

Outline of planning for Hiroshima/Nagasaki Exhibit, Toward a Peaceful World Free of Nuclear Weapons, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

A Committee of volunteers was formed.

A decision was taken as to the best time of year - Disarmament Week and the anniversary of the founding of the United Nations (Oct. 24) The Exhibit ran from October 25 to November 1, 1997

A search was begun for the best location. We wanted to have a site that would be visited by a regular flow of downtown workers and visitors. A budget of \$15,000 was set and we determined to be self-financing. We designed our own letterhead, posters and pamphlets. We were careful to take a balanced approach, not to be "political" and to look more to the future and what people can do today. It was stressed that this was an educational event.

The sponsoring organizations were the Defence, Research and Education Centre associated with Veterans Against Nuclear Arms, Science for Peace, the United Nations Association of Canada, Toronto Chapter, Soka Gakkai International, a Japanese peace organization and all contributed to the funding except for the United Nations. The funding was put through DREC so that donors could receive a charitable receipt. Efforts to involve the student Peace and Conflict Society and the University of Toronto Chair of Peace Studies were unsuccessful.

The duties of the committee were divided into:

- Treasurer
- Secretary and in charge of peace groups
- Opening and Closing Program organizer and chair of meetings
- Faith vigils and entertainment organizer
- School groups organizer

An assistant was hired who mainly worked on media.

We met monthly until two months ahead when we met weekly. Good fellowship developed in the committee as we recounted our successes (and failures) each week. The media were almost totally absorbed by the election of a new mayor and megacity council and the teachers' strike.