

Walking Together For Peace Nova Scotia September 8 - 21, 2024



Dear Friends,

Join the **Canadian Voice of Women for Peace**, **Science for Peace** and **Jai Jagat** from September 9th to 21st on a peace walk from Pugwash to Halifax, Nova Scotia to support the abolition of nuclear weapons worldwide and for Canada to sign the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

The Cause

Walking Together for Peace is a walk for a positive, just and sustainable peace. The threat of nuclear war is real and growing. Many of us ask ourselves 'but what can we do?' We can walk. Gandhi's principle of nonviolent resistance is the foundation of this walk. We can gather at the grassroots level and prioritize healing this world for the next seven generations. Together, Canadians need to understand that we can turn away from weaponizing the world.

Work done by **Pugwash** as a civil society organization contributed to many international treaties which have helped to keep the world safe over the last 75 years. These treaties are no longer being renewed and the nuclear weapons race is accelerating.

This grassroots initiative will build on Canada's history of support for disarmament with a call for Canada to join the **Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW)**. The TPNW was passed by the UN in 2017 and ratified in 2021, but Canada has not signed it.

The total nuclear weapons spending in the last five years was more than \$387 billion. Nuclear spending is only part of the annual global military spending of two trillion and 500 billion

dollars. Canada is under pressure to raise its spending beyond \$50 billion per year by 2030. This takes money that we need to invest in diplomacy and funding for human and environmental needs. We need to prevent war.



Thinker's Lodge in Pugwash

The History

Walking Together for Peace starts in Pugwash to connect us to the time that 22 of the most senior nuclear scientists came together at the **Thinker's Lodge in Pugwash** to a) condemn the use of nuclear weapons and b) find ways to regulate them.

The meeting in 1957 was successful in urging policy-makers to take concrete steps to abolish nuclear weapons; it was based on the **Russell-Einstein Manifesto** issued in the midst of the Cold War highlighting the dangers posed by nuclear weapons and calling for world leaders to seek peaceful resolutions to international conflicts.

The People



Dr. Jill Carr-Harris, a Canadian, specializing in peace education, teaches through nonviolent actions. She has worked with dispossessed women on livelihood in India for three decades.



Rajagopal P.V. is a leading personality on peace work in India and works with marginalized people encouraging them to stand up and walk for their land and livelihood rights. This presses policy-makers to address this injustice.



Nova Scotia Voice of Women for Peace is a local chapter of the Canadian Voice of Women for Peace which works locally, nationally, and internationally on issues related to peace, social justice, human rights and development with the mandate to promote the full inclusion of women in decision-making at all levels Of society.

Join The Movement

Walking Together for Peace Nova Scotia will take place from **September 8th to 21st, 2024**. It is a **200 kilometer walk** that will begin at Pugwash on the North Shore and conclude with people **walking, driving and biking** into Halifax.

A core group of youth, women, peace, ecology activists along with several Gandhian “Peace Walkers” joining us from India will be walking the full length. **We invite the public to join us as well for a few stops or a day to help support the cause.**

The participation will be local, national and international. It will focus on banning nuclear weapons and the positive impact that a complete ban will have on the **environment and the climate**. There will also be **workshops on disarmament education** and events in Halifax on the **International Day of Peace on September 21.**

“Let’s rebuild Canada’s identity as a peacebuilder firmly rooted on a path of reconciliation”

As we walk through diverse communities, we will learn from others also walking the path to peace. Together, we will explore the interconnected issues related to peace. Addressing rising temperatures, the threat of rising seas and wildfires includes **climate justice**. Understanding the burdens that deter us from healing the earth means to talk about **militarization, colonization** and **racism**.

This walk will call us to develop a **culture of peace** that will give us hope for the future as we **move from militarism to human security**, building community and peace for people and the



Lia Holla is the Executive Director of the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War Canada. She was named 1 of 25 Global Leaders for Tomorrow under the age of 29 by the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs.

planet. We need to develop ways to build our economy so that we meet human needs and support the transition to a renewable energy future.

Click [this link](#) to register or to support the walk

You can contact us at:

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www.vowpeace.org

This walk is organized by:

Canadian Voice of Women for Peace

Science for Peace

Jai Jagat

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom

International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War Canada

