

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE FOR PEACE AND FREEDOM (WILPF) - VANCOUVER BRANCH

Board Chair: Mary Rawson

Website for WILPF Canada, Vancouver Branch:
<http://wilpfvancouver.ca/>

Meetings are at the Unitarian Church of Vancouver, 949 49th Avenue West (49th and Oak), from 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM every fourth Saturday each month (except July, August & December). [map](#)

Peace eLines editor: Jo Rekart

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Celebrating WILPF's 100th Anniversary

WILPF is a [non-profit non-governmental organization](#) working "to bring together women of different political views and philosophical and religious backgrounds determined to study and make known the causes of [war](#) and work for a permanent peace" and to unite women worldwide who oppose [oppression](#) and [exploitation](#).

WILPF has national sections in 37 countries. It maintains its international

headquarters in [Geneva, Switzerland](#), adjacent to the Palais des Nations, the old League of Nations Office (now a United Nations office). It maintains a [United Nations](#) office in [New York City](#).

WILPF is turning 100 years old in April 2015! Join WILPF's 100th anniversary peace agenda for the next century in The Hague on April 27-29, 2015. The theme for the Anniversary is [Women's Power to Stop](#)

[War](#). The purpose of Women's Power to Stop War is to strengthen, connect and celebrate the work of thousands of women peacemakers working every day for sustainable peace across the world.

To learn more on how to register or to get involved visit womenstopwar.org

More on WILPF's 100th Anniversary

One hundred years ago WILPF was formed when 1,200 women from a diversity of cultures risked their lives to gather at the Hague, Netherlands to call for an end to the First World War.

The women made a list of conditions and paid a visit to each of the warring countries asking if each would stop fighting if all could agree to this list of conditions.

WILPF was the first to criticize the Versaille Treaty as being too harsh on Germany and establishing the conditions for another war.

For the past 100 years, WILPF has worked globally to bring an end to violence as a means of resolving conflict. WILPF rejects violence in all its forms, with a special emphasis on the physical, psychological and structural violence that far too many women experience in their lives.

WILPF Canada is deeply concerned about the issue of the missing and murdered aboriginal women in Canada. Rather than calling for a federal inquiry WILPF is calling on the federal government to immediately convene an emergency meeting of First

Nations women and to act upon their recommendations.

WILPF has been accredited to both the League of Nations and the United Nations – both formed with the goal of abolishing war.

On April 27-29, 2015, more than 1000 women will recreate WILPF's founding in the Hague to mark 100 years' of dedication to peace, and to call on the world to take action.

Article by: Jillian Skeet

WILPF VANCOUVER at WILPF meeting of the Americas



"Vancouver WILPF is sending a representative to the Hague to participate in WILPF's 100th Anniversary."

In April 2014, two Vancouver delegates, Marlene LeGates and Jillian Skeet, traveled to Colombia to attend the first WILPF regional meeting of the Americas. Their attendance was made possible by a generous donation from WILPF US. Also attending were representatives from Mexico, Colombia, Costa Rica, and Bolivia.

In their opening presentations delegates were asked to address the history and current situation of the implementation of 1325

as well as the situation of peace and security in their country, and to summarize their work at the local and national levels. The Canadian presentation included a commentary on the government's NAC on implementing 1325, its military spending, its dismantling of programs aimed at women, the situation of Canada's missing women and background of First Nations, and concluded with a summary of recent programs and activities, among which the activism of our Nanaimo branch was especially impressive.

A common theme that emerged from the presentations was the prevalence of domestic abuse and violence against women, illustrated by quite startling statistics from the Mexican and Bolivian delegates in particular. We also were brought up to date on the peace talks in Colombia and better informed about the administrative structure of WILPF International. The meeting concluded with inspiring discussions about how sections can act and expand.

