HIROSHIMA NAGASAKI DAY COALITION

Working together for the abolition of nuclear weapons

COMMEMORATIONS

Monday, August 6, 2018 @ 6:30 PM
The Peace Garden on Nathan Phillips Square

PHOTO: Katy McCormick

2 MINUTES TO MIDNIGHT
TIME TO BAN THE BOMB

Nine nations still threaten to incinerate entire cities, to destroy life on earth, to make our beautiful world uninhabitable for future generations. -Setsuko Thurlow

Hiroshima/Nagasaki Poster Display and Survivors' Art Exhibit

Toronto City Hall Rotunda
100 Queen St. West
August 6 - 11, 2018
10 am - 5 pm

CANADA'S NUCLEAR LEGACY

The radium and uranium mine at Port Radium in Great Bear Lake, Northwest Territories, employed Indigenous Dene labour to transport crushed radioactive ore from the mine in cloth sacks, without protective equipment. The Dene were not trained in the proper handling of radioactive materials or educated on the serious health risks associated with unsafe handling.

The Manhattan Project used Port Radium uranium that was sold to the US Government. Early nuclear research and testing as well as the atomic bombs of Hiroshima and Nagasaki contained materials originating from Port Radium. The Canadian uranium ore and 1200 tons of uranium concentrate from the Belgian Congo were refined by Eldorado, a Crown Corporation, in Port Hope, Ontario.

The documentary *Village of Widows* reminds us of the devastating loss of Dene men in Déline, N.W.T. to cancer in the years following the mining at Port Radium. The Déline community in the Northwest Territories still struggles with the 1.7 million tons of uranium waste dumped into Sahtu, Great Bear Lake.

From the 1940s, Canada embraced "the peaceful atom" and nuclear cooperation with India, which allowed India to develop a nuclear power programme. This arrangement, however, was suspended once India became a nuclear weapons state after testing its first atomic bomb on 18 May 1974 using plutonium produced in a Canadian CIRUS reactor. Nuclear proliferation began in South Asia and it continues to be at high risk for a nuclear disaster.

Canada-India Nuclear Cooperation Agreement came into force in 2015; a $350 million, 5-year contract for uranium exports to India. India is not a signatory to the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) and has an estimated nuclear arsenal of over 100 warheads.

Canada as a member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) hosted US nuclear weapons on its soil from 1963 to 1984. Without nuclear warheads, Canada remains under the US nuclear umbrella and as a NATO member supports the position that "as long as nuclear weapons exist, NATO will remain a nuclear alliance."

The United States Mission to NATO, on 17 October 2016, circulated a memo to NATO allies advising them to vote "no" to Bill L41, the 2016 UN General Assembly resolution to establish a mandate for nations to negotiate a Nuclear Weapons Ban Treaty. NATO allies were also directed not to participate in the Nuclear Ban Treaty negotiations. The memo warned that a Ban Treaty would undermine the current disarmament process and the security of NATO nations.

Canada voted against Bill L41 in 2016 and did not participate in the negotiation of the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. It claimed that US nuclear weapons are essential for national security. Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau called the negotiations "sort of useless" as nuclear weapons states had boycotted the meetings.

In 2018, the Hiroshima/Nagasaki Day Coalition unveiled seven new posters with photos by Bob Del Tredici, Blake Fitzpatrick, Jo Straube and Katy McCormick. See them in the City Hall Rotunda, Aug 6-11 as part of the HNDC Poster Display & Survivors' Art Exhibit.

PROGRAM
2 Minutes to Midnight: Time to Ban the Bomb

4:30 **Community Tables** Origami, Face Painting & Lantern Making, Shiatsu

6:30 **Drum Performance** *Nagata Shachu Japanese Taiko and Music Group*

6:45 **Musical Performance** *Ron Korb*, Award-winning Flautist

7:00 **Opening of Commemoration Ceremony**
Phyllis Creighton, Master of Ceremonies, Science for Peace

7:05 **Welcome by Toronto's Hiroshima/Nagasaki Day Coalition**
Rosemary Keenan, Pax Christi Toronto

7:10 **Prayer** *Wanda Whitebird*
Knowledge Keeper from Mi'kmaw Nation, Paqtnkek, Nova Scotia

7:15 **"The Beginning of the End of Nuclear Weapons"**
Setsuko Thurlow, Disarmament Advocate and Hiroshima Hibakusha

7:25 **City of Toronto's Hiroshima/Nagasaki Day Proclamation**
Joe Mihevc, Councillor, St Paul's West

7:30 **Hiroshima & Nagasaki Peace Proclamations**
Alex Pereklita, Tao Sangha Healing Centre

Minute of Silence

7:40 **Musical Performance** *Pax Christi Chorale*
William Byrd: *Ave Verum Corpus* ~ Stephen Chatman: *Remember* ~
Kinoshita Makiko: *Kamome*

7:55 **"The Growing Danger of Nuclear War and What We Can Do About It"**
Dr. Ira Helfand, MD, and Co-President, International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War

