

February 2007

On Wednesday, February 28th, the Pugwash Peace Exchange held a public meeting at the St. Thomas Moore Church hall in Pugwash. A presentation was made, covering the business plan prepared by Gardner Pinfold of Halifax. This presentation is available in pdf format by clicking [here](#).

A questions-and-answers session followed, with many thoughtful and interesting questions asked by various audience members. Afterwards, guests enjoyed coffee, tea and a wide variety of sweets provided by the Pugwash Peace Exchange volunteer committee.

The Pugwash Peace Exchange would like to express its sincere thanks to everybody who came out that evening to learn more about this exciting new project, and to the volunteers who helped to make it all possible.

March 2007

On Monday, March 5th, the Pugwash Peace Exchange will be holding its Annual General Meeting. This event will take place at 7pm, at the St. Thomas Moore Church Hall on Black Street in Pugwash. All members are invited. As well, memberships will be available at the door, so if you have not yet joined the Pugwash Peace Exchange, this is the perfect opportunity.

We will be looking back at a very successful 2006, and will be talking about our upcoming successes in 2007. As well, we have the distinct privilege of hosting as our guest speaker, Mr. Alex Morrison.

Alex Morrison, born in Sydney, Cape Breton is a graduate of Xavier Junior College, Mount Allison University (1968, Bachelor of Arts), the year-long course at the Canadian Forces Command and Staff College (1970, psc) and the Royal Military College of Canada (1980, Master of Arts.)

He wore the uniform of his country for 50 years: from Army Cadets to Reserve Army through Regular Army in Canada, Germany, Cyprus and the USA and as Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel of the 2nd Battalion The Nova Scotia Highlanders (Cape Breton) and then as Honorary Colonel of the Nova Scotia Highlanders. While serving for six years at Canada's Mission to the UN in New York, he was responsible for negotiating Canada's UN peacekeeping operations and for matters affecting arms control and disarmament. He is the Founding President (1994 – 2001) of the Pearson Peacekeeping Centre.

He is the Conference of Defence Associations Historian and author of *The Voice of Defence: The History of the Conference of Defence Associations* (1932-1982), and co-author with Ted Slaney of *The Breed of Manly Men: The History of the Cape Breton Highlanders*. In addition he is the editor of 30 books on various aspects of security and defence. He was the Co-Chair of *Fifty Years of Canadian Peacekeeping, Peacemaking and Peace Support*, an international conference held in Ottawa in May 2006. In addition he is a former member of the Board of Directors of the Royal United Services Institute of Nova Scotia and former Chair of its Security Affairs Committee, President of the Army Cadet League of Nova Scotia and the Nova Scotia representative on the National Council of the Army Cadet League of Canada. He is in frequent demand as a media commentator on defence and security matters.

December 2006

On Friday, December 1st, the Village of Pugwash celebrated "Merry Madness", an annual tradition. Local stores and businesses kept their doors open late, offering specials, prize draws, and holiday refreshments.

The Pugwash Peace Exchange, along with other local community groups, was given a display table at the Village Commission. Throughout the evening, we sold holiday cards and note-cards and handed out information about the PPE.

Two draws were also held. Everybody who bought a package of cards had their name entered into a draw for a basket of holiday items for the home, kindly donated by Basic Spirit pewter. The winner of the basket was Brenda Kittelsen. A draw was also held for a decorative sandstone marker, bearing the legend "Peace on Earth", and donated by local artisan Keith Elliott. This item was won by Marilyn Patriquin.

Despite the inclement weather, an enjoyable evening was had by all, and we would like to thank everybody who braved the elements and came out to participate.

October 2006

Stephen Leahey, the President of the Pugwash Peace Exchange's Board of Directors, recently paid a visit to the South Shore of Nova Scotia.

Hosted by the Youth for Social Justice Group and students of the Park View Education Centre in Bridgewater, Leahey visited the school earlier in the day of October 23rd, and then later spoke at a gathering at the Michelin Social Club.

This all-ages event was attended by students and adults from around the community, and visitors were inspired and educated by Leahey's talk, "What Made Pugwash Famous."

