



#NONEWIGHTERJETS #CLIMATEPEACE

JOIN US FRI. JULY 24:

DAY OF ACTION AGAINST FIGHTER JETS

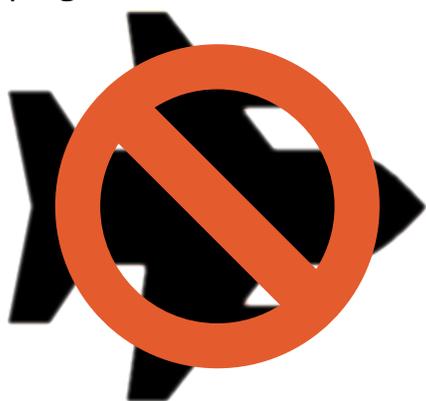
STRIKE FOR CLIMATE PEACE

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Last July, the Trudeau Liberal government opened a competition to replace the Royal Canadian Air Force's fighter aircraft fleet. It will spend \$19 billion to buy 88 new fighter jets. In the running are SAAB's Gripen multirole combat jet, Boeing's Super Hornet, and Lockheed Martin's F-35 fifth-generation stealth fighter. The bids are due at the end of July 2020 and then the federal government will make its decision in 2022. However, since 1997, the Canadian government has already invested over \$500 million to be part of the international consortium to develop the F-35 and its closest allies and NATO members use them, so it is expected that US weapons giant Lockheed Martin will win the bid. The United Kingdom, Italy, Netherlands, and Australia have already bought them. The F-35 program costing \$1 trillion is the most expensive weapons system in history, but is plagued with serious technical problems.



FIGHTER JETS ARE TOO COSTLY

The \$19 billion price tag for 88 fighter jets does not include life-cycle costs. In 2012, KPMG reported that the cost of 65 fighter jets would be \$45 billion to operate over their lifespan, so it will cost much more today. Forbes estimated that the hourly cost to operate an F-35 is over \$55,000 CAD. Thus, in one hour of flying a fighter jet, we could pay the annual salary of a social worker, nurse or teacher.

FIGHTER JETS HARM PEOPLE

Fighter jets are flown by one pilot, carry many bombs and missiles, and are used for combat. Canadian fighter jets were deployed to bomb Libya in 2011 and conducted airstrikes against ISIS targets in Syria and Iraq from 2014-2016. These bombing operations were devastating and injured, killed and displaced civilians and destroyed infrastructure. We have to stop fighting and bombing.

GREEN JOBS, NOT WAR JOBS

The Political Economy Research Institute at the University of Massachusetts has released a report that shows that more jobs could be created in clean energy, health care and education than in the defence industry with the same amount of funding. We could hire more people to build the green economy and tackle the climate emergency than in the war economy.

FIGHTER JETS HARM THE ATMOSPHERE

Fighter jets use a specialized fuel called JP8 that is more refined with toxic chemicals, which allows them to fly at faster speeds and higher altitudes than commercial aircraft. The F-35 has internal fuel capacity of 18,499 lbs (2,846 gallons) gives it a maximum range of 1,199 nautical miles. It is extremely fuel inefficient burning 2.37 gallons of fuel per mile and emitting 27.8



metric tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent before refuelling. The F-35 emits more carbon emissions in one long-range flight than the typical automobile emits in a year. Moreover, the carbon emissions and toxic chemicals emitted from these combat aircraft harm the fragile upper atmosphere that protects life on earth. Fighter jets are also extremely loud and their sonic booms are harmful to people and animals. Fighter jet noise can re-traumatize people who have suffered from war and armed conflict.

TAKE ACTION – STOP THE PURCHASE OF FIGHTER JETS

Please contact your Member of Parliament and Prime Minister Justin Trudeau to tell them that you do NOT want your tax dollars spent to purchase new costly, carbon-intensive fighter jets. You can call the Prime Minister at: 613-992-4211 and email him: pm@pm.gc.ca..

Let's stop the Canadian government from wasting precious tax dollars on fighter jets and disarm the skies. We must work together for genuine common security through peace, disarmament, gender equality, justice and environmental protection. We have 10 years to achieve the UN Sustainable Development Goals and to meet the Paris Agreement decarbonization target.

Social Media: #NoNewFighterJets #ClimatePeace

For more information, please visit: www.vowpeace.org/nofighterjets/

Organized by the Canadian Voice of Women for Peace, World Beyond War and Peace Brigades International-Canada. Supported by Pivot2Peace, the Women's International League for Peace & Freedom (WILPF)-Canada, the Ottawa Raging Grannies, Labour Against Arms Trade, Regina Peace Council, Conscience Canada, KW Peace, Pax Christi Toronto, Nova Scotia Voice of Women for Peace, Hamilton Coalition to Stop the War, Victoria Peace Coalition, Just Peace Advocates, Winnipeg Peace Alliance, the Canadian Peace Congress. Peterborough Peace Council, and the Canadian Foreign Policy Institute

**STOP THE \$19 BILLION PROCUREMENT
INVEST IN A GREEN NEW DEAL,
NOT NEW WEAPONS**

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