



Canadian Voice of  
Women for Peace  
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Women's International  
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July 25, 2024

Ambassador H. E. Wang Di  
Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Canada  
515 St. Patrick Street,  
Ottawa, ON K1N 5H3

**Re: JOINT LETTER:** Welcome to Canada, Thank you for your peace leadership, and Request for a Meeting

Dear Ambassador Di,

We, the Canadian Voice of Women for Peace (VOW) and the Women's International League for Peace & Freedom-Canada (WILPF-Canada), are writing to welcome you to Canada as China's new Ambassador in Ottawa and introduce our organizations to you. At the end of this letter, we have enclosed short descriptions of our history and work. VOW and WILPF-Canada would like to express our appreciation to China for its important diplomatic efforts to end the war in Ukraine and the genocide in Gaza and to promote peace in the world. We also want to thank China for its incredible recent diplomatic efforts to unify the Palestinian factions that will be crucial for governance of a new State of Palestine.

We listened to China's Ambassador to the United Nations Fu Cong's powerful speech at the meeting of the United Nations Security Council on a "Just World Order" on Tuesday, July 16. We agree with Ambassador Cong's recommendations for international relations based on mutual respect, equality, international law, peace, indivisibility of security and inclusive development that "does not leave anyone behind." We agree with Ambassador Cong's remarks: "NATO is stirring up confrontation... History has aptly proved that wherever NATO's dark hand extends to, turmoil and chaos will ensue. China hereby advises NATO and other countries in question to have a soul searching and self-inspection and stop being the trouble-makers who jeopardize common security at the expense of others. Common development and common security are mutually reinforcing and they are the foundation for a sound international order." Our organizations are calling for Canada to withdraw from NATO and for the alliance to be abolished. We want Canada to work cooperatively with all countries through the UN system. We are also impressed with China's **Five Principles of Peaceful Co-existence** and would like to learn more.

We want to bring to your attention that in the fall of 2021, VOW and WILPF-Canada began to mobilize to try to de-escalate the conflict between NATO (including Canada) and Russia over Ukraine. We launched a campaign in Canada that included press releases, letters to the government, articles in the newspapers, briefings to Members of Parliament, webinars and rallies from December 2021-February 2022. We called on

the Trudeau government to use diplomacy and de-escalate the conflict between Russia and NATO over Ukraine. We also called on the Canadian government not to send weapons to Ukraine, to support Ukraine's neutrality and to not expand NATO to Ukraine. Since Russia's invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, VOW and WILPF-Canada have continued to send letters to the Canadian government and to organize actions for peace. We also sent a representative to the Conference to End the War in Ukraine organized by the International Peace Bureau in Vienna in June 2023. We would like to encourage China to maintain its crucial efforts to end the war in Ukraine, the Palestine-Israel conflict, and build peace around the world. China has our support.

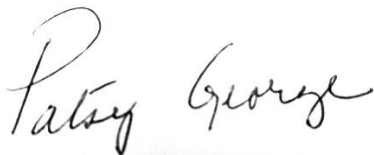
We know that the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris Agreement on climate change cannot be achieved when wars are raging and countries are wasting billions of dollars on weapons and militarization. Like China, VOW and WILPF-Canada believe that diplomacy and international law are vital to resolving international conflict. We are glad that Minister Joly accepted China's invitation to have a meeting in Beijing and we hope that continued dialogue can improve relations between our two countries.

We would also like to express our gratitude to China for its collaborative work on climate change and biodiversity. We know about China's impressive leadership on renewable energy, high speed rail and environmental protection. We hope that China and Canada can partner on a just transition away from fossil fuel. We know that Canada can learn a lot from China's advances in the green economy.

Let us also take this opportunity to say to you that we are deeply saddened and shocked by Israel's genocide of the Palestinian people in Gaza with the complicity of Canada and the United States and NATO's provocations against China in the Asia Pacific region. The genocide in Gaza and war in Ukraine risk expanding into a global war and escalating into a nuclear conflagration. We are opposed to Canadian warships sailing in the South China Sea and to NATO expansion into the Asia Pacific, which we believe are reckless manoeuvres. We have informed the federal government of our concerns and our calls to end the genocide in Gaza and make peace with China. We would like to build peace between Canada and China through citizen diplomacy. If China is organizing any civil society peace initiatives, we would be happy to participate in them in-person or on-line.

Finally, we would welcome the opportunity to meet with you online to discuss these matters further. We would be happy to set up a zoom call with you at your convenience. We can be reached by email [info@vowpeace.org](mailto:info@vowpeace.org) or by phone: 416-603-7915. We want peaceful co-existence between Canada and China.

Sincerely,



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**Co-chair Patsy George**

On behalf of co-chair Ellen Woodsworth and board  
the Women's International League for Peace &  
Freedom (WILPF) Canada



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**Co-chair Lyn Adamson**

On behalf of co-chair Hannah Hadikin and the  
board the Canadian Voice of Women for Peace  
(VOW)

**Canadian Voice of Women for Peace (VOW)** is the largest national feminist peace organization with members and chapters across the country. VOW was established in 1960 and is a non-partisan, non-governmental organization comprised of a network of diverse women. VOW's main office is in Toronto. VOW runs many campaigns related to women, peace, disarmament and anti-militarism. VOW has consultative status at the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and every year brings a delegation of Canadian women to the UN Commission on the Status of Women conference. For over 60 years, VOW has tirelessly advocated for a world without war. VOW stands for a feminist peace based on nonviolence, disarmament, diplomacy and common security with gender equality.

**Web site:** <http://vowpeace.org>

**Women's International League for Peace & Freedom (WILPF) Canada** is a membership-led organization committed to a feminist peace, social justice, and gender equality. We are a non-partisan, non-governmental organization members across the country. We are the national section of WILPF International, which is the world's longest standing women peace organization founded in 1915, with 32 Sections and 13 Groups across Africa, the Americas, Asia, Europe, and the Middle East. Two of our leaders, Jane Addams and Emily Greene Balch, won the Nobel Peace Prize. WILPF International is headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland and has a disarmament program called *Reaching Critical Will* in New York. Our *Peace Women* program monitors the United Nations' Women, Peace & Security agenda and we have an international *Environment Working Group*.

**Web site:** [wilpfcanada.ca](http://wilpfcanada.ca)

VOW and WILPF-Canada are also members of the **Global Women for Peace United Against NATO:** <https://womenagainstnato.org/> and the **Canada-Wide Peace and Justice Network:** <https://peaceandjusticenetwork.ca/>