

**Mobilization Against War and Occupation** is a coalition of over 50 endorsing organizations and also individual members, most of which are working class organizations, student groups, grassroots organizations, and ethnic communities. This is including Indigenous activists and groups from the third world as well as women, youth and elder fighters for social justice and against war and occupation. **We are the people in struggle because we are people that suffer at the hands of imperialism.** We have the energy, drive and will for change because it is in our interest to make this change in order to create a better world for all of humanity!

GET  
INVOLVED IN  
MAWO & THE  
MOVEMENT  
FOR PEACE!

## Mobilization Against War and Occupation

 @MAWOVancouver        @MAWOVan

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MAWO #85 Created by: Azza Rojbi, Ali Yerevani, Tamara Hansen &amp; Janine Solanki

**stop the war! stop the occupations!**

**[www.mawovancouver.org](http://www.mawovancouver.org)**

**MAWO 86**  
newsletter January 2023

January 2023

## mobilization against war & occupation

While Canadians struggle with rising energy and food costs, extreme weather events, and economic strife this winter, the Trudeau government is trying to push through a \$7 billion deal for 16 F-35 stealth fighter jets with American weapons giant Lockheed Martin. On December 22, Global News and La Presse reported that the Canadian government is planning on signing a contract with Lockheed Martin early in the new year.

According to a leak by federal government officials, the Department of National Defence has received approval to buy the F-35s despite years of widespread opposition from Canadian citizens, celebrities and parliamentarians. The government is advertising the cost as \$7 billion; however, that is only the cost of the initial buy-in for 16 F-35's. Further,

while the government is advertising the cost as \$19 billion for the full order of 88 fighter jets, according to the No Fighter Jets campaign 2020 report, From Acquisition to Disposal: Uncovering the true cost of 88 new fighter jets, the lifecycle cost of buying 88 fighter jets is estimated to be at least \$76.8 billion over 30 years.

Experts, including former procurement chief at National Defence Alan Williams, have denounced this procurement, because the total cost of this purchase has not been fully disclosed by the federal government. Williams said: "It is distressing to read information being made public regarding billion-dollar procurements that is so opaque and piecemeal rather than being transparent and comprehensive...(It) makes it appear the government is hiding the truth from Canadians."

**STOP U.S. WARS**

**MILK WEEK OF ACTION JAN 13 - 22**

**STOP ENDLESS WARS: IRAQ, SYRIA, SOMALIA, PALESTINE, EVERYWHERE**

**STOP WASHINGTON'S WAR MOVES AGAINST RUSSIA & CHINA**

**MONEY FOR HUMAN NEEDS, NOT WAR**

**DISBANND NATO NOW!**

**FIND AN ACTION IN YOUR AREA  
AT [UNACPEACE.ORG](http://UNACPEACE.ORG)**

**The United National  
Antiwar Coalition  
UNAC**

**\$\$\$ for Human  
Needs, Not War!**

**FREE COLLECTIVE  
END CONFE  
AND STOP**

**SIGN  
NEW  
WAITS  
10 min.  
Sign up  
here!**

**NO NEW  
SIGN  
WAITS  
10 min.  
Sign up  
here!**

**Sign up  
for the  
Endless  
US**

**Get in  
for free!**

**SIGN  
UP  
FOR THE  
ENDLESS  
US**

**"The greatest purveyor of violence in the world:  
my own government. I cannot be silent."**

*Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.*

*April 4, 1967*

**January 6-8, 2023**

**Write. Call. Speak out. March. Disrupt.**

**Call on the Trudeau Government to  
Spend \$19 BILLION on Human Needs,**

# NOT Warplanes



#NoFighterJets | nofighterjets.ca

## VANCOUVER ACTION

**Friday, January 6, 2023 4pm**

**MP Jagmeet Singh's office (4940 Kingsway, Burnaby)**

Organized by: Mobilization Against War & Occupation (MAWO)

[www.mavancouver.org](http://www.mavancouver.org)

## Less \$ for education

**Less \$ for  
affordable housing**

**Less \$ for Climate solutions**

**Less \$ for  
health care**

# Less \$ for child care

# Deadly wars & militarism

## Nuclear threats & insecurity

## Carbon emissions

## Noise pollution

**Tell the Trudeau government to spend \$19 billion  
on human needs not new warplanes**

#NOFIGHTERJETS | NOFIGHTERJETS.CA



Our report Soaring: The Harms and Risks of Fighter Jets and Why Canada Must Not Buy a New Fleet details the many adverse financial, social and environmental impacts of fighter jets. Excessive operational and maintenance costs, air pollution, extreme noise and damaging air weapons training in and around Indigenous communities are some of the many harms of fighter jets. As the U.S. Government Accountability Office explains, the F-35 continues to be plagued with cost overruns and technical flaws. In its April 2022 study, the GAO found that the F-35 has over 900 open deficiencies.

A new fleet of fossil fuel-powered F-35s will lock Canada into decades of carbon intensive militarism and prevent us from decarbonizing. One F-35 releases more carbon emissions in one long-range flight than a car does in a year. Moreover, the F-35 is a stealth fighter jet designed for first strike attack, meaning it is only effective as an offensive warplane used against



other countries. It has also been designed to carry the B61-12 tactical nuclear weapon and will put Canada in violation of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. Fighter Jets are weapons of war and exacerbate global warming.

As winter sets in and Canadians struggle to make ends meet, it is irresponsible and unjust for the Trudeau government to spend public money on American warplanes. Instead, the federal government should invest in affordable housing, health care, education, economic assistance, and climate action. Canada's planned F-35 procurement is unacceptable and immoral and must be canceled.

