



Nova Scotia
Voice of Women for Peace

PO Box 3015, Quinpool Centre, Halifax, NS B3L 4T6

peace@nsvow.org www.nsvow.org

Dear Commanders of NATO Ships in Halifax Harbour,

As members of Nova Scotia Voice of Women for Peace based in K/jipuktuk/Halifax, we want to open a conversation regarding the NATO exercise Cutlass Fury 2019 taking place in our harbour and in the waters off our shores.

With due respect, if peace is the only way to peace, it is time to 'exercise for peace' and not for war.

Participating in CF 19 is not a training for anti-terrorism, humanitarian assistance or disaster response. In fact, this training is taking us back in time to the Cold War and is a rehearsal for naval warfare. The Canadian Armed Forces would serve humanity better in building for a future, rather than manoeuvring on a dying ocean. Please consider how the navy can support climate agreements, instead of warfare .

Is it unusual to receive a personal letter from peace women? Perhaps, but these are unusual times. Our appeal in writing this letter is a direct appeal to the human behind the military veneer. Consider your role to lead. What future are you envisioning for your grandchildren?

This conversation includes a gift of a white poppy that we include with this letter. As you may know, the red poppies began as a symbol of remembrance in the 1920's. In 1933 the British Co-operative Women's Guild started producing white poppies as an urgent plea that there would be no more war. In Canada, peace activists wear the white poppy to acknowledge suffering caused by war, including refugees, civilian casualties, extinction of our planet's creatures and poisoning of our Earth, Air and Waters.

In Peace,

Nova Scotia Voice of Women for Peace.

