

Carried

1- Resolution on Canada's Membership in NATO

Whereas NATO has expanded its original purpose of militarily defending countries in the North Atlantic to the more aggressive ambition of advancing their imperial interests, and principally those of the United States, globally;

Whereas its participation in NATO implicates Canada in military activities that undermines Canada's role to be seen and to act as a peace-making nation;

Whereas the NATO commitment to the occupation of Afghanistan hampers Canada from extricating itself from a venture which is opposed by most Canadians;

Whereas the proposed expansion of NATO membership to the Ukraine, Georgia, etc increases the danger that Canada will be involved in other NATO conflicts;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Canadian Peace Alliance petition the Government of Canada to withdraw its membership in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, and to propose the dissolution of NATO.

Submitted by the Peace Alliance Winnipeg

Carried

2- Resolution to Oppose the Canada First Defence Strategy

Whereas the Canada First Defence Strategy announced by the Conservative government last summer commits Canada to spend close to half a trillion dollars on the military over the next twenty years;

Whereas this is a huge waste of resources when there are so many other urgent priorities and there is no credible threat to Canada or its present allies;

Whereas there is a need for a broad coalition of forces actively to oppose this military spending and to put pressure on the minority government not to proceed with the strategy;

Be it resolved that the Canadian Peace Alliance organize a broad coalition of democratic opinion opposed to the Canada First Defence Strategy (CFDS);

Be it further resolved that the CPA invite the collaboration of the research departments of the CLC, major CLC affiliates, including the Fédération du travail du Québec, as well as the CNTU/CSN and the CSQ in Québec, and the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives, and other allies; to create an alternative list of spending and job creation compared to the CFDS.

Submitted by the Canadian Peace Congress

Carried

3- Resolution for 2008-2010 Campaign Goals, Strategy, and Actions

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the following proposal, without being all-inclusive, be adopted as a central approach for the work of the Canadian Peace Alliance for 2008-2010.

PROPOSAL

Background

At its 2004 and 2006 Conventions, the CPA adopted central campaigns around the issues of the wars on Iraq and Afghanistan, and the War Resisters Support Campaign. While never omitting to connect these central campaigns with other important movements (environment, civil liberties, counter-recruitment, Palestine, Haiti, etc), having these two campaigns as our central focus has enabled the CPA to grow in influence and size, and to achieve results in the arena of public opinion which have played a key role in the development of the anti-war movement both in Canada and abroad.

Meanwhile, the war has continued. The election of a second Conservative minority government in October 2008 has made more urgent the task of building a stronger, more vibrant anti-war movement in Canada.

1. End the War

Campaign Goal

The Canadian Peace Alliance seeks to:

- end the war in Afghanistan as soon as possible by calling for a complete withdrawal of foreign troops from Afghanistan, including Canadian forces;
- end the attacks on civil liberties which have been used to shore up support for the war;
- end the shameless prioritization by the Government of Canada of military spending over all other priorities.
- oppose the Canada First Defence Strategy

Strategy

The Canadian Peace Alliance will:

- build links with any and all groups willing to take a stand against the war
- use the media to raise awareness about the war and its costs, effects, and real purposes
- mobilize the anti-war sentiment by continuing to use successful strategies and by developing new ways to reach people and encourage them to take action
- make clear the links between the erosion of civil liberties, the abuse of human rights, Islamophobia, the anti-terrorism act, and the 'war on terror'

Action

The Canadian Peace Alliance will:

- Call for regular pan-Canadian days of action, to occur each spring and fall, and including actions to coincide with the April 4, 2009 anti-NATO day of action in Europe

- Encourage member groups to lobby or otherwise pressure members of parliament according to a strategic assessment of where such pressure would be most useful
- Encourage anti-war candidates to run in elections
- Encourage candidates in elections to adopt clear anti-war positions
- Encourage creativity in mobilizations and actions
- Support student anti-war and counter recruitment organizing, including building a successful student anti-war conference in January of 2008
- Continue to build its membership, especially among aboriginal people, students, unions, Muslim organizations and other ethnocultural organizations, and in Quebec
- Encourage member groups to organize neighbourhood-based peace networks
- Use on-line campaigning to engage wider networks of people, with a view to translating that engagement into real-world mobilizations
- Support campaigns to defend civil liberties and Muslims and marginalized communities from further attacks by governments and the media
- Continue to build discourse and analysis on the connections between Canada's increasing military spending and escalating culture of militarism and the climate crisis
- Participate in coalition building towards the G8 Summit to be held in Canada in 2010, to ensure that the anti-war movement plays a prominent role in the mobilizations and actions.

