

Put Canada on a Path to Peace ☮

Why we need to DEMILITARIZE DECARBONIZE DECOLONIZE

MILITARY SPENDING IS INCREASING WHILE POVERTY AND CLIMATE CHANGE WORSENS



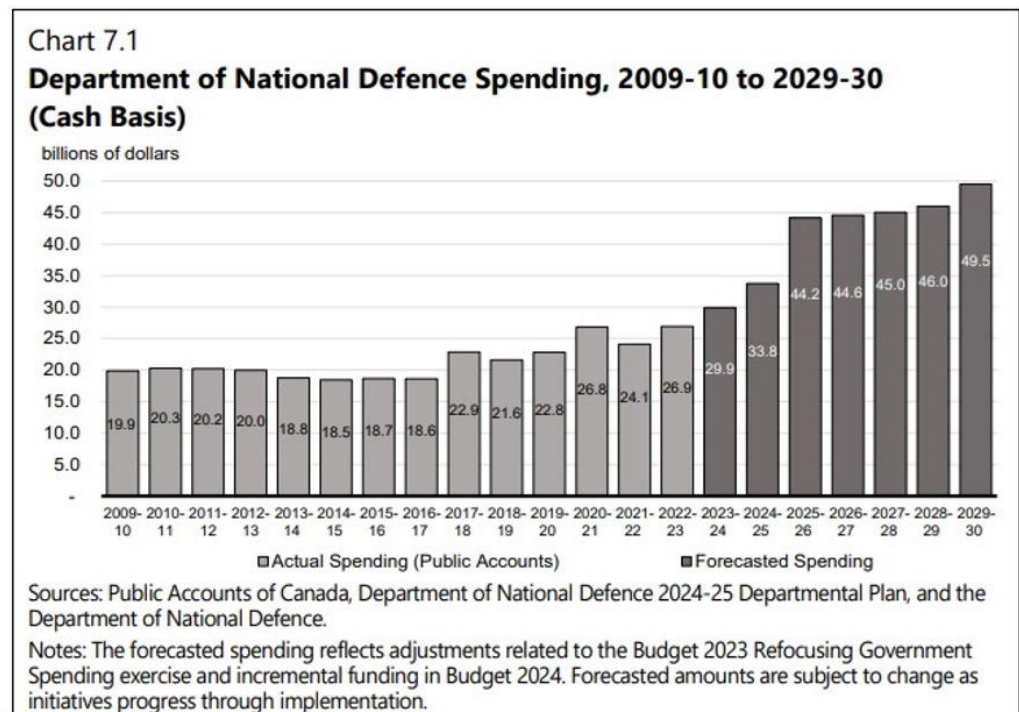
According to the **Budget 2024**, the federal government will increase funding for the Department of National Defence from \$33 billion in 2024 to \$49.5 billion by 2030. That's a 35% increase over the next five years! In addition, the government will spend an extra \$73 billion on the military over the next twenty years.

That puts Canada 16th highest in the world for military spending based on the latest report, *Trends on World Military Expenditures*, by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute.

Under Canada's new **Defence Policy Update**, the military will be buying new fossil fuel-powered F-35 fighter jets, attack helicopters, armed drones and armoured vehicles. Over the next five years, the government will increase ammunition supply and production from \$15 million/year to \$735 million/year. The federal government will also spend \$38.6 billion on militarizing the Arctic for the modernization of the North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD) and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), which are U.S.-led military alliances. This means that Canada is establishing new permanent military bases in the north where U.S. soldiers and weapons systems will be deployed. This will accelerate climate change in the north and harm Indigenous communities.

Rising military spending in Canada will increase poverty and exacerbate the climate crisis. The federal government should invest more in health care, education, climate action and reconciliation with Indigenous peoples.

We must reduce and re-allocate military spending to social and environmental programs.



From: **Budget 2024**: budget.canada.ca

CANADA IS NO LONGER PRIORITIZING PEACEKEEPING

The Canadian military is no longer prioritizing peacekeeping but is instead engaging in warmaking with the U.S. through NATO and NORAD. **Canada is at the lowest level ever for peacekeeping with only 41 Canadian soldiers on United Nations peace support operations.** Canada is ranked 69th in the world for minimal peacekeeping contributions. Canada should be investing in peacekeeping, conflict prevention and peacebuilding in the world not investing more in militarism. We must end the wars in the world and build peace with all countries.

WHAT WE WANT! Call on the Prime Minister and your elected official to:

- Reduce military spending and re-allocate it to social, environmental and climate priorities
- Convert from a war economy and industrial base to a green, peace care economy
- Place an arms embargo against Israel and stop the genocide in Gaza
- Stop sending weapons to Ukraine and start supporting negotiations to end the war
- Invest in Indigenous priorities and fully implement the Calls to Action of the **Truth and Reconciliation Commission** and the recommendations of the **Reclaiming Power and Place: The Final Report of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls**

TAKE ACTION TO DEMILITARIZE, DECARBONIZE, DECOLONIZE:

- Contact Prime Minister Trudeau by email: pm@pm.gc.ca
- Contact your Member of Parliament, find their email here: <https://www.ourcommons.ca/Members/en>
- Join the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)-Canada: www.wilpfcanada.ca and the Canadian Voice of Women for Peace (VOW): www.vowpeace.org
- Get involved in a peace group near you! Check out the Canada-Wide Peace and Justice Network: <https://peaceandjusticenetwork.ca/> and World BEYOND War: <https://worldbeyondwar.org/>
- Come to Ottawa to bring our message of peace to Parliament Hill on Tuesday, May 28 at noon
- Protest CANSEC the largest weapons fair in Ottawa on May 29 and May 30 in the morning: <https://www.worldbeyondwar.org/cansec>

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

#OnToOttawa #PeaceCaravan #Demilitarize

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@VOWPEACE

@WBWCanada

Get involved and find out more: wilpfcanada.ca

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