



PEACE TRAIN CANADA PROJECT DESCRIPTION

GOAL - A Canadian Centre for Peace and Justice

Peace Train Canada is calling on our government to establish and fund an independent, integrated Canadian Centre for Peace and Justice focused on research, policy, diplomacy, peace education, and training for Canadian civilians, police, military personnel, and the international community, as a fundamental part of Canada's increased commitment to defence and security.

PURPOSE – Get Peace Back on Track

Peace Train Canada (PTC) unites people across the country in renewed commitment to Canada's first principles for enduring peace, justice, and common security as agreed to in the UN Charter.

PERSPECTIVE – Peace is Primary

Peace is the domain of physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual well-being.

In the face of ever-increasing violent wars, nuclear threat, climate disruption, and humanitarian crises, Peace Train Canada (PTC) bears witness to peace as a fundamental condition for survival and optimal functioning in our world. It is the only condition that allows relational harmony and non-violent coexistence for this and future generations.

As the natural domain of freedom, well-being and prosperity, cultivating peace is principled pragmatism of highest personal and national priority. It is a rational and ethical choice in view of the undeniable interdependence of all life and life-support systems on our one earth

VISION – Canada as a Culture of Peace

The vision of PTC is to breathe new life into our Canadian identity as a culture of peace. It emerges from the collective spirit of individuals who uphold peace, justice, and freedom as foundations for flourishing and understand them to be, by nature, universal.

We envision our country with a combined defense and peace-making strategy that prioritizes diplomatic mediation, specialized military training, humanitarian intervention, and investment not only in the UN and NATO but in Canada's extensive institutional and community-based peace building network.

PTC holds the line with "we the peoples," the global majority of 8 billion peace-loving people, who get up every morning loving and caring for their families, for others, and for the place they inhabit.

MISSION – Train for Peace

Train is a verb. If you want peace, Train for peace.

PTC stimulates dialogue within civil society and government in support of a whole of society approach to peace education, policy, and training.

National peace does not happen by accident. Our capacity to cultivate peace in the face of conflict requires training in disciplines that hone qualities such as discernment, patience, non-aggression, open inquiry, emotional intelligence, active listening, careful dialogue, diplomacy, and creative approaches to problem solving.

If we want peace, we must prepare and train for peace on a daily basis and transmit that power to citizens and every organ of society. That reality lies at the heart of PTC's request of government to establish and fund a centre that would serve as a hub for peace education, dialogue, and training.

PTC LOGO

The PTC logo is a white train billowing white steam. The spirit train is on a brilliant UN blue background, linking it to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and Canada's responsibility within the UN to protect those basic rights and freedoms.

The train carries passengers representing thousands of others working together to get peace back on track. They ride on a single track that unites this great land. The many cars of the train represent the hundreds of exemplary organizations, heading in the same direction and working in solidarity to promote and protect the basic elements of peace and justice.

PTC THEME SONG – *Peace Train* (by Yusef, Cat Stevens)

Google *Peace Train Playing for Change* for our favourite version.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0QpjR6-Uuks>

PTC NATIONAL ADVISORY TEAM:

- Alex Neve OC (lawyer/professor specializing in International Human Rights, served as Secretary General of Amnesty International CA for 20 years)
- Walter Dorn (pre-eminent peace operations expert, professor of defence studies at the Royal Military College and the Canadian Forces College),
- Steve Staples (policy analyst, PeaceQuest founder)
- Peter Langille (specialized in peace and conflict studies, UN peace operations, conflict resolution and mediation, and independent analysis of defence and security policy.)
- Michael Cooke (peace and justice activist, Project Ploughshares founder).

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