2. Let the War Resisters Stay

Campaign Goal

The Canadian Peace Alliance seeks to:

- Secure an arrangement from the Government of Canada that will allow American War Resisters to stay in Canada.

Strategy

The Canadian Peace Alliance will:

- Support the War Resisters Support Campaign
- Encourage member groups to support the War Resisters Support Campaign

Action

The Canadian Peace Alliance will:

- Ensure that the issue of the War Resisters is included, as appropriate into all campaign materials, media presence and public outreach activities
- Ensure discussion of the war resisters issue is a part of the student anti-war conference in January 2009

Submitted by ACT for the Earth and the B.C. Southern Interior Peace Coalition

CARRIED

4- Resolution on Civil Liberties.

Whereas the O'Connor report based on the Mahar Arar inquiry has recommended creating an Independent Complaints and National Security Review Agency for the RCMP with jurisdiction to review all of the RCMP's activities, including those related to national security.

Whereas the O'Connor report has recommended that independent review procedures be established for other agencies involved in national security activities - Citizenship and Immigration Canada, Transport Canada, the Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada (which tracks money laundering and terrorist financing), Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada and the Canadian Border Security Agency.

Whereas these recommendations made in December 2006 have not been implemented by the Government

Whereas serious allegations of human rights violations or other wrongdoing in the context of Canadian national security investigations or operations continue to surface

Be it resolved that the Canadian Peace Alliance press for the recommendations of the O'Connor report regarding oversight to be implemented without further delay.

Be it further resolved that the Canadian Peace Alliance highlight this concern in its public statements regarding the steady erosion of civil liberties in Canada as a result of the so-called "war on terror" and Canada's involvement therein.

Submitted by Nowar-paix

CARRIED

5- Resolution on RAWA Speaking Tour to Canada

Whereas: Stephen Harper and George Bush claim that Canadian and NATO troops are in Afghanistan to promote the rights of women and girls, and

Whereas: Canadian and NATO troops are supporting Northern Alliance warlords who have committed and continue to commit grave human rights abuses against women and girls, and

Whereas: RAWA - the Revolutionary Association of the Women of Afghanistan is a 30 year old independent political and social organization of Afghan women struggling for peace, freedom, democracy and women's rights,

Therefore be it resolved that the CPA, and its member organizations co-sponsor a RAWA speaking tour across Canada in Spring 2009 to educate Canadians about the situation of women and children in Afghanistan and work to provide ongoing support and solidarity work for RAWA, and

Therefore be it further resolved, that the CPA encourage the international peace movement to provide support and solidarity work for RAWA.

CARRIED

6- Resolution on Support for World Peace Forum Society - Vancouver, BC

Whereas: The first World Peace Forum held in Vancouver, June 2006 successfully brought together over 5000 delegates from 78 countries, and

Whereas: the purpose of the World Peace Forum Society is to work on the international level to connect with the global peace movement to build a world based on peace, sustainability and social justice, and,

Therefore be it resolved that CPA and member organizations promote, publicize and encourage participation in World Peace Forum events and campaigns, such as the Pacific Northwest Regional Peace Forum 2009.

Submitted by Southern Interior Peace Coalition

CARRIED

7- Resolution Cluster Munitions

WHEREAS cluster munitions have been and continue to be used during conflicts around the world

AND WHEREAS the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNDIR) has found that the humanitarian impact of cluster munitions on the civilian population—economic and cultural and psychological—is long term and devastating (report published January 2008)

And WHEREAS unexploded cluster munitions are still being unearthed at present in Cambodia, Vietnam, Lebanon, Iraq, Afghanistan and wherever they have been used preventing the return of internal refugees to their homes and the cultivation of farms as well as rebuilding or building of residences

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the CPA urges the Government of Canada to join with other states and the United Nations to ban the manufacture, stockpiling and use of all cluster munitions by ensuring that the December 2008 Convention on Cluster Munitions be ratified;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that CPA urges the Government of Canada to participate in the International efforts to clean up the areas infected with unexploded cluster munitions and repair the harm caused by their use.