A special treat was also in store, as the youth organizers created a brand-new "Peace Exchange Punch" recipe, unveiled at this event, to the great delight of all.

The Pugwash Peace Exchange would like to extend a special thank-you to Board member Stephanie McCandless Reford, for all of her hard work in making this event a success.

September 2006

On September 21st, the Pugwash Peace Exchange, in conjunction with Acadia University, held a wine and cheese social in the Garden Room of the K.C. Irving Environmental Science Centre.

This event was attended by approximately 60 people, both Pugwash Peace Exchange members and potential members, from the Annapolis Valley. The president of Acadia, Gail Dinter-Gottlieb, introduced the main speaker, Pugwash Peace Exchange president, Stephen Leahey. The transcript of Stephen's talk can be seen [here](#).

The Pugwash Peace Exchange would like to thank Macha MacKay, of our Advisory Council, for organizing this wonderful event. We would also like to thank [Gaspereau Vineyards](#) for providing the excellent wine, and [Foxhill Cheese](#) for their generous donation of cheese.

July 2006

Dallaire visits Pugwash

Retired general sees proposed centre as catalyst to rejuvenate movement against nuclear weapons

By TOM McCOAG Amherst Bureau

PUGWASH — Senator Romeo Dallaire didn't sleep well Friday night because he was haunted by ghosts.

But they were not the evil ghosts that have troubled him since he witnessed the genocide of hundreds of thousands of people during his ill-fated United Nations mission in Rwanda a dozen years ago. No, they were the ghosts of the scientists, intellectuals, academics and businessmen who stayed at Cyrus Eaton's home nearly 50 years ago and launched the fight against nuclear proliferation.

"The ghosts in this house are not evil, but are ghosts of incredible serenity . . . who came together here in this serene environment to discuss how . . . to prevent humanity from wiping itself out," the retired general said Saturday in an interview conducted in the living room of the late Mr. Eaton's home.

"It's a question that must still be discussed, an issue that must still be brought to the attention of the world."

Senator Dallaire was in Pugwash to attend a dinner the Pugwash Peace Exchange Society staged to recognize his achievements as a soldier and statesman and to thank him for agreeing to become the society's honorary patron.

The society was formed this year. Its goal is to develop a \$6-million interpretive, educational and recreational complex that would preserve the history of the Pugwash Peace Conferences on Science and World Affairs and give politicians, scientists, educators and young people from around the world a place to promote peace.

The Pugwash Conferences began in 1957 with Mr. Eaton's help. The initial meeting attracted scientists and politicians from around the world, from both sides of the Iron Curtain. Albert Einstein and Bertrand Russell wrote a peace manifesto that called for the elimination of nuclear weapons. It was adopted at the meeting.

Senator Dallaire agreed to become the new society's honorary patron because he sees the centre's creation as a catalyst to help rejuvenate the worldwide movement against nuclear weapons.

"We thought the whole nuclear exercise would disappear because the main belligerents in the Cold War are now at peace with each other, but this hasn't happened. Instead, we see a whole bunch of other actors potentially making proliferation, and the strong possibility of those weapons being used, a new reality."

Those actors include Iran, North Korea and extremist groups. The size of the weapons has decreased dramatically since the Cold War ended because of improved technology and because the controls on them are not as strong as before, the senator said.

The fact that the Pugwash movement is relaunching its anti-nuclear proliferation movement through the exchange society is a positive step, he said, "because it means we can bring the anti-nuclear perspective back into the mainstream just as it was in the 1950s and '60s."

"Pugwash was one of those tools that was significant and successful in bringing the proliferation of nuclear weapons under control," he said. "I think Pugwash can be just as significant today by once again pressuring world leaders back to not only suppress the proliferation of nuclear weapons but to bring about their ultimate elimination."

Focusing attention on nuclear arms would also force society to pay attention to the rapid increase in the number of small arms and the use of child soldiers — issues dear to the former general's heart.

"There are over 740 million small arms in the world . . . so small arms are weapons of mass destruction. Link these weapons with children — those aged nine to 14 — which exist in vast quantities in developing countries and who are deemed expendable, and that makes them weapons of mass destruction.

