

Reflections on peace

The book, *What peace means to me*, which represents a uniquely Canadian contribution to the international dialogue on peace, will be presented to the UN and receive wide distribution in Canada. The essays were written by a few exceptional Canadians who are recipients of the Order of Canada. They offer a broad range of personal opinions and perceptions on the International Year of Peace theme ranging from the artistic to the intellectual, and the idealistic to the pragmatic. Capsules from some of them follow:

You cannot talk about peace or even desire peace until you are concerned first about justice between individuals and between peoples.

Sylvie Bernier, Olympic gold medalist in diving.

We have to agree to live and share with our enemies, to tolerate other ideologies in the faith that even the enemy is human and embodies the highest ideals too.

Liona Boyd, classical guitarist.

One thing is certain: unless leaders and states give peace and well-being everywhere their overdue priority, the human experiment... could one day soon terminate.

Maxwell Cohen, professor and judge.

Wanting peace is not something which comes naturally, but rather something which has to be learned. Each of us must discover in his own way what peace really means.

Marc Garneau, first Canadian astronaut in space.

We have to come to an agreement with the East if we want civilization to survive on this planet and if we want real peace.

Gerhard Herzberg, physicist and Nobel Prize winner.

You cannot have peace where people are hungry. You have to be well-fed to lay the building blocks for peace.

Paul-Émile Léger, cardinal of the Roman Catholic Church.

Can the motivated, yet friendly competition enjoyed by athletes throughout the world not teach us a lesson in mutual coexistence?

Bobby Orr, hockey player.

From the dark tunnel of nuclear fear a glimmer of light escapes — the new reality of diverse peoples consciously choosing to work together for peace.

Gérard Pelletier, journalist, politician and diplomat.

My vision of peace encompasses an awareness of the rights of our fellow man irrespective of race, colour or creed.

Oscar E. Peterson, jazz pianist.

In a gentle spirit, a strong will and an enlightened mind resides our best hope for peace: a peace that depends not upon the arms of the world's captains and kings, but upon the governance of ourselves.

Morris Shumiatcher, lawyer and human rights activist.

A definition of peace cannot just encompass the absence of overt hostilities but must include a lack of all kinds of violence and the ability of different points of view to command respect.

Amy Williams, social and women's rights activist.

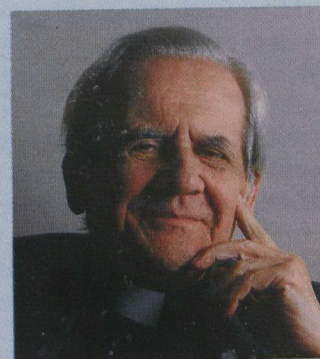
Peace cannot be built on foundations of injustice. Peace requires a new international economic order based on justice for and within nations, and respect for the full dignity of persons.

Lois M. Wilson, United Church minister.



Sylvie Bernier

Athlete Information Bureau



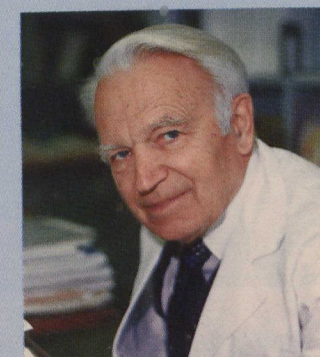
Paul-Émile Léger

Léger Foundation



Oscar Peterson

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Gerhard Herzberg

Dan Getz, NRC