Article by : Marlene Le Gates



A MILITARIZED APPROACH TO BORDER GOVERNANCE ³

(Dr Juanita Sundberg)



Dr Juanita Sundberg – a feminist geographer and ethnologist at the Geography Department at the University of British Columbia (UBC) spoke at the WILPF meeting on November 22, 2014

Previous Presentations

Margot Young (25/01/14)
Justice for Girls

Eiichiro Ochiai (22/02/14)
Peace – His Experience

Terry Wolfwood
(22/03/14)
The Saharawi People in Exile and Under Occupation

Jennifer Wade (27/9/14)
The Wrongly Convicted

Dr Juanita Sundberg spoke about the impact on women and families of the militarized approach to border governance along the US-Mexico border. She spent several years conducting focus groups and personal interviews to reveal the impact on women living in Ciudad Juarez, Chihuahua, Mexico and El Paso, Texas, a bi-national site.

Before 1850, this whole area was legally in Mexico. There has been a continuous, long tradition of families living on both sides of the border being strongly connected. Although crossing an international border was required to visit and work in many cases, security at the border was not a great impediment. Thousands of workers crossed daily and quickly through civilian-run border crossings. All this changed post 9/11.

Since 9/11, border security began to follow a military model and this was ramped up in 2008. A 100-mile stretch of the US, north of the Mexican border - from the Gulf of Mexico to the Pacific Ocean - was declared to be free from the restraints of the US Constitution.

This "Secure Communities Program" funded military-style 24-hour checkpoints which created bottlenecks in the transportation networks in and out of all the US communities, including large cities such as San Diego (California) and Tucson (Arizona). Many of the military working these checkpoints are suffering from severe PTSD due to war experiences elsewhere, and have been trained in advanced techniques of brutality and aggression such as torture.

Families at all income & educational levels live in a constant state of vigilance, anxiety and fear of dispossession. Effects on women and families have been severe, especially for those who do not have their legal papers, or considered "illegal aliens".

With militarization, the sexual assault and homicide incidents have escalated precipitously. As the numbers of military personnel increased from 2,500 (2008) to 11,000 (2009), the documented homicides increased from 320 (2007) to 3,622 (2010). There are seldom any consequences for the perpetrators.

The prevalent created narratives used to make sense of the violence promulgates racialized stereotypes.

On the Mexican side violence is said to be done by "bad guys" as in, "Leftists are fighting each other" or "It's just the drug dealers killing each other", so that the actual perpetrators are exonerated and justice is nowhere evident or pursued. Residents seldom speak about the violence, as distrust is rampant, and constitutional rights are non-existent, with journalists often being especially targeted. On the American side along the 100 mile-wide zone north of the border, the created narratives blame the illegal aliens or those without papers.

Juanita emphasized that "security" should include security of persons, bodies and everyday life instead of focusing exclusively on security of nation-states or national territories.

Summary by: Jane Zahradnik



Dr Juanita Sunderg (right) with Mary Rawson (WILPF Vancouver Section Chair)

TWO NOBEL PEACE PRIZE WINNERS WITHIN WILPF'S HISTORY (source: WILPF International)

<http://www.wilpfinternational.org/wilpf/history/>

Almost as soon as it was created, WILPF's values were hailed and adopted by some of the world's most powerful leaders. WILPF's International President [Jane Addams](#) was personally received by President Woodrow Wilson in Washington.

WILPF's beliefs provided President Wilson with nine of his famous Fourteen Points, the basis of a peace programme that was used when Germany and her allies agreed to an armistice in November 1918.

Not only do we take pride in being the oldest women's peace organisation in the world, we can also boast [two Nobel Peace Prize winners](#) within WILPF's history.

Jane Addams, WILPF's International President was awarded the prestigious prize for her peace-keeping efforts. Shortly after, in 1946, WILPF's first International Secretary, Emily Greene Balch, was also presented with the award – an obvious acknowledgement of WILPF's success in its endeavours.

During its lifetime WILPF has organised dialogues between women in the Middle East, sent delegations of women to North and South Vietnam to oppose the Vietnam War, and worked closely with the UN to enact change for women's peace and security.