"Anyone who doesn't believe that just has to look at what is now happening in Darfur and what happened in Rwanda and Uganda. We have millions of people in displacement camps, in refugee camps, because there are a bunch of youths out there committing rape and using those weapons," he said.

"These weapons of mass destruction — whether nuclear or children with small arms — can and will be used because there are still human beings in the world who have the ability to conceive the idea of genocide, of using nuclear weapons."

As proof, he points to his own experience in Rwanda, where extremists sat around a table and cooked up a "detailed plan to mutilate and slaughter 1.2 million people of a different ethnicity. Ultimately they slaughtered 750,000 of them in 100 days.

"A nuclear weapon does the same thing in seconds. But the philosophy that allows the use of either is the same, and it is this philosophy that we must change."

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Banquet Of Peace

Pugwash (Staff) - The tiny Village of Pugwash is about to embark on an incredible mission. It, its people, and its reputation as a birthplace for peace initiatives, will have an impact heard around the world. Pray the world listens.

July 9, 2005 marked the 50th anniversary of the Russell-Einstein Manifesto, in which Lord Bertrand Russell, Albert Einstein and nine eminent scientists issued the warning that the survival of humankind required the abolition of warfare and called for the elimination of nuclear weapons.

That warning was followed by the first Pugwash Conference hosted by Cyrus Eaton at his summer home in Pugwash.

For many years it appeared as though the world was heeding the warnings and was working towards a common plan for peace. By 1989, the so-called cold war era had ended and nuclear weapons were being destroyed.

And now, in 2006? There's a very real and perhaps imminent threat of nuclear war. The call for the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and for the sanctity of human rights is again to be re-issued from Pugwash.

The Pugwash Park Commission (PPC), which oversees the Cyrus Eaton estate, and the Pugwash Peace Exchange (PPE), which was formed to restore the original Eaton property and build a new interpretive centre, issued a joint historic resolution.

"The Pugwash Park Commission and the Pugwash Peace Exchange, in the first joint meeting, resolve to go forward together to further the Pugwash ideal to promote learning about the necessity of peace and nuclear disarmament.

The PPC and PPE will cooperate to ensure the longevity of the Thinkers' Lodge as a site for conferences and the development of the new edifice, which will be an interpretive and education centre on topics related to war and peace.

The PPC and PPE recognize that their combined efforts, based on regular communication, will enhance their common goal to strengthen the Pugwash capacity to contribute to building the conditions for peace in the world."

The PPE hosted a "Banquet of Peace" July 8, with Lieutenant General the Hon. Romeo Dallaire as guest speaker.

General Dallaire recently accepted the position of Honourary Patron of the Pugwash Peace Exchange.

It was he who in 1993, commanded the United Nations Observer Mission-Uganda and Rwanda and headed the UN Assistance Mission for Rwanda.

He spoke of his mission in Rwanda and the horrors of genocide he and his troops had to witness: 1.2 million men, women, children and unborn slaughtered in 100 days. Extremists, vying for power, created genocide. They turned 300,000 children into killers. Children slaughtering children.

Dallaire said the world must mobilize and demand an end to such atrocities against humankind and to ensure the absolute elimination of nuclear weapons. The world must shout the slogan "Ban the Bomb". And it can all begin in Pugwash and Canada can play a major role. Human rights are not for Canadians only. The world is asking Canada to take on this responsibility because Canadians are known and respected for protecting human rights around the world.

"We have the responsibility to ensure people in those countries have more than just the sustenance of life," said Dallaire. "Canadians believe that all humans are human and not one is more human than another."

Stephen Leahey, chair of the PPE says the joint resolution passed signals to the local

community the PPC and PPE are together in seeing the creation of the new edifice, the Pugwash Peace Exchange centre.

The banquet signals to the local community as well as provincially, nationally and internationally, the historic role Pugwash has played in promoting world peace, human rights, and the elimination of nuclear weaponry.

He says the PPE promotes the learning of the realities of war and the necessity of peace and nuclear disarmament, in the context of history, science and personal commitment. The new Pugwash Peace Exchange interpretive centre and complex will be the only memorial in the world dedicated to world peace.

