

CANADIAN NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT CITIES APPEAL GUIDE



Welcome to the ICAN Cities Appeal Resource Guide by the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War Canada

About

The elimination of all nuclear weapons is an urgent environmental, humanitarian, and public health imperative. As health professionals, we bear the obligation to prevent what we cannot cure: we must work towards a world without nuclear weapons. IPPNWC serves as the Canadian affiliate of IPPNW, the only international medical organization dedicated to abolishing nuclear weapons (awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1985), and a member of the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize in 2017).

This resource aims to assist IPPNWC members and people across Canada in establishing their cities as Nuclear Weapons Free Zones, urging every city to call upon Canada to sign the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. This treaty stands as the first international legislation advocating for the abolition of nuclear weapons to foster a healthier, more sustainable, and just world.

The guide is tailored for Canadians seeking guidance on achieving nuclear disarmament and taking action in their communities through the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons Cities Appeal. It also includes advocacy tools specifically designed for health professionals and youth advocates to learn about Nuclear Disarmament.

To explore ways to engage with IPPNWC as a health professional, medical student, young person, or concerned citizen, visit our website at ippnwcanada.ca.

With This Guide, Our Mission is To Teach, Research and Address:



Social Justice in a Sustainable World

The first section of this guide highlights the intersections of gender equity, indigenous justice, sustainability and nuclear disarmament.



The Health Consequences of Nuclear Weapons

Research relies on experiential information, in addition to qualitative and quantitative data from our affiliate, the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN).



Non-Violent Conflict Resolution

Nuclear weapons have indiscriminate and catastrophic consequences. As health professionals, we advocate for a world without nuclear weapons. The ICAN Cities Appeal campaign is one way to support the ban treaty.



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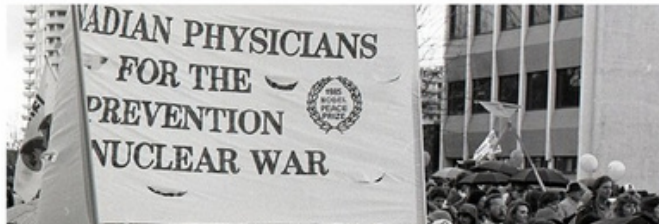
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Our mission since 1981 is to build a peaceful world. We are committed to the abolition of nuclear weapons, the prevention of war, the promotion of non-violent means of conflict resolution and social justice in a sustainable world.

[Click here to locate our website](#)



Definitions

TPNW - On 22 January 2021, after decades of advocacy, the **Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons** entered into force. The treaty is the first of its kind to provide a comprehensive ban on the development of nuclear weapons.

ICAN - International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons is an overarching coalition of civil society organizations working towards prohibiting and eliminating nuclear weapons. To learn more, [read here](http://ican.org) (ican.org)

Nuclear weapon - a weapon of mass destruction constructed from fissile materials, plutonium and highly enriched uranium (HEU). Read [here](#) to learn about Fissionable Material. The nuclear weapon development causes a major existential threat to humanity with a ripple of consequences, such as causing harm to Indigenous communities and the environment. For more information on Nuclear Weapons, read [here](#).

Resource Guide Core Services

- ✓ Anti-Nuclear Advocacy Made Simple
- ✓ Your Nuclear Education Prescription
- ✓ Connecting You to IPPNWC

BUDGET FACTS - HUMANITARIAN PERSPECTIVES



Humanitarian Facts

Nuclear weapons symbolize one of the most severe humanitarian catastrophes.

As evidenced in the tragedies of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the immoral use of nuclear weapons results in mass death and enduring tragedies, including radiation sickness and long-lasting effects.

These humanitarian consequences underline the relentless efforts of physicians and humanitarians worldwide in their fight to achieve nuclear disarmament.

Governments must stop condoning the persistent threat posed by nuclear weapons to humanity and instead, commit to signing the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

Learn more about the humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons [here](#).



Medical Perspective

Since the 1950s, physicians have diligently studied and documented the blast, heat, and radiation effects of nuclear weapons, leading to an inescapable conclusion: a meaningful medical response to nuclear war is impossible.