Incendiary Weapons Leave Victims to Burn in Ukraine and Syria

(from WILPF International)

Human Rights Watch (HRW) released a new [report](#) on the use of and growing opposition against incendiary weapons in Israel, Syria, and Ukraine. The group presented the report at the 2014 meeting of high contracting parties to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons ([CCW](#)) that convened in Geneva, 10–14 November 2014.

WILPF's disarmament programme Reaching Critical Will (RCW) attended the meeting to report and engage in the discussions on deadly weapons. For more information, see Reaching Critical Will's [report](#) of this meeting.

The Horrible Effects of Incendiary Weapons

Incendiary weapons are exceptionally horrific weapons that inflict painful burns and require equally painful treatment, leaving survivors with devastating injuries. They are designed to burn people

or material, penetrate plate metal, or produce smokescreens or illuminations.

The report presents credible documentation about the use of incendiary weapons in the conflict areas of Ukraine and Syria. HRW has recorded at least 57 attacks during the last two years where the Syrian government used incendiary weapons. In 2013 two incendiary bombs were dropped on a school in Aleppo, Syria, killing at least 37 civilians and wounded 44 others, mostly teenagers.

Dr. Sahleya Ahsan working as a volunteer at Altarib Hospital told HRW: "Three bodies were in a pickup truck outside the hospital courtyard. These bodies, of three female students, were unrecognizable due the severity of their burns. It was also impossible to tell that they were in fact female but I was informed by hospital staff they were. They had been in the hit area of the bomb."

During field missions to Ukraine this year, HRW

HRW also found evidence that incendiary weapons were used in the town Ilovaik and the village Luhanskoe, both located near Donetsk in the east of Ukraine, where much of the fighting is taking place. Because of the exceptionally cruel effects, the report also found growing international opposition and condemnations against the use of incendiary weapons. In addition, this may have led some states to stop using such weapons. Israel, which previously used white phosphorous in Gaza in 2009, did not do so during its bombardment of Gaza in 2014.

The CCW and its Loopholes

The CCW aims to limit the use of certain conventional weapons that cause unnecessary suffering and inhumane injuries. Protocol III of the CCW has limited the use of incendiary weapons in

particular. Unfortunately not all states are parties to the Protocol. Furthermore Protocol III still has substantial loopholes discussed in the report by the HRW.

The definition of incendiary weapons as a munition "primarily designed" to set fire to objects or to cause burn injuries to persons is one such loophole. White phosphorous is arguably not covered by the Protocol, even though it has the incendiary effects, as this is not its primary designation. Another loophole permits certain use of ground-launched incendiary weapons.

HRW encouraged all states to condemn any use of incendiary weapons and to work to close existing loopholes in the treaty. It called for an effects-based definition and urged states to prohibit the use of all such weapons in populated areas.

Speech by Madeleine Rees, Secretary General of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, 2014 Peace Fellows Seminar (26 October, 2014)

(source: <http://www.wilpfinternational.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/Madeleine-speech-Bradford-26-October.pdf>)

Yesterday my daughter Sasha, who is 8, and I went to see the art exhibition/memorial of poppies at the tower of London. It was moving - each one representing a real person, mainly men and some women, who had served in the armed services and died in the world wars.

It reminded me that the Great War of 1914 to 1918 was supposed to be the war to end all wars. It's now 100 years since it started and we have not fulfilled the claim that those who experienced it wanted us to uphold.

How did we get here? What lessons have we not learnt? The simple answer is that the narrative of conflict that is rooted in structures of power has remained largely intact and whilst we know so much more about how to address this and what we need to do, some of it articulated in the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, we have still been unable to achieve it. It's how we can change this that I want to address.

