

NOTICE OF MEETING
PEACE AND JUSTICE COMMITTEE

A G E N D A

DATE: Monday, March 14, 2005

TIME: 4:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
(sandwiches will be provided)

PLACE: Strathcona Meeting Room
Sub-Ground, City Hall

Note to Members: Please advise Denise Salmon at 604.873.7269 or email denise.salmon@vancouver.ca if you are unable to attend this meeting

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of January 31, 2005, to be adopted.

1. Sub-Committee Updates/Reports

- a. Citizen Peace Award Sub-Committee
- b. Hiroshima Day Sub-Committee
- c. Justice Sub-Committee
- d. Peace and Justice WebSite Sub-Committee
- e. Public Participation Sub-Committee
- f. Star Wars Agenda Sub-Committee
- g. World Peace Forum Sub-Committee

Notes from the Public Participation Sub-committee meeting of March 1, 2005, are attached and refer.

The attached World Peace Forum News (Vol.1 No. 4) dated February 18, 2005, refers.

**Peace and Justice Committee Agenda
March 14, 2005**

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2. New Business

3. Enquiries and Other Matters

Next Meeting:

DATE: Monday, May 30, 2005
TIME: 4:30 p.m.
PLACE: Strathcona Meeting Room
Sub-Ground, City Hall

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**Notes from the Meeting of the Public Participation Sub-committee
Tuesday March 1/05
7 – 9 pm**

Present: Tom Anthony, David Askew, Amanda Camley, Sam Fillipoff

1. We are pleased to report that the Peace and Justice Committee's banner has been printed and will be available for the peace march on the 19th. The total cost for the 3' by 6' banner is \$285. We will be seeking reimbursement from the City. We recommend that the Peace and Justice Committee recognize designer Garth Yule for his contribution.
2. The Vancouver School Board Flag and Banners Committee is proceeding with the design of World Peace Forum 2006 flags. We have 12 schools designing flags. Tom and David were invited to Strathcona, where, during reading week, 12 UBC students worked with 60 Strathcona students to design flags. David provided background on the project and Tom attended Hotel Rwanda, with the UBC students, and participated in a discussion of the issues raised in the film. From the many designs e.g. 60 at Strathcona, one flag will be selected from each school to be printed and flown at City Hall and at the school. Printing costs are an issue. It will cost \$6272 to print the flags. We have obtained a \$2,000 grant from the BCTF Ed May fund, our application to VanCity was not successful so we are still seeking funds for the printing. Sam was referred to the Youth Millennium Project at UBC, by a World Peace Forum Society Member. We are pursuing a joint Youth Millennium Project/VSB grant application to the CIDA Global Classroom Initiative (\$150,000). This grant, if awarded, will cover seminars, administration, and curriculum development for the banner project, to begin in April.
3. Sam has been working with Ellen Woodsworth and the Grandview/Uuqinak'uuh Elementary School Community to develop a park adjacent to the school. One of the possibilities is that the park could be dedicated as a peace park during the 2006 world peace forum.
4. Tom continues to work for an appeal process for refugees who are refused denied refugee status
5. The PPSC encourages participation by committee members, city staff and elected representatives in the March 19 peace march. The PPSC recommends that the Peace and Justice Committee initiate a celebration of Canada's decision not to join the US missile defense system and also initiate a peace walk in support of the UN nuclear weapons non-proliferation treaty. This latter event could coincide with Mayor Campbell's participation on May 1 in New York, with the Mayors for Peace initiative in support of the continuation of the UN nuclear weapons non-proliferation treaty.

World Peace Forum News

A digest of international, regional, Canadian and campaign news published by the UVIC Peace Research and Education Network as a proposed partnership project with World Peace Forum 2006.

A. World Peace Forum Update

Speaking to 700 people at a benefit for the B.C. Office of the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives in Vancouver on February 17, Stephen Lewis, U.N. special envoy to Africa praised the initiative taken to hold a World Peace Forum in Vancouver in 2006. "On March 16, this proposal will go to Vancouver City Council and it is an initiative that deserves your support," Lewis told the capacity crowd. Lewis praised the work of the CCPA and called on Canadians to do more to overcome the AIDS crisis in Africa. Speaking in his personal capacity, Lewis decried the effects of globalization, particularly the increasing gap between rich and poor around the world. Lewis criticized the smug and self-congratulatory gathering of elites at the World Economic Forum held every year in Davos, Switzerland but held out hope that the World Social Forum would offer practical solutions to global problems.