8:15 **Musical Performance** *Toronto Raging Grannies*: *Gaggle ~ Hiroshima 'Tween the Humber & the Don ~ Beneath the Nuclear Umbrella ~ War Games Hiroshima Sakura ~ The New Treaty ~ Last Night I Had the Strangest Dream*

8:25 **HNDC Pledge & "What We Can Do"**
Katy McCormick, artist and educator, Ryerson University

8:30 **Closing Prayer** *Imam Imtiaz Ahmed*, Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at Canada

8:35 **Closing remarks from the Master of Ceremonies** *Phyllis Creighton*

8:40 **Lantern Ceremony** accompanied by flautist *Ron Korb*

2018 Community & Craft Tables

Science for Peace
Conscience Canada
Ontario Clean Air Alliance
Voice of Women for Peace
Physicians for Global Survival
Tao Sangha Shiatsu
Pax Christi (Toronto)
Origami by the JCCC
HNDC Lantern Making
Hiroshima/Nagasaki Day Coalition

SETSUKO THURLOW

Setsuko Thurlow is a retired Toronto Public School Board social worker, a founder of Japanese Social Services and a peace activist instrumental in the development of Toronto's Peace Garden.

As a young school girl, she survived the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and she shares her experiences to put a voice and a face to the powerful, destructive force of nuclear weapons. Setsuko is an international nuclear disarmament advocate and a City of Hiroshima Peace Ambassador. She is also a member of the Order of Canada. Recognized as the 2015 Arms Control Person of the Year she also received the 2017 Ahmadiyya Muslim Prize for the Advancement of Peace.

An active campaigner, Setsuko played an essential role with the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) and in the 2017 United Nations nuclear ban treaty negotiations that led to the adoption of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons on 7 July 2017. In accepting ICAN's 2017 Nobel Peace Prize alongside ICAN's Executive Director Beatrice Fihn, Setsuko represented the voice of the Hibakusha and their decades of advocacy to rid the planet of nuclear weapons so that no one else would ever experience the devastation of these weapons of mass destruction.

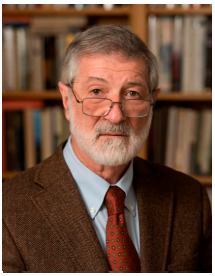
Toronto Mayor Tory and City Council recognized Setsuko on behalf of the City of Toronto in November 2017 for her work with ICAN and her lifetime of peace activism; as a result of this honour the Toronto Board of Health held public hearings on the dangers of nuclear weapons and radioactive fallout. In April 2018, with Setsuko's statement leading off submissions from the public, the Board of Health voted unanimously that Toronto's City Council should request the Government of Canada sign the United Nations' Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. Toronto's City Council and Mayor Tory unanimously supported this motion and forwarded the call to the Government of Canada.

The Hiroshima/ Nagasaki Day Coalition is proud of the contribution Setsuko Thurlow continues to make the vital cause of nuclear abolition, at home and internationally.

HIBAKUSHA *are the survivors of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The meaning of Hibakusha has been extended to include people who are survivors of nuclear disasters including Fukushima, Chernobyl, nuclear testing and uranium mining.*

DR. IRA HELFAND, MD - KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Ira Helfand, MD, is a member of the International Steering Group of the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons, ICAN, the recipient of the 2017 Nobel Peace Prize, and co-President of the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, the recipient of the 1985 Nobel Peace Prize. He is also co-founder and past President of Physicians for Social Responsibility, IPPNW's US affiliate.



He represented ICAN at the Oslo and Nayarit Conferences on the Humanitarian Impact of Nuclear War, and in September 2015 he addressed a special session of the United Nations General Assembly. In May 2016 he led the session on the humanitarian consequences of nuclear war at the United Nations Open Ended Working Group meeting in Geneva that led to the successful negotiation of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in the summer of 2017, and on 20 September 2017 he represented IPPNW at the signing ceremony for the Treaty.

He has published studies on the medical consequences of nuclear war in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, the *British Medical Journal, the Lancet* and the *World Medical Journal*, and has lectured widely in the United States, and in India, China, Japan, Russia, South Africa, Israel, Pakistan, Mexico, Brazil, Columbia, and throughout Europe on the health effects of nuclear weapons. He represented PSR and IPPNW at the Nobel ceremonies in Oslo in 2009, honoring President Obama, and presented their report, **Nuclear Famine: One Billion People at Risk**, at the 2012 Nobel Peace Laureates Summit in Chicago. A second edition was released in December 2013.

Dr. Helfand was educated at Harvard College and the Albert Einstein College of Medicine. He is a former chairman of the Department of Emergency Medicine and President of the Medical Staff at Cooley Dickinson Hospital, and currently practices as an internist and urgent care physician at Family Care Medical Center in Springfield, Massachusetts.

He is the recipient of the 1997-1998 Will L. Judy Award, the 2003 O'Dwyer Award, the 2003 John Phillips Award, the 2016 Verdoorn Prize, the 2017 Distinguished Peace Leadership Award, and the 2017 Edward Barsky Award. He lives with his wife, Deborah Smith, a medical oncologist, in Leeds, Massachusetts.