Not known to quite so many but in 2015 there is another centenary, the 100th anniversary of the founding of WILPF. In April of that year, 1,300 women came from all over the world, from belligerent states and the non aligned alike, to try to persuade the warring parties to seek a political solution and to stop the carnage. They had no vote, no legal framework and no international system to support them but they were there passionately advocating for peace. They went on to a congress in Zurich where they formalised the organisation and committed to making known the root cause of war, to challenge militarism and invest in peace, to create and support multilateral institutions dedicated to preventing war and to upholding principles of justice. This included vital principles of non discrimination on any ground, economic and social equality between nations and between peoples.

Pretty progressive – and as valid now as it was then, only now we have far more tools available to us to realise their aims. And that was why I joined. Not many organisations have an analysis which is not just about demanding peace but deconstructing what you have to do in order to achieve it.

In seeking to build on their analysis, modern WILPF has three programmes: Reaching Critical Will, which deals with all things military, from nuclear weapons to the regulation of the arms trade to militarisation. We have Peace Women which works in New York, in particular engaging with the Security Council to ensure the inclusion of gender analysis and adherence to the Women, Peace, and Security agenda. And in Geneva we have Human Rights to bring all of the arguments together in the human rights fora. In all we bring women from grassroots organisations to the elements which make up the international system to bring their truth and their analysis so as to influence discourse and bring change. Bringing all three elements together we also have our conflict response which seeks to engage as early as possible in situations of crisis. More on how later

To return to our problem. How we have failed to learn lessons and repeat mistakes.

There is a narrative, there is always a narrative, and it is made by us depending on our aims and objectives, our position in the structures of power and of enormous consequence our gender. And to be clear; gender is not just about women as so often it has become. It is not about comparing men and women and demanding equality. We used to think so but we have learnt that at best it leads only to an inclusion, usually marginal, of women, into systems of power which have been causal in conflict without transforming them. A real gender analysis would look at the structures of power, who has it, who owns it, and how it impacts on men and women in all areas of their lives.

If we do this we can better understand how gender and gender relations are causal in creating the narrative of social and cultural interaction which in turn influences how we resolve conflict. This has been identified as being an understanding of the political economy of power and its role in the creation of violence. Put simply, there is a need to look at our structures of power, in the family, (from who owns the house, the land, the tools, the car, who does the paid work, who controls the number of children there will be, and who can exercise physical power, etc), in the economy, in public life and in all areas of security. All of these are interlinked and reinforcing.

If we do all that we can also see that what has been created has depended on our acceptance of specific gendered roles, and there is nothing like a conflict to bring that fully into view.

Madeleine Rees (continued (2))

War is highly gendered and if we were more adept at prevention we would be able to diagnose possible descent into chaos by analysing our political economy. For example, prior to the conflict in the former Yugoslavia there was a healthy representation of women in public office. As war loomed the number was reduced to less than 6%; strong masculine powerful leaders are needed as violence approaches! Conversely, of course, this is exactly what a nation in crisis absolutely does not want!

The current descent into chaos in Ukraine is sadly yet another example of how gender roles are utilised. The first Maidan was dominated by the male revolutionaries who demanded that women support them by bringing food and keeping the streets clean. The women rebelled and did the legal work of documenting who was going into the hospitals to prevent disappearances and arrests, setting up medical support in the square and forming their own Women's Brigade. They forced their way into the revolution to claim their rights, including women's rights. It worked.

Fast forward to the beginning of conflict in the East and the formation of militias. Men with guns occupying public space. The interim government signs an agreement with the IMP and the European Union for 17 billion dollar loans. Austerity measures are conditional. Public sector jobs are lost and most who lose out are women. In a short period of time women go from being part of the revolution to excluded from public and economic life. Not all women, but the space was reducing.

Fast forward again to the increasing conflict in the East. The government needs to mobilise soldiers and has to create a patriotic, heroic narrative to enable that to happen. Men are the warriors, women have to support them. Classic gender roles. The space for non violent men to seek a political solution is reduced and men who refuse to kill fellow Ukrainians are denigrated as cowards or spies. This will get worse as militarisation expands and if there are no ways of avoiding service.