Tell your Member of Parliament to say no to the F-35 deal. Join the No Fighter Jets campaign in an urgent weekend of action from January 6-8, 2023. #NoFighterJets #DropTheF35Deal #NoNewFighterJets Learn more at [nofighterjets.ca/ourwork](https://nofighterjets.ca/ourwork).

**Statement by the No Fighter Jets Coalition**



#NoNewFighterJets #DropTheF35Deal

TAKE ACTION



1

**Sign the e-petition to the parliament of Canada:**  
<https://petitions.ourcommons.ca/en/Petition/Details?Petition=e-4217>

2

**Sign the online letter to the Trudeau government here:**  
<https://actionnetwork.org/letters/canada-drop-the-f-35-fighter-jet-deal>

3

**Spread the word on social media!**  
**Use the hashtags #NoNewFighterJets, and #DropTheF35Deal**  
**Don't forget to tag or message @nofighterjets**

SCAN HERE TO SIGN



SCAN HERE TO SIGN



Add your voice to people across Canada demanding:  
**Canada: Drop the F-35 Fighter Jet Deal**  
**Money for Human Needs Not Warplanes**



# Fighting Against War, Fighting for Peace!

By Janine Solanki

Around the world, oppressed nations are subjected to destructive imperialist wars, occupations, sanctions, military interventions and imperialist backed coups. Although the United States may have the most powerful (and most destructive) military in the world, the scope of all of this warmongering is beyond any one government or military. In the drive to control global markets and plunder resources, a coordinated network of imperialist countries and their vast military resources are required, and that is the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). This military alliance's history clearly shows that it only serves imperialist countries. Afghanistan became NATO's most extended military mission, where with the U.S., NATO was in charge for much of the 20-year occupation, and NATO as the U.S. arm also had boots on the ground in the war on Iraq. Today NATO is responsible for the current war in Ukraine, after years of provocations at Russia's borders and now as NATO members funnel hundreds of billions of dollars of weapons into Ukraine. Let us not forget the last NATO war in Europe, where NATO destroyed Yugoslavia, an independent and sovereign country by dropping 14,000 bombs, including depleted uranium bombs and cluster munitions.

While imperialist forces coordinate their attacks on oppressed nations, peace-loving people and antiwar organizations also need to coordinate the antiwar movement to effectively resist imperialist wars, occupations, and interventions. In 2020, the Canada-Wide Peace and Justice Network formed with 45 peace groups across Canada and have since worked together on days of actions and campaigns, including to demand that Canada stop arming Saudi Arabia, to oppose the US-backed Saudi-led war on Yemen, and protest NATO and demand Canada leave NATO.

**International Day of Peace**

September 21 marked the United Nations International Day of Peace. To mark this day Vancouver-area members of the Peace and Justice Network and supporters came together to hold a Rally for Just Peace. The action reached out beyond Vancouver and was held outside the Burnaby Public Library, organized by Just Peace Committee, Mobilization Against War and Occupation (MAWO), Fire This Time Movement for Social Justice, International League of People's Struggles (ILPS), Global Alliance for Peace - Surrey Society, Vancouver Peace Poppies, World Beyond War, Socialist Action, and Vancouver Peace Council. During the action, protesters handed out antiwar literature to passersby, and organizers spoke from the microphone, including Azza Rojbi on behalf of Fire This Time Movement for Social Justice, Janine Solanki from Mobilization Against War & Occupation (MAWO), Barbara Waldern from the Just Peace

Committee and Niovi Patsicakis from Global Peace Alliance BC.

Also marking International Peace Day, on October 1, the Global Peace Alliance (GPA) BC Society held their annual festival with the theme "End Racism, Build Peace" in Surrey. This family-friendly event included speakers, music, dance and a peace-themed art exhibit. The festival also had tables from social justice organizations, and Mobilization Against War & Occupation (MAWO), an endorser of the festival, also had a table at the event and spoke to festival goers about antiwar issues throughout the day.

**#FundPeaceNotWar Week of Action**

From October 15-23, the Canada-Wide Peace and Justice Network joined the call to action issued by the U.S.-based United National Antiwar Coalition (UNAC). Actions, including rallies, pickets, community events and teach-ins, were held in Vancouver, Toronto, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Ottawa, Hamilton, Calgary, Waterloo and South Georgian Bay, alongside actions across the United States and worldwide.

Again Vancouver-area organizers took the action to a less common protest location, to the downtown of the neighbouring city New Westminster. This action was organized by Just Peace Committee, Mobilization Against War and Occupation, Global Peace Alliance - BC, Fire This Time Movement for Social Justice, World Beyond War, and ILPS in BC. The rally caught the interest of many walking by, who stopped to take information and sign antiwar petitions. Alongside speakers from all organizations, two passersby who stopped to join the rally were also motivated to speak from the microphone. These new supporters included a man from former Yugoslavia who spoke about how NATO destroyed his homeland and the necessity of working together against NATO wars. The rally was also joined by an Indigenous man who spoke about the horrors of war and the war at home against Indigenous Nations.

In response to the recent imperialist actions against Haiti, protesters held picket signs demanding "No New Occupation of Haiti" and "Canada/US/UN Out of Haiti" and handed out a new MAWO statement in support of Haiti. (see page 17 to read statement). Protesters also handed out the Canada-Wide Peace and Justice Network statement for the #FundPeaceNotWar days of action, which was well received by those passing by. (see page 28 to read statement).

In Greater Vancouver and across Canada, activists and organizations are coming together to educate, organize and mobilize against this new era of war and occupation. To keep updated on Vancouver area events, visit [www.mawovancouver.org](https://www.mawovancouver.org) and for actions across Canada visit <https://peaceandjusticenetwork.ca/>.