NUCLEAR FAMINE: A BILLION PEOPLE AT RISK? Global Impacts of Limited Nuclear War on Agriculture, Food Supplies, and Human Nutrition
See the report at: www.psr.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/two-billion-at-risk.pdf

THE NUCLEAR WEAPONS BAN TREATY

The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, also referred to as the Nuclear Ban Treaty, was adopted by the United Nations on 7 July 2017 with the support of 122 states. It joins the treaties that deal with chemical weapons, biological weapons and landmines.

This treaty grew out of the 2007 global civil society coalition called the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN). In 2011 the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) released a resolution that focused on the humanitarian aspects of nuclear weapons and the impossibility of any meaningful response to a nuclear weapons explosion. Three successful Humanitarian Consequences of Nuclear Weapons conferences followed with the resulting Humanitarian Pledge, signed by 127 nations, addressing the global human and environmental impacts of nuclear weapons.

The process that developed into the Nuclear Ban Treaty negotiations increasingly included survivors of nuclear weapons testing and use, civil society, NGOs and non-nuclear weapon reliant states.

The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons opened for signature on 20 September 2017. As of 1 August 2018, 59 states have signed it and 14 states have ratified it. Once 50 have done so it will enter into force as international law.

HNDC PLEDGE FOR NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT

Today, remembering the devastating atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, we recall the message on the cenotaph in the Peace Park in Hiroshima, “Let all the souls here rest in peace; For we shall not repeat the evil.”

The world has lived under the shadow of nuclear weapons for more than 70 years, and nuclear arsenals now hold enough weapons to destroy it many times over.

Should another nuclear war ever be precipitated, deliberately or accidentally, it will cause untold human suffering and the destruction of Earth’s biosphere and life as we know it.

On this commemoration day, we say “No more Hiroshimas, No more Nagasakis: Never again on planet Earth,” as we promised to those destroyed by the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. And, this is our pledge to ensure the continued existence of humankind and a future for our children, free of the ever-present threat of nuclear annihilation.

THE PLEDGE

Today, with people around the world, we commit ourselves to cooperate with states, parliamentarians, and civil society in efforts to stigmatize, prohibit, and eliminate nuclear weapons, for the sake of humanity, and to prevent unthinkable horror before it is too late.

SING ALONG WITH TORONTO'S RAGING GRANNIES

Last Night I Had the Strangest Dream
Written by Ed McCurdy

Last night I had the strangest dream
I ever dreamed before,
I dreamed the world had all agreed
To put an end to war.

I dreamed I saw a mighty room
All filled with women and men,
And the paper they were signing said
They'd never fight again!

And when the paper was all signed,
And a million copies made,
They all joined hands and bowed their heads
And grateful prayers were prayed

And the people in the streets below
Were dancing round and round,
And swords and guns and uniforms
Were scattered on the ground.

Last night I had the strangest dream
I ever dreamed before,
I dreamed the world had all agreed
To put an end to war.

THE HIROSHIMA/ NAGASAKI DAY COALITION includes representatives of peace groups and concerned individuals in the Greater Toronto Area. The Coalition formed to commemorate the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki and to work for the abolition of nuclear weapons. Every August, the HNDC organizes public events to ensure the human suffering and destruction inflicted by the first atomic bombings in 1945 will never be forgotten or repeated. Many thanks to all the donors, volunteers, speakers and performers who made it possible for Toronto to have a Hiroshima/ Nagasaki commemoration in 2018.

HNDC Planning Committee:

Science for Peace
Physicians for Global Survival
Pax Christi Toronto
Canadian Voice of Women for Peace
Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre
Tao Sangha Global Community
Hiroshima Kenjin Kai (Ontario)
Toronto Article 9

Supporters & Sponsors:

Canadian Pugwash Group
Conscience Canada
Greater Toronto NAJC
Ontario Clean Air Alliance
Canadian Physicians for Research & Education in Peace
Greater Toronto NAJC
National Association of Japanese Canadians

Please contact the Hiroshima/ Nagasaki Day Coalition
Web: **http://hiroshimadaycoalition.ca**
Email: **hiroshimaday@yahoo.ca**

HIROSHIMA NAGASAKI DAY COALITION
Working together for the abolition of nuclear weapons

ABOLISH NUCLEAR WEAPONS

GET INVOLVED

Join the HNDC or like-minded organizations.
Encourage family and friends to do likewise.
www.hiroshimadaycoalition.ca

LEARN MORE

See the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons.
See the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.
www.icanw.org

INVOLVE OUR ELECTED OFFICIALS

Encourage municipalities to do as Toronto did
and ask that Canada signs and ratifies the
Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

WRITE TO OUR PARLIAMENTARIANS

Write Prime Minister Trudeau
and Global Affairs Minister Freeland.

NO INVESTMENTS IN NUCLEAR WEAPONS

Find out if your financial institutions are supporting the
nuclear weapons industry.
www.dontbankonthebomb.com