In the meantime women are organising the humanitarian assistance. Seeking to find non violent solutions, but being pressured all the time by the patriotic narrative and the othering of all of those in the east.

As the reporting of sexual violence grows it will soon be a repetition of Bosnia, Kosovo, Syria, Iraq and on and on where the narrative is only about women as victims and men as agents of military solutions.

The truth is very different. In all conflicts women play the vital role of holding families and communities together, who else does when the men are off fighting?

In Syria women led the revolution but were marginalised once the revolutionaries picked up guns and it became war. But they have brokered local peace agreements and have enabled humanitarian assistance to be brought in. They have organised.

Yet in that conflict as in Bosnia, as in Kosovo as in all but 4% of cases the direct participation of women in peace processes is absent. Our narrative is flawed and gendered. Despite Security Council resolutions insisting on women's participation, in prevention and protection, on the inclusion of women in peace processes, on pledges by John Kerry and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office that no peace without women's participation can be considered legitimate, it continues. 75% of agreements fail. This because we talk to the men with the guns, however illegitimate they may be, and we do not talk to those who know what is needed to address the root cause of conflict.

Therein lies our solution, the beginning of our solution. More than ever we seem to be rushing to military solutions to crises. When Libya started to fall, we rushed to bomb but without a plan for what happens next. We did the same in Iraq when the failure of the state built by America led to ISIL and with ISIL more resort to arms. The cycle becomes self perpetuating. We flood crisis areas with arms, with advisors, spend billions on militarised security and next to nothing on helping ordinary people play a real role. That can only happen if there is consensus built on the basis of international legal obligation. That obligation exists but states pursue their own political agenda regardless unhampered, on the whole, by their domestic population...the war, after all, is still happening somewhere over there.

We have a choice; we either let things continue, and I fear we know where this will end, or we decide actively to engage in getting our governments to change the narrative of confrontation. Crises can only be dealt with, ultimately, through political negotiation, the longer it is left the more difficult it gets, the greater the entrenchment of our dysfunctional narrative and the less likely it is that we can achieve the deep peace that is needed.

Next year, WILPF will be 100 years old and we will be holding a major conference to discuss "Women's Power to Stop War." Not hubris, but a serious debate, discussions and analysis as to how to engage, how to change the narrative so that we can bring the voices of those who are not considered to have power to the metaphorical table. We invite you to come. We want men and women to engage in this push to make this century the one in which we achieve our ultimate goal of deep and real peace.

How will you help end gender based violence? (source: WILPF International)

25 November, marks the beginning of the [16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence Campaign](#), a campaign established to galvanise action to end gender based violence around the world.

This year, the focus is on the effects of militarism and militarization

What are the 16 Days of Activism all about?

The campaign begins on 25 November, which is also the [International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women](#), and ends on [Human Rights Day](#) on 10 December.

What does gender based violence have to do with militarism?

Everything!

This year's theme, "From Peace in the Home to Peace in the World: Let's Challenge Militarism and End Gender Based Violence!" underlines diverse challenges and contributors to gender based violence and the effects of militarism and other factors on our identities and experiences.

"It is more important than ever for us to join together in one strong voice and say enough to gender-based violence and its root causes of discrimination, inequality, and violations of economic and social rights," says Dr. Radhika Balakrishnan, global coordinator of the 16 Days Campaign.

The link between gender based violence and militarism is a topic WILPF has been working on for many years, as reflected in our latest publications, [You Get What You Pay For](#), which argues that "an overtly strong military presence creates insecurity. Thus demilitarisation and disarmament are essential components for achieving gender equality."

What's WILPF doing for 16 Days?

WILPF has had a strong partnership with the Campaign for many years. This year's theme aligns particularly well

with WILPF's own Integrated Approach to advocating for peace by looking at intersecting issues of disarmament, human rights, women's participation, peace, and security. It also aligns with our Anniversary movement, Women's Power to Stop War, which emphasises the importance of promoting disarmament and demilitarisation as the solutions to the gendered impacts of war.