Submitted by the B.C. Southern Interior Peace Coalition

DEFEATED

8- Resolution on Department/Ministry of Peace

WHEREAS Canada has a Ministry of Defence (War) that oversees the military and it's involvement and participation in conflict and war

AND WHEREAS the United Nations declared 2000 to 2010 as the decade for building a Culture of Peace to be accomplished by December 31, 2009

AND WHEREAS there is a global movement to establish Departments/Ministries of Peace through the Mayors 4 Peace and the Middle Powers Initiative

AND WHEREAS a growing number of citizens of Canada agree with the need for a ministry that works for peaceful, non-violent resolution to conflict both domestically and internationally

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the CPA urges the Government of Canada to take the necessary steps to establish a Ministry of Peace based on the Mayors 4 Peace and Middle Powers Initiative suggestions within the declared decade for building a Culture of Peace

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the CPA urges the Government of Canada to allot a substantial annual budget, which would empower the Ministry of Peace to accomplish and continue the work in a comprehensive manner.

Submitted by the B.C. Southern Interior Peace Coalition

CARRIED

9- Resolution on Protecting our Water

Whereas safe, clean water is vital for all life on the planet

And Whereas safe, potable water is a dwindling resource world-wide

And Whereas Canada still has water relatively untainted by industrial and commercial use and overuse

And Whereas under NAFTA once water becomes a commodity through bulk sales, run-of-river developments, the use of water in mining, uranium enrichment, oil extraction, etc., Canada no longer will have the legal right to protect its water sources for its own citizens and environment

And Whereas once water becomes a commercial commodity many will be excluded from the use of the necessary amounts of clean, safe water for a healthy existence, as has been evidenced in other parts of the world

Therefore Be It Resolved that the CPA urge all levels of government-- municipal, regional, provincial and federal—to stop the degradation of our water and make it safe from source to tap from commercialization deregulation, privatization, pollution and overuse;

Be It Further Resolved that the CPA urge the Government of Canada to remove water from NAFTA as a commodity in any way, shape or form;

Be It Further Resolved that the CPA urge the Government of Canada to prevent the issuance of raw sewage, effluent and industrial/chemical/biological waste into bodies of fresh, clean water and to prevent fresh, clean water from being used in oil extraction and production, in uranium exploration, extraction and enrichment, in the production of nuclear energy, and from any other uses that will destroy the few remaining sources of clean, safe water; and to recognize water as a human right.

Submitted by B.C. Southern Interior Peace Coalition Conference, the Boundary Peace Initiative and Uranium Free Kootenay Boundary

CARRIED

10- Resolution on Malalai Joya's Re-instatement to the Afghanistan Parliament

Whereas Malalai Joya is a duly elected member of the Parliament of Afghanistan
And Whereas Ms. Joya has been suspended for speaking out on behalf of the voiceless in Afghanistan by bringing forward the need to control the druglords and warlords appointed by the invading and occupying forces in Afghanistan

And Whereas Ms. Joya has not contravened any parliamentary laws or procedures

Therefore Be It Resolved that the CPA urge the Government of Canada to support Ms. Joya's re-instatement to the Afghani Parliament

Be It Further Resolved that the CPA urge the Government of Canada to press the Government of Afghanistan ensure the safety of Ms. Joya upon her re-instatement to Parliament.

Submitted by B.C. Southern Interior Peace Coalition Conference, the Boundary Peace Initiative and Uranium Free Kootenay Boundary

CARRIED

Emergency Resolution on a People's Summit

Be it resolved that the CPA encourage and facilitate the holding of Peoples' Summit events across Canada in 2009.

Emergency resolution on the humanitarian Crisis Faced by the Internally displaced Tamils in Sri Lanka

MISSING