

WHO'S MAWO?

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!



MAWOVANCOUVER.ORG

Mobilization Against War and Occupation

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stop the war! stop the occupations!

www.mawovancouver.org

MAWO 88

newsletter

February 2023

mobilization against war & occupation

STOP THE WAR STOP NATO

**International Weekend of Action
February 23 - 26, 2023**

Peace Now!

The Canada-Wide Peace and Justice Network (CWPJN) urges people across Canada to join us in calling for an end to the war in Ukraine. This conflict has caused immense suffering for the Ukrainian people and their civilian infrastructure, going back to 2014 when the conflict began in Ukraine's Donbas region. We condemn the Trudeau government for flatly refusing to talk to its Russian counterpart and for continuously refuelling the rapidly escalating conflict in Ukraine, which has the potential to expand into a wider European war or even a nuclear confrontation. The CWPJN calls for immediate negotiations with all parties for a political solution to the conflict and a return to peace and neutrality in Ukraine. On the weekend of Feb 23th to 26th, our members will be holding actions across Canada, uniting with other pro-peace and anti-war actions occurring around the world at the same time.

Stop the War, Stop NATO!

For years, NATO has been provoking conflict with Russia. NATO's expansion to Russia's borders, its training and arming of Ukrainian military, and support for Ukraine's war against its eastern Donbas region since 2014 have been the principal causes for the hostilities and the devastating war in Ukraine. The CWPJN is opposed to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) because it is an aggressive, US-led, military alliance of 30 Euro-Atlantic countries that has launched deadly and destructive military interventions in the former Yugoslavia, Afghanistan and Libya. These NATO wars have caused

profound misery and a massive refugee crisis.

We are opposed to NATO's demand that allies increase military spending to meet the 2% GDP target. In 2021, NATO members spent \$1.1 trillion on military spending, accounting for 60% of global military spending. Since 2014, Canadian military spending has increased by 70%. In 2021, Canada spent \$33 billion on the military, which is 15 times more than on environment and climate change. In 2022, Defence Minister Anita Anand announced military spending will increase by another 70% over the next 5 years. NATO's demand that members buy new inter-operable weapons is leading to a costly arms race. Carbon-intensive weapons systems like fighter jets, tanks, and warships are exacerbating the climate crisis. In Canada, this includes the recently



announced purchase of 16 F-35 fighter jets, part of the planned 88 F-35 fighter jets deal which will cost taxpayers at least \$77 billion over the lifecycle of the jets. The government of Canada is also planning to purchase warships at a sticker price of \$84 billion and \$5 billion for armed drones.

This explosion in military spending will prevent Canada from investing adequately in public healthcare, education, housing, jobs and climate solutions. NATO's reliance on a dangerous nuclear deterrence and first strike policy puts us all at risk. The deadly, expensive and environmentally harmful F-35 fighter jets purchased by Canada

U.S./CANADA: HANDS OFF VENEZUELA!

NO TO SANCTIONS ON VENEZUELA! FREE ALEX SAAB NOW!

Tuesday Feb. 28 2023

MARKING 10 YEARS SINCE THE PASSING OF COMMANDANTE HUGO CHAVEZ ON MARCH 5, 2013

Featuring speakers from around the world + Greetings from Venezuela Solidarity Groups Across Canada & Quebec!

8pm Caracas / Atlantic
7pm Eastern
6pm Central
4pm Pacific

REGISTER FOR ZOOM
<https://tinyurl.com/handsoffvzla>

CAR CARAVAN TO LIFT THE U.S. BLOCKADE ON CUBA!

VANCOUVER, BC, CANADA

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 26

12PM CAR CARAVAN

FOR LOCATION CALL 604.780.4029

ORGANIZED BY: FRIENDS OF CUBA AGAINST THE US BLOCKADE - VANCOUVER
WWW.VANCOUBAYSBLOCKADE.ORG | @NOBLOCKUEVAN

HEY BIDEN!
#UNBLOCKCUBA

are designed for offensive strike first attacks and to carry B61-12 tactical nuclear weapons. Is this purchase the reason why Canada has refused to sign the United Nations Treaty to Prohibit Nuclear Weapons (TPNW)? The TPNW requires that signatories “never under any circumstances... develop, test, produce, manufacture, otherwise acquire, possess or stockpile nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices.” The CWPJN demands that the government of Canada sign the TPNW now!

Canada out of NATO!

NATO is not a defensive alliance. It undermines global peace and human security and exacerbates the climate crisis. Because of Canada's NATO

membership, we are dragged into every war of the US empire. It's time to for Canada to withdraw from NATO and develop a non-nuclear, independent, foreign policy, free from arms exports to fuel wars and occupations, and without massive expenditures on weapons for future wars. With humanity facing global environmental and health crises, we need international cooperation, nonviolence and common security for all countries. Peace in Ukraine, and peace with Russia and China begins with negotiations, diplomacy, and an end to NATO.

Statement by Canada-Wide Peace and Justice Network (CWPJN)

For more information visit: www.peaceandjusticenetwork.ca

Trudeau Government #DropTheF35Deal

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 public regarding billion-opaque and piecemeal and comprehensive... government is hiding



Our report Soaring: Fighter Jets and Buy a New Fleet financial, social and fighter jets. Excessive 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.

Statement by the No Fighter Jets Coalition

PEACE NOW!

STOP THE WAR, STOP NATO!
#CanadaOutOfNATO

INTERNATIONAL WEEKEND OF ACTION
FEBRUARY 23-26, 2023

Find actions in Canada:
peaceandjusticenetwork.ca/stop-the-war-feb-2023

Canada-Wide Peace and Justice Network
peaceandjusticenetwork.ca

GREATER VANCOUVER ACTION

Rally & Leafleting
FRIDAY FEBRUARY 24, 2023
4:00pm

13450 102nd Ave (Between University Dr. & City Pkwy.)
Outside SFU Surrey Campus across from the Surrey Central Skytrain Station
Surrey, BC

Action organized by: Local members of the Canada-Wide Peace and Justice Network and friends including Just Peace Committee BC, Global Alliance for Peace-BC, Mobilization against War and Occupation (MAWO), Fire this Time Movement for Social Justice, plus the Communist Party of Canada (Marxist-Leninist)

THE REAL COST OF CANADA'S F-35 FIGHTER JETS

Less \$ for education

Less \$ for affordable housing solutions

Less \$ for climate health care

Less \$ for child care

Deadly wars & militarism

Nuclear threats & insecurity

Noise pollution

Carbon emissions

Environmental degradation

#NOFIGHTERJETS | NOFIGHTERJETS.CA

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

#NoNewFighterJets #DropTheF35Deal TAKE ACTION

1 Sign the e-petition to the parliament of Canada:
<https://petition.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