If you are passionate about challenging militarism and ending gender based violence, then you won't want to miss out on WILPF's Anniversary Conference. Several panels at the conference will cover these interlinking themes. In support of the 16 Days Campaign, we are offering a special discount for the [Anniversary Conference tickets](#) to all our members and regular participants who buy their tickets from 25 November to 10 December. For each day of the Conference, we will offer a €16 discount, so a total discount of €48.

To register for the conference:

<http://www.womenstopwar.org/conference-home/conference-registration/>



STATEMENT OF WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE FOR PEACE AND FREEDOM (U.S. SECTION) ON THE U.S. NATIONAL ACTION PLAN ON WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY

(source: http://wilpf.org/nap_statement_2012)

This Statement by the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom—U.S. Section (WILPF U.S.) raises critical concerns and questions about the U.S. National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security (NAP) issued by President Barack Obama on December 19, 2011. After ten years of unrelenting activism towards this goal, WILPF U.S. acknowledges the Obama Administration's effort to draft and launch the National Action Plan, which has the potential to be a milestone in advancing the role of women as agents of peace through U.S. policy.

Committed to holding our government accountable to the original spirit and intent of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 (SCR 1325) on women, peace, and security, WILPF appreciates the Administration's articulated goal of the NAP: "to empower half the world's population as equal partners in preventing conflict and building peace in countries threatened and affected by war, violence, and insecurity." However, while the U.S. NAP makes certain advances and provides an action plan more substantive than a mere gesture of goodwill, the questions it raises are more profound than the ones it answers.

WILPF U.S. questions; Is it possible for the U.S. NAP on Women, Peace and Security to make a substantive difference in the lives of women around the world, including women living in the U.S., when over \$700 billion of our federal tax dollars are consumed by the military budget and armed interventions annually? Put simply, can we avoid diluting the transformative potential of the Women, Peace and Security agenda when 'peace and security' continue to be understood and acted upon through a framework of militarized security, as opposed to a human security or human rights approach?

Critical questions such as this arose during the five historic civil society consultations on the formulation of the NAP facilitated by WILPF U.S. in September and October 2011. The consultations were attended by nearly 400 women from over 60 different partner organizations, as well as representatives of the Department of State's Office of Women's Global Issues, in Detroit, Michigan; Milwaukee, Wisconsin; San Diego, California; Portland, Oregon; and Boston, Massachusetts. The participants offered input resulting in 64 concrete recommendations on protection; participation, prevention and process, and described their personal definitions for peace and security.

These unprecedented consultations called for a redefinition of America's concepts of peace and security, especially in terms of women's experience of conflict and violence. If entirely adopted and implemented, the recommendations **would necessitate a doctrinal shift in foreign and military policy**; a shift that firmly situates women's equality and protection, at home and abroad, at the center of establishing long-term sustainable peace. In essence, consultation participants echoed what peace activists have repeatedly said: ***if you want to make war safe for women, end war; if you want to end war, bring women to the peace table.***

In addition, we would like to highlight further areas where the current NAP needs development or remains silent:

- **An important recommendation arising from the consultations was ratification of the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW).** WILPF U.S. questions the exclusion of the legislative branch, specifically bodies responsible for treaty ratification, from the NAP process—particularly when U.S. CEDAW ratification is so critical to the women, peace, and security agenda.
- **It is important to note that many local environments within the U.S., most notably those surrounding military bases and nuclear production facilities, have been adversely affected by armed conflict in enduring, consistent ways.** What does it mean that the NAP sets clear objectives for protecting and promoting women's rights in conflict-affected areas, yet never explicitly acknowledges these same rights at home?
- **What does it mean that a National Action Plan intent on building inclusive peace and preventing future wars is illustrated throughout with unsettling photos of female Marines interacting in social service roles with Afghan women**, blurring the crucial distinction between military and humanitarian missions? What does it mean that the NAP is silent on protecting these same female Marines from sexual violence while in service, when this problem has been well documented and is so pervasive?
- **The National Action Plan for implementing Security Council Resolution 1325 barely references SCR 1325 itself.** Is it a meaningful step forward that our government commits, as part of its national action plan, to training its diplomatic, defense, and development personnel in international human rights and humanitarian law, yet it denies human rights education to its children, spending instead nearly \$400 Million dollars on militarized junior officer training delivered in civilian public schools?

