them as bearer of "the role of public conscience in the furthering of the principles of humanity".

The treaty prohibits all activities connected with nuclear weapons, including development, production, testing, manufacturing, acquisition, possession, stockpiling and use or threat to use, without allowing loopholes. Importantly, it provides a framework for the total elimination of nuclear weapons by elaborating the ways for the nuclear powers to become parties to the treaty. It also stipulates the responsibility to provide assistance to Hibakusha and victims of nuclear tests, meeting expectations of the people of the countries having suffered from

(Continued page 2)

(From page 1) **International Meeting**

A-bombings or nuclear testing. The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons is the fruit of global struggles over some 70 post-war years to achieve a “world without nuclear weapons.”

The world still sees some 15,000 nuclear weapons threatening the survival of the humanity. The development and modernization of nuclear weapons continue. The danger of the actual use of nuclear weapons remains real. There is a growing concern over tensions in various parts of the world leading to the possible use of nuclear weapons. We call on all states to face up to the inhumane nature of nuclear weapons. To achieve peace and security of the world, a ban and the elimination of nuclear weapons is essential. All states should join the treaty on the prohibition of nuclear weapons without delay. We further demand that any activity banned by the treaty be ended and renounced forever.

That the treaty bans the use or threat to use nuclear weapons signifies that it denies the “nuclear deterrence” argument used as major justification to keep possessing nuclear weapons. We urge nuclear powers to abandon their nuclear deterrence policies, and their allies to renounce their dependence on it and break away with the “nuclear umbrella”.

Further, we must move forward from adoption of the treaty to the total elimination of nuclear weapons, to achieve a “nuclear weapon-free, peaceful and just world.”

It is necessary above anything else to make the best use of the potential inherent in the treaty. All activities that run counter to the treaty are to be condemned by the international community. Given that the legal norm is now established to render nuclear weapons illegal, no state that refuses to sign the treaty can evade political and moral restrictions. It carries the possibility of restricting and paralyzing the global nuclear strategies of nuclear superpowers.

It will be even more important than before to develop cooperation between the governments that have worked for the treaty, the United Nations and civil society movements. With the nuclear prohibition treaty, there is now a new opportunity on which to build up the movements and public support for them. With the participation of representatives of both anti-nuclear movements in the world and national governments, and the U.N., the World Conference against A and H Bombs has promoted dialogues and cooperation among them. Growing public awareness encouraged by such activities will exert pressure on the nuclear powers and their allies into abandoning the policy of clinging to their nuclear arsenals.

(Continued next column)

(From last column) **International Meeting**

To move forward towards completely eliminating nuclear weapons, it is of decisive importance to build a majority of opinion in support of the treaty in the nuclear-armed countries and their allies and press their governments to sign and ratify the treaty with the force of public opinion and movements. The U.S., the U.K. and France rejected the treaty, saying that they would not “ever become party“ to it. Some other nuclear powers expressed that they were in favor of a “step-by-step” approach and that they would not participate in the treaty. In these countries, we need to build public opinion to question the position of the governments towards the treaty and press for their participation in it. Big steps forward towards a world without nuclear weapons will be made possible by bringing together these voices and actions.

The nuclear and missile development of North Korea in violation of international agreements constitutes a serious threat to peace in the region and the world, and must not be tolerated. All military threats and provocations should stop immediately. All parties concerned should take steps for a diplomatic and peaceful solution without delay. Based on the spirit of the treaty on the prohibition of nuclear weapons, we urge North Korea to stop nuclear activities and abandon all its programs. Practices and consolidation of the existing nuclear weapons-free zones, as well as regional efforts to create new such zones are also important.

Disappointment and resentment are spreading among the Hibakusha and other sectors of people at the refusal of the Government of the A-bombed country to participate in the Nuclear Prohibition Treaty. We urge the Japanese Government to leave the U.S. “nuclear umbrella” and sign the Prohibition Treaty without delay. Large numbers of people are standing up against the destruction of peace principles of the Constitution and the preparations to join in wars overseas. In Okinawa, a struggle involving all Okinawa residents is growing against the construction of a new U.S. base. We express solidarity with the movement in Japan for the defense of the Constitution and for a non-nuclear and peaceful Japan.

At the root of the nuclear prohibition treaty has been the role played by the anti-nuclear peace movements working with Hibakusha at grassroots in the world. The opinion and movement of the people around the world will determine the outcome and future course of events. We call for following actions:

(Continued page 3)

(From page 2) **International Meeting**

- To build up people’s opinion to demand from all governments participation in the Nuclear Prohibition Treaty and further engagement in achieving the complete elimination of nuclear weapons. From September 20 to 26, we propose to launch international simultaneous actions “Peace Wave” linking diverse grass-roots activities to call for participation in the Treaty.

- To initiate extensive dialogues to inform the general public about the inhumanity of nuclear weapons and the imperative of the total elimination of nuclear weapons; to promote events and activities to listen to the testimonies of Hibakusha, exhibiting Hiroshima and Nagasaki photo panels, inheriting the memories of Hibakusha, and learning about the nuclear prohibition treaty itself; to enhance peace education as encouraged by the treaty.

- To accelerate and broaden the international signature campaign in support of the Hibakusha Appeal to prohibit and eliminate nuclear weapons with the goal of hundreds of millions of signatures worldwide by 2020.

- To expand cooperation between national governments, the U.N. and civil society movements on such occasions as the September 20th opening for signing the Treaty, International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons on September 26, the regular session of the First Committee of the UNGA, the UN High Level Meeting on Nuclear Disarmament in 2018, and the next Preparatory Committee meeting of the NPT Review Conference.