In it will be exhibited historical documents never before available to the public. It will facilitate learning, research, and thinking in an environmentally sensitive facility. Exhibits and displays will concentrate on the "Human Security Agenda": Nuclear disarmament, economic development, environmental protection, human rights, and democracy.

It will celebrate the history of the Pugwash movement, the role Pugwash has played in world peace in the past 50 years, and it will also house the Nobel Peace Prize medallion of Sir Joseph Rotblat.

The goal is to provide a world class interpretive, educational and research facility for the world to visit and share in the history and future of peace.

August 10, 2006 - The Northern Light, (Blaine, WA)

Pugwash Peace Conferences "Transcend Politics" (by Richard Clark)

"The general public, and even many men in position of authority, have not realized what would be involved in a war with nuclear bombs," states the Russell-Einstein Manifesto of 1955 in London. "We appeal, as human beings, to human beings: Remember your humanity, and forget the rest." ([more...](#))

Fighting for peace:

Failed States, who defines them?

PUGWASH – It is both curious and brilliant that an organization espousing peace would choose as its patron, Lieutenant General Romeo Dallaire – a military man, but the Pugwash Peace Exchange (PPE) should not be confused with a pacifist movement. The organization traces its history back to the original Pugwash Conference in 1957 when the world's best and brightest came to the village to discuss nuclear disarmament with a collective belief that the next world war would be the last.

Two years earlier, Albert Einstein and Bertrand Russell issued their manifesto, which became the basis for the Pugwash Movement. The primary thrust of that manifesto was: "In view of the fact that in any future world war nuclear weapons will certainly be employed, and that such weapons threaten the continued existence of mankind, we urge the governments of the world to realize, and to acknowledge publicly, that their purpose cannot be furthered by a world war, and we urge them, consequently, to find peaceful means

for the settlement of all matters of dispute between them.”

That was nearly fifty years ago, when the obvious combatants were the Soviet Union and the United States and the obvious weapon was the nuclear missile. After the fall of the Berlin Wall there was supposed to be a peace dividend; monies previously spent on military hardware could be rerouted to education and health. That never happened.

Well before the wall came down the phrase Axis of Evil had been coined. So was the term “rogue state.” We had new enemies in the bullpen that required of us that we keep up our guard and our defence spending. The US did; Canada didn't.

This past July, the PPE held a reception and dinner at which president Stephen Leahey recapped the history of the Pugwash Movement and of nuclear disarmament. According to Leahey, the movement has held over 200 conferences around the world promoting peace. The Pugwash Movement believes that peace is more than merely the absence of war; it encompasses issues of economics, the environment and human rights. Both the Pugwash Peace Exchange and the Pugwash Movement have grown beyond their original non-proliferation goals and now discuss the underlying threats to peace.

Leahey told the audience, “The Pugwash Movement has become an international ideal and the aim of the Pugwash Peace Exchange is to promote that ideal and the intellectual and scientific reasoning behind it.” To that end, the PPE intends to build an interpretive centre devoted to the promotion of peace. MP Bill Casey then introduced General Dallaire to the audience. Casey was an obvious choice to welcome the group's patron. He has worked hard to get assistance for the cause. He also sits on the exchange's advisory council and the interpretive centre will be built in Casey's riding, but it must also be said that his government has increased military spending by \$18 billion.

General Dallaire himself is not opposed to a well funded military. His speech to the audience of 300 guests pointed out that the Rwandan genocide took place because of a failure of the member countries to provide the necessary military force to prevent an escalation of violence. “It was not a failure of the UN,” Dallaire insisted. “The member states failed. They failed to provide the force necessary to save Rwandan lives. They failed to provide moral leadership. They failed to take their responsibilities to the UN seriously.” The General is a strong believer in United Nations sanctioned missions into failed states and believes that Canada was right to refuse to send troops to Iraq, but had a duty as a member of the UN community to send troops to Afghanistan. When asked how the UN could be entrusted with securing peace for the world when the five permanent members of the Security Council are also the five largest exporters of weapon systems, he replied, “It's difficult. The institution needs reform and only four articles of 103 were adopted during the last round of constitutional reform.”