The World Peace Forum search for an executive director closes on Friday, February 25, 2005. Further information at admin@worldpeaceforum.ca.

Website: www.peaceandjustice.ca

B. International

Enduring Effects of War: Health in Iraq, 2004

This report from *Physicians for Global Survival* (PGS) assesses the consequences of the recent war in Iraq in terms of injuries, the reported 100,000 deaths, and the current pattern of mental and physical illness. It is a product of the Iraq Health monitoring project, building on two previous reports from Medact.

<http://www.pgs.ca/>

<http://www.pgs.ca/updir/Iraq20041.pdf>

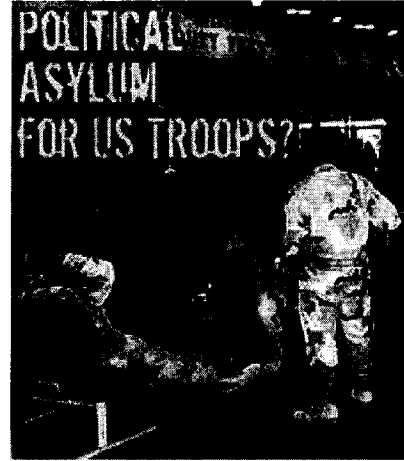
US Soldiers Seek Asylum in Ireland

The physical connection between the US, Ireland, and Iraq lies within a small civilian airport in western Ireland, where American planes often refuel on their way to Iraq. A group of anti-war activists in the area, called *Pitstop Ploughshares* has called for American war resisters to slip away and seek refuge while their planes refuel.

Members of the Irish parliament and former Irish army commandant, Ed Horgan joined in extending this invitation to US Soldiers. "It is estimated that more than 5,500 soldiers have left their 'duties' in the current wars, including highly publicised cases like the imprisoned Camilio Mejia, the exiled Jeremy Hinzman (seeking refuge in Canada) and Kevin Benderman, seeking conscientious-objector status after 10 years in the army because of what he witnessed on his first tour of duty in Iraq."

<http://www.counterpunch.org/browne02082005.html>

http://www.indymedia.ie/newswire.php?story_id=68544&type=feature



Critical Reflections On The Fifth World Social Forum

"The Fifth World Social Forum, which met in Porto Alegre, Brazil, between 26 and 31 January 2005, demonstrated once again the enormous strength of the global movement that became visible in the struggles of Chiapas, Seattle, and Genoa. 200,000 at the opening demonstration, 155,000 participants involved in 2,500 activities, a wealth of cultural events, the concluding Assembly of the Social Movements that took up the call for a global day of protest against the occupation of Iraq on 19 March - all of these are things to celebrate." – Alex Callinicos and Chris Nineham, February 11, 2005

<http://www.zmag.org/content/showarticle.cfm?SectionID=1&ItemID=7197>

**World
Social
Forum**

C. Regional

Darfur

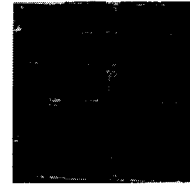
Alex de Waal's recent article published by ZNet discusses the classification of the atrocity in Darfur as genocide. de Waal examines the reasons for considering Darfur "genocide," as well as the political implications of that term. According to de Waal, "The UN's decision, announced Monday [February 7, 2005], not to follow the US and categorize what is going on in Darfur as 'genocide' reflects the world's established caution in applying the term, at least as long as recognition of genocide implies the right - even the duty - to intervene militarily to stop it."

<http://www.zmag.org/content/showarticle.cfm?SectionID=11&ItemID=7222>

Elections in Saudi Arabia

The elections will take place in three stages, but women will have to wait until 2009 to vote. Representatives claim that women were denied the vote in this election for "technical reasons" and that most women lack the necessary identification to vote in this election.

<http://www.citymayors.com/news/metronews1.html#Anchor-First-49575>

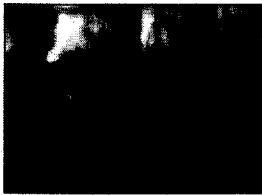


Israel - Palestine

Days after the truce declaration in Egypt between Ariel Sharon and Mahmoud Abbas, Israel agreed to release about 900 of the estimated 8,000 Palestinians it is holding. However, much needs to be confirmed regarding this arrangement.