(continued)

- WILPF U.S. would like to call attention** to logistic weaknesses in the National Action Plan itself. Specifically, what does it mean that the NAP does not have an official, committed budget for implementation? Further, what does the omission of a Monitoring and Evaluation section mean for transparency in evaluation and revising the NAP? Despite the articulated timelines, accountabilities and processes that include civil society and grassroots women's organizations for its implementation, review, evaluation, and revision, it is unclear how civil society will be really engaged in the process. **To achieve true progress, civil society must hold a substantial role in NAP implementation moving forward.**

For almost a century, WILPF has articulated the need to address the root causes of war and the necessity of women's participation as being fundamental both to prevention and to ending armed conflict as a means of dispute resolution. **A true and sustainable peace will only be achieved when our nations commit to goals of total disarmament, universal human rights, economic, justice and care for our planet; if clarified and implemented effectively, this National Action Plan can act as a powerful tool in achieving these aims.**

WHAT IS THE UNITED NATIONS (UN) SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION (SCR) 1325

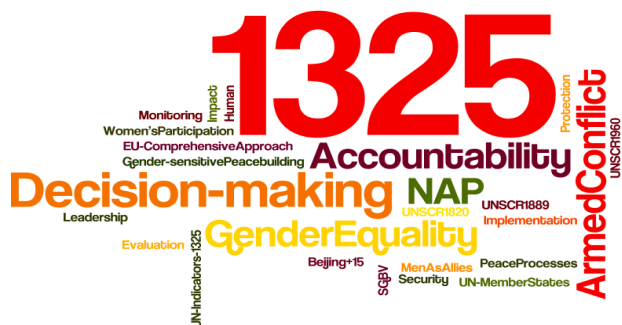
KEY COMMITMENTS OF UN SCR 1325

Source: <http://wilpf.org/files/1325FactSheetFinal-1.pdf>

The UN SCR 1325 emphasizes full and equal participation of women in all matters of peace and security. It extends to all stages of peace building, peacemaking, peacekeeping and conflict prevention by advancing the four pillars based on the UN Women, Peace and Security Agenda: participation, protection, conflict prevention, and equal access to relief and recovery

- Participation of women at all levels of decision making
- Conflict prevention
- Protection of human rights for women and girls
- Gender perspective in conflict, post conflict and peacekeeping missions
- Promotion of women's empowerment & peacebuilding

- In December 2011 the United States became one of 35 countries to release a National Action Plan (NAP) on UNSCR 1325. This was issued under Executive Order of President Obama, to empower women as equal partners in preventing conflict and peace keeping.
- Canada was a participant. The website on the Canadian National Action Plan states that " The NAP's development was led by the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade with contribution from, the Department of National Defense, the Canadian International Development Agency, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, Public Safety Canada, Status of Women Canada and Justice Canada, as well as Civil Society Organizations. (<http://peacewomen.org/naps/country/americas/canada>)



Vancouver Branch WILPF update

1. Peace eLines replaces earlier versions of this newsletter . This version allows for cost efficiencies as it can be emailed to members. Only members without an email address will receive a hard copy sent via Canada Post.
2. Please note the deadline for you to renew your WILPF MEMBERSHIP (Vancouver Section) is January, 2015.
3. WILPF Vancouver Section Holiday Party, 13 December, 2015, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. (Potluck – bring finger foods).