Comprehending the humanitarian toll of these weapons and recognizing the absence of a viable medical response in the event of their use, physicians across nations have united to urge governments to pursue an end to these devastating armaments.

Recognized for their efforts, the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1985 and has since expanded its global presence.

Physicians advocate for the elimination of nuclear weapons because prevention stands as the only cure to a potential nuclear war.

Learn more about the history of Canadian physicians advocating against nuclear war [here](#).



BUDGET FACTS - HUMANITARIAN PERSPECTIVES



Budget: Don't Bank on the Bomb



The nuclear budget for the following countries is **\$72.6 billion (2021)**:

United States	India
China	Israel
United Kingdom	Pakistan
Russia	North Korea
France	

Think of what it would mean to spend all this money on public health, sustainability, education and more!

Find out more info from [Don't Bank on the Bomb](#) here.

Canada

Over 70% of Canadians support Canada taking action on nuclear disarmament. **Yet Canada has not signed TPNW!**



3 Reasons Cities Should Lead Nuclear Disarmament

1. Cities are Targets - Cities are highly probable targets in the event of a nuclear war. Throughout history, nuclear weapons have been exclusively deployed on cities during wartime.

2. Medicine is Meaningless in Nuclear Context - There is no medical infrastructure which can withstand nuclear attacks and no possible meaningful medical response.

3. Cities Can Bring Attention to Federal Government - Pressure from Cities can lead Canada to Sign the TPNW.

[Click Here to read more on ICAN Cities Appeal Website](#)

Has Your City Signed?

These Cities Have Signed the Appeal:

Cape Breton, NS
Pelham, ON
Halifax, NS
Saanich, BC
Langley, BC
Sooke, BC
Montreal, PQ
Squamish, BC
North Saanich, BC
Sudbury Council, ON
Oakville, ON
Toronto, ON
Ottawa, ON
Vancouver, BC
Parry, ON
Victoria, BC
Winnipeg, MB
West Vancouver, BC
White Rock, BC



Logistics: How to Do the ICAN Cities Appeal



How do I reach my city council?

- Before sending a letter to your city council, consider the size of your city.
- Depending on the city's size, you might need to fill out a council endorsement request. For smaller cities, the council may have time to schedule a meeting before an official appeal.
- An example of how to get in touch with the city of Cambridge Ontario, [here](#).
- Do you have friends or partners who could assist you through this process? It can be easier to navigate local municipal structures with someone familiar.
- Reach out to IPPNWC (International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War Canada) to see if there are any active members in your region willing to join you.
- For support or inquiries, email us at admin@ippnwcanada.ca or call us at +1 (613) 233-1982.

Best appeal approach and what exactly will I need?

- We recommend putting together a small presentation, including what the TPNW is (click [here](#) for TPNW info), the cities or countries near yours that have signed on (a list is [found here](#)).
- Discuss why this is important to you. This may include the environmental impact, how it intersects with Indigenous rights, and racial equality.
- This depends on if your council has participated in the nuclear movement or has published a statement about it. Before you speak to your council do research to see if your city has taken a stance historically, this may help.
- Be mindful of political affiliation, but never assume they have a bias based on their political affiliation. We've found preparedness to be more important.





Meeting people where they're at

- Some council members may be hesitant or disagree. Opposition and direct challenge to our campaign is integral to our growth and learning. It's important to listen to them and meet them where they are at.
- Inspire the council by telling your story and why you joined the movement. This may generate empathy and be helpful.

Concerns

- Concerns about international relations are frequent and valid. Often councillors will ask, "How will this affect Canada's relationship with the US, and the NATO agreement?"
- A common concern is a doctrine known as, *Mutually Assured Destruction (M.A.D)*, first coined during the Cold War during the nuclear weapon buildup. Click [here](#) to read more.

Your response

- Explain how other countries have signed on without it being a conflict of interest. [Read here.](#)
- Explain that we cannot afford to consider this a tool for peacebuilding as we descend more into the 21st century.
- It only feeds the Military-Industrial Complex and pushes us further into an accident, environmental and humanitarian disaster. [Read here.](#)

Starting and making the initial contact can often be the most challenging step.
We've got you covered!