<http://www.cbc.ca/cp/world/050212/w021240.html>

North Korea Plays for Hard Bargain with Nuke Boast



A news article, promoted by AntiWar.com: "Pyongyang's announcement Thursday that it had nuclear weapons and was pulling out of six-party talks aimed at curbing its atomic ambitions presents a major challenge to South Korea, its main ally, the United States, and China, which has played a lead role in the disarmament effort."

<http://www.antiwar.com/>

http://story.news.yahoo.com/news?tmpl=story&cid=574&ncid=721&e=2&u=/nm/20050212/wl_nm/korea_north_dc

D. Canada

MESSAGE TO MARTIN: NO MISSILE "DEFENCE"

URGENT: The Liberal Policy Convention is in Ottawa from March 3 to March 6 at the Congress Center. If the liberal delegates reject missile "defence" (and they might), it will be almost impossible for Martin to sign on. WE MUST LET THE LIBERAL CONVENTION KNOW HOW WE FEEL! The No To BMD Committee has plans. To make them happen WE NEED YOU to help make it happen!

www.nowar-paix.ca/NoToBMD

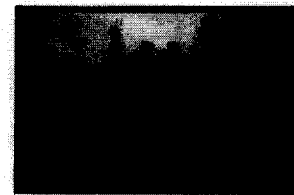
www.ceasefire.ca

<http://www.acp-cpa.ca/en/BMDLibcon.htm>

The Wars at Home, The Wars Abroad: Imperialism in Everyday Life

An Interdisciplinary Graduate Student Conference February 25-27, 2005 at the University of Victoria. Some of their special guests include Arthur Manuel (Skwelkwel'welt Protection Centre), Harsha Walia (No One Is Illegal), and scholars Steven Flusty (York U. geography professor, "De-Coca-Colonization: Making the World From the Inside Out"), and Richard Day (anarchist sociologist from Queens).

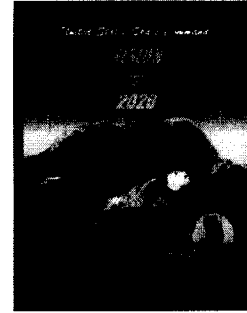
<http://web.uvic.ca/polisci/cspt/conference/>



Science for Peace: Vision for 2020

The University of Toronto organization *Science for Peace* presents an online essay in power point that adds richness to the wide array of educational materials about Space Weapons available on the web. This presentation is organized by Paul Hamel, who encourages other organizations and educators to use it in their own presentations.

http://scienceforpeace.sa.utoronto.ca/Space_Weapons2.html
http://scienceforpeace.sa.utoronto.ca/Presentations/2020_Essay/NMD_Presentation.ppt#2

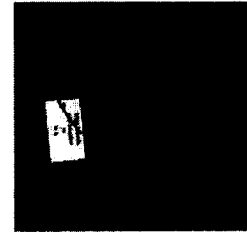


E. Campaigns

Wage Peace Movie

This short film by the *American Friends Service Committee* (AFSC) combines the imagery of several campaigns that have sought to end the violence in Iraq to deliver a common message. Watch the film, then sign the AFSC petition to end the occupation of Iraq.

<http://www.afsc.org/>
<http://www.afsc.org/wagepeace>



IPB Appeal: Year of Remembrance and Action for Nuclear Disarmament

The *International Peace Bureau* (IPB) recognizes that entering the 60th year after the tragic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki as an opportunity for the world to take steps toward the abolition of nuclear weapons. The 2005 Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference presents one opportunity to do this, but grassroots organizations must be mobilized to increase the pressure on the nuclear states. As one of the pioneer organizations in the campaign to abolish nuclear weapons, IPB calls upon its member organizations and supporters to intensify their actions in relation to both the NPT Review Conference and the 60th anniversary commemorations of the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

<http://www.ipb.org/pdf/Enews-Feb.pdf>

Campaign against Coca-Cola Conference; 'Building Networks and Mobilizing the Boycott'

The campaign seeks to hold Coca Cola accountable for its crimes in Columbia and this movement has quickly been gaining momentum throughout Europe. "Trade unions, university and college students, schools, community groups and artists, as well as organizations working on a diverse range of issues - including human rights, environmental rights, South Asian issues, corporate accountability and fair trade - have pledged their support for the campaign. In Italy, 250 municipalities have voted to join the boycott. In Germany, the world's largest trade union with 4 million members has done the same."

<http://www.activistnetwork.org.uk/index.php?module=pagesetter&func=viewpub&tid=1&pid=95>

