



Canadian Voice of
Women for Peace
(VOW)
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Women's International
League for Peace &
Freedom (WILPF) Canada
c/o PO Box 11466,
Vancouver RPO
River District, BC V5S 0J3

January 13, 2024

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, P.C., M.P.
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON
K1A 0A2

The Honourable Dominic LeBlanc, P.C., M.P.
Department of Finance Canada
90 Elgin Street
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0G5

**Re: JOINT LETTER: Cut Military Spending. No to NATO's 2% GDP Target.
Invest in Canadians' well-being: Housing, Education, Health Care and Climate Action.**

Dear Prime Minister Trudeau and Finance Minister LeBlanc,

We, concerned citizens and members of the Canadian Voice of Women for Peace and the Women's International League for Peace & Freedom Canada, are calling on you to cut military spending, re-allocate it to social and environmental priorities, and cancel the plan to increase military spending to 2% of GDP by 2032. According to the NATO Defence Expenditures report, Canada's military spending has doubled from \$20 billion to \$41 billion, which is 1.4% of GDP, from 2014 to 2024. If the federal government increases it to 2% of GDP over the next eight years that will increase military spending to \$81 billion/year. This is irresponsible and reckless and will lead to more poverty and inequality across the country. To improve the lives of Canadians, the federal government must reduce and re-distribute military spending to affordable housing, education, health care, public transit, environmental protection, climate action and diplomacy. We say No to NATO's 2% target.