- To extend relief and solidarity to Hibakusha and help to achieve state compensation for them; support the efforts of second and third generation Hibakusha; call for support of the nuclear test victims; strengthen solidarity with the movements demanding the relief of the sufferers of the nuclear power plant accident and demanding ZERO nuclear power; support the victims of Agent Orange, depleted uranium and other war damage.

- To extend solidarity to the struggles and movements against war and for peace, for the reduction and removal

(Continued next column)

(From last column) **International Meeting**

of foreign bases in Okinawa and others, opposition to military-industrial complex; a reduction in military spending and improvement in living standard, employment and social welfare, overcoming of poverty and social gap, prevention of climate change and protection of global environment, overcoming of the discrimination based on sex and other factors and struggle for the development of Culture of Peace.

The nuclear prohibition treaty emphasizes the role of Hibakusha and the movements of civil society in their advocacy of the total elimination of nuclear weapons. Let us open up our future together with the Hibakusha. Now that the door to a “nuclear weapon-free world” is open, let us walk forward with young people in high spirit to achieve it.

August 5, 2017

International Meeting

The 2017 World Conference against A and H Bombs

*It seems to me that nearly the whole Anglo-Saxon race, especially of course in the Americas, has lost the power to be individuals. They have become social insects like bees or ants. Roger Fry*

*What is important is not so much how long you live as whether you live a meaningful life. This doesn’t mean accumulating money and fame, but being of service to your fellow human beings. It means helping others if you can, but even if you can’t do that, at least not harming them. Dalai Lama*

**Our Mission**

The Boundary Peace Initiative represents people of diverse backgrounds officially brought together in 2002 because of our mutual concern for the rise in world conflict. Our mandate is to participate in multilateral non-violent conflict resolution in support of global human rights, ecological and environmental sustainability and international law through education, sharing of information, dialogue and activism locally and globally. We encourage and seek your participation in our mutual work for true peace based on social justice, equality, accountability, integrity, honor, respect, etc in order to build a better world today and future generations.

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

*BPI meetings are suspended until at least 3 people commit to meet regularly monthly. For information call (250) 442-0434 or email [L4peace@telus.net](mailto:L4peace@telus.net).*

Boundary Peace Initiative Newsletter— Page 4

## What's Up?

**Sept. 21<sup>st</sup> on International Day of Peace** in Grand Forks @ **5pm in Gyro Park** come Walk with the Drum to GFSS for Powwow welcome and Water Ceremony followed at **7 pm for a concert 'Envisioning Canada'**. Check info on Page 1. To BPI members & supporters please contact Laura to donate food for the concession. Thank you.



**Peace Café @ Mir Center** for Peace on **Sept.20<sup>th</sup>** with speaker: **William Geimer** (The Case for Staying Out of War) an independent author, Lawyer, Professor and Advisor to Elizabeth May.

*Watch for further coverage of the BCSIPC conference in the next issue. Sorry for the inconvenience.*

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 MP contact information at <http://www.canada.gc.ca>

Boundary Peace Initiative Newsletter—  
Page 4

## Book Recommendations



### **No Is Not Enough: Resisting the New Shock Politics and Winning the World We Need**

By: Naomi Klein **Jun 5 2017**

"Trump is extreme but he's not a Martian. He is the logical conclusion of many of the most dangerous trends of the past half-century. He is the personification of the merger of humans and corporations--a one-man megabrand, with wife and children as spin-off brands. This book is to help understand how we arrived at this surreal political moment, how to keep it from getting a lot worse, and how, if we keep our heads, we can flip the script and seize the opportunity to make things a whole lot better in a time of urgent need--a tool-kit for shock-resistance.

The election of Donald Trump produced a frightening escalation in a world of cascading crises. The Trump Administration's vision--the deconstruction of the welfare and regulatory state, the unleashing of a fossil fuel frenzy (which requires the sweeping aside of climate science) and an all-out attack on vulnerable communities under the guise of a war on crime and terrorism--will generate wave after wave of crises and shocks around the world, to the economy, to national security, to the environment.

In *No Is Not Enough*, Naomi Klein embraces a lively conversation with the reader to expose the forces behind Trump's success and explain why he is not an aberration but the product of our time--Reality TV branding, celebrity obsession and CEO-worship, Vegas and Guantanamo, fake news and vulture bankers all rolled into one. And she shares a bold vision, a clear-eyed perspective on how to break the spell of his shock tactics, counter the rising chaos and divisiveness at home and abroad, and win the world we need.

...*since* the climate is changing as a result of two-hundred-odd years of such accumulated emissions, that means that the countries that have been powering their economies with fossil fuels since the Industrial Revolution have done far more to cause temperatures to rise than those that just go in on the globalization game in the last couple of decades. Developed countries, which represent less than 20% of world's population, have emitted almost 70% of all the greenhouse gas pollution that is now destabilizing the climate. (The United States alone, which comprises less than 5 % of the global population, now contributes about 14% of all carbon emissions)

Naomi Klein (This Changes Everything)

The BPI welcomes your input. Articles are the author's responsibility and may not be common consensus of members. To submit articles contact Laura at **250-442-0434** or **L4peace@telus.net**. The BPI is a member of: BC Southern Interior Peace Coalition, Canadian Peace Congress, Abolition 2000, Lawyers Against the War and affiliate of Fellowship of Reconciliation. We also work with a wide range of local and global peace, social justice and environmental groups.