

kspc

kamloops-shuswap peace council

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Kamloops, B.C.
V2C 6H1

P.O. Box 3121
Salmon Arm, B.C.
VOE 2T0

November 24, 1987

Dear

We are all aware of the increasing military build up and strategic importance of the Arctic, which makes it extremely crucial for all of us to understand the issues, to discuss the problems and find joint united action.

A meeting was called between the Quebec Peace Council, the U.S. Peace Council and the Canadian Peace Congress last August to initiate an Arctic Rim Peace Conference sometime in 1988 in Montreal.

Enclosed you will find draft of the call to the conference. All proposals from endorsing organizations will be welcome.

We, therefore are asking your organization to endorse such a conference and to mail your endorsement at your earliest convenience to:

Canadian Peace Congress
300 Bathurst St
Toronto, Ontario
M5T 2S3

(416) 469-3422

or
KSPC
Box 973
Kamloops, B.C.
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374-3269

Yours for peace

Charmian Ferguson, Sect.
KSPC

PEACE IS EVERYBODY'S BUSINESS

CALL TO AN ARCTIC RIM PEACE CONFERENCE

The entire world has gained hope and confidence with the prospect of the removal and destruction by both the US and USSR of all medium range nuclear weapons in Europe. This most heavily armed region of the world, for decades the sharpest focal point of confrontation between East and West, will have taken a dramatic and historic step back from the brink of global annihilation.

Yet precisely at this time of opportunity to set the course of humanity on the path of disarmament and peace, new centres of nuclear confrontation are being established. It is cruelly deceptive and potentially tragic to reduce the threat of nuclear war in one area only to increase it in another. Such actions undo the value of agreements, mislead the world's majority craving peace and create greater, not lesser insecurity. Such a cruel deception is being carried out through the increasing military nuclearization of the Arctic and northern regions of our globe.

The Arctic is being rendered a potential nuclear battlefield.

In these circumstances the long-standing call to transform the North into a Nuclear Weapons Free Zone of Peace assumes an even greater critical importance, as does movements of the Arctic Rim countries in support of this demand.

We therefore call on the representatives of the governments and disarmament movements of Canada, Denmark, Finland, Greenland, Britain, Ireland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden, the USA and the USSR to attend an Arctic Rim Peace Conference to be held in Montreal, Canada in the spring or fall of 1988.

The objectives of this conference would be to exchange information on the growing military nuclearization of the North: to help alert the world public to this alarming development: and to explore the possibilities for co-operative activity in support of a Nuclear Weapons Free Zone of Peace in the north.

World peace and security are faced with an alarming new challenge. We must become familiar with and find the means to combat it. This Arctic Rim Peace Conference will afford us the opportunity to make a good start.

Until then,