In an interview with The Tide after the dinner, General Dallaire was asked if the world would not be a safer place if the troops from all countries were required to stay on their own soil. “No,” was his immediate reply. “The threat is no longer between nation states but within former colonies.”

It is here that the distinction between Peacekeeper and Peacemaker gets blurred. General Dallaire points out that one of the four articles of UN reform that the General Assembly adopted allows the security council to send humanitarian aid (and troops if necessary) into a state that has failed to protect the human rights of its citizens. “Morality dictates that humanity must step in to save failed states from acts of barbarism. I have no problem with sending troops in to create the conditions for peace provided the action is mandated by the UN.”

It is not clear what criteria the UN Security Council will use to decide whether a state has failed or not; there are many regimes that suppress human rights, who regularly use torture on political dissidents, and whose people are starving. Are these countries on a list of failed states to which Canada will be asked to send troops?

General Dallaire does have a big problem with the support of non-UN led missions. “They are selfinterested and lack moral authority.” Before the showing of the documentary “Shake Hands with the Devil”

the night before the dinner, General Dallaire made it clear to the audience that he is not enamoured of the current government's want to take its lead from the Bush administration. It is not the fact that the federal government is spending \$18 billion on defence that the General objects to; it is the likelihood that the current government will be coaxed into sending Canadian soldiers into harm's way for the same reason the US does – to protect national interests.

General Dallaire was asked what the average citizen could do if a general of his stature, in the field, was unable to get the (then Liberal) government's attention when he needed it desperately. "Citizens must take action. Not just by giving money. They must get their boots dirty. They should phone their MPs. They should become aware of what's going on in the world. They should join NGOs that reflect their values and support their initiatives with their time and money. To do otherwise is to leave it to governments, whose easiest route is to erode our civil liberties."

If readers would like to let their MPs know what circumstances they feel justify sending our soldiers overseas, they can contact MP Bill Casey at his constituency office in Truro (893-2455) or Amherst (667-8679). The Honourable Peter MacKay can be reached at this New Glasgow office (752-0226).

International Peace Day – What Does it Mean to You?

We live in violent times. There are currently 22 wars ongoing in the world, many of which have spanned generations. As North Americans, we have often felt disassociated from war, and have taken our peace for granted. And yet, Montreal recently experienced a violent outbreak by a gunman, killing a student and wounding others. Last week saw the 5th anniversary of the September 11 tragedy in New York, an event that shook us all.

September 21st is the International Day of Peace. What does peace mean to you?

Many people feel that peace in the world is something that cannot be attained, due to differences in ideologies, backgrounds, beliefs, or desires. Yet, 50 years ago next July, a remarkable thing happened here in the little village of Pugwash.

Peace happened.

In response to the Russell-Einstein Manifesto of 1955, world scientists wanted to meet to discuss the threat of nuclear war. They were invited to the summer home of Cyrus Eaton. And on July 6, 1957, twenty-two world scientists arrived here to discuss the nuclear threat, and how to eliminate it. These scientists were from different countries, and surely had differences in ideology, background, and religion.

And yet, they were able to set aside those differences for the sake of the world. They were able to remember their humanity, and forget the rest.

The Pugwash Movement continues to remember its humanity, and continues its work around the world to try to make the world a more peaceful one. The Pugwash Peace Exchange will provide a facility where each and every one of you, young and old, can come to learn about peace. By learning about peace, and by remembering our history AND our humanity, we have the chance to change the world...now, and for the future.

You may feel that peace is beyond your grasp, and that as one person, you cannot change things.

However, Cyrus Eaton was only one person. And yet, he found a way to make a difference. So can we all.

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“When I was a young man, I wanted to change the world. I found it was difficult to change the world, so I tried to change my nation. When I found I couldn't change the nation, I began to focus on my town. I couldn't change the town and as an older man, I tried to change my family. Now, as an old man, I realize the only thing I can change is myself, and suddenly I realize that if long ago I had changed myself, I could have made an impact on my family. My family and I could have made an impact on our town. Their impact could have changed the nation and I could indeed have changed the world”. ~Unknown

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For more information on the Pugwash Peace Exchange, please contact Krista or Ann at 243-2328 or at mail@pugwashpeaceexchange.org.