For Canadian Advocates

[Click here to access a template](#)

For Health Professionals

[Click here to access a template](#)



A red poster for the ICAN Cities Appeal. On the left, the ICAN logo is shown with the text 'ican international campaign to abolish nuclear weapons'. To its right, it says 'NOBEL PEACE PRIZE 2017'. The main text 'ICAN CITIES APPEAL' is written in large, bold, white letters. At the bottom, it reads 'A global call from cities and towns in support of the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons'.



JOINING THE MOVEMENT



Jump into the movement

- Knowing where to begin and taking the initial steps can be challenging, but IPPNWC is here to offer support to you and your community in advocating for the Ban Treaty towards achieving nuclear disarmament and fostering a fair, sustainable world.
- If you're interested in launching a cities appeal or promoting the TPNW in your community, we encourage you to reach out to us at admin@ippnwcanada.ca or call us at +1(613) 233-1982. We can assist you in connecting with others in your community, provide support for your advocacy efforts, and welcome you to our national (and international) community of health professionals and concerned citizens dedicated to nuclear disarmament.
- Our numerous programs and resources are available to everyone, including our monthly speaker series, 'Turning Tide' publication, and various community events nationwide (such as Hiroshima and Nagasaki day observances). Additionally, we offer mentorship and educational initiatives specifically tailored for medical students and youth.

Not just a nuclear issue

Deciding how to approach your city campaign can feel overwhelming. Start your Cities Appeal by delving into the subjects you care about. When presenting to your city, speak from your heart. Disarmament intersects with various fields, and each red button below leads to resources on the intersections of Nuclear Disarmament.

[Public Health](#)

[Racial Justice](#)

[Gender Equality](#)

[Indigenous Rights](#)

[Climate Justice](#)





Patient name: Nuclear Disarmament Advocate

Rx Nuclear education prescription: Further Resources



One Nuclear Detonation Can Destroy an Entire City. Medicine offers no remedy to the impacts of radiation. [Click here to read the article:](#)



\$100 Billion Spent on Nuclear Weapons Every Year. It would take \$135 billion to fully achieve the Millennium Development Goals. [Click here to read more.](#)



Friends Don't Let Friends Have Nuclear Weapons. [Click here to listen](#) to IPPNWC Co-president Ira Helfand.



Human Insecurity: Nuclear Famine. More than a billion people at risk of starvation. [Click here to read the article](#)



Radiation and Health: Do you want nuclear weapons testing impacting the climate and future generations? [Click here to learn more](#)



Preventing Nuclear War. [Click here](#) to read more



TPNW Success: Due to Civil Society Nuclear Weapons Are Now Banned. [Click here to read more.](#)



About IPPNWC

The International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW) is a non-profit organization committed to preventing nuclear warfare. Founded in 1980, this global organization comprises IPPNW Central and its Canadian affiliate. IPPNW united physicians from the Soviet Union and the United States to emphasize that medicine has little to offer in the event of a nuclear war.

We are actively involved in the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN), established in 2007. ICAN was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2017 for its efforts in fostering the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, also known as the Ban Treaty.

IPPNWC Canada actively supports both local and large-scale initiatives focused on:

- Educating, researching, and addressing the health consequences of violence, armed conflict, as well as nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction.
- Understanding the health impacts related to energy resources and armed conflict.
- Promoting nonviolent conflict resolution methods.
- Advocating for social justice within the context of a sustainable world.

The board of directors serves as the decision-making backbone of IPPNWC, overseeing all programming and facilitating committees on TPNW, Nuclear Power, Media, and Education. Membership with IPPNWC is open to everyone, offering the opportunity to attend educational events and join action-oriented committees. Membership is free and doesn't require a time commitment; it simply necessitates a commitment to building a sustainable and just nuclear-free world.



IPPNWC Board of Directors



International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War Canada

IPPNWC

For additions or suggestions to this guide email admin@ippnwcanada.ca

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