

The Value of Canada's Peace Movement

- In Vancouver, 80,000 people joined in the 1985 March for Peace, sponsored by End the Arms Race.
- In Winnipeg, 30,000 people participated in the 4th Annual Walk for Peace, sponsored by the Winnipeg Coordinating Committee for Disarmament.
- In Toronto, 10,000 high school students took part in a massive peace celebration in front of City Hall.
- In Halifax, more than 300 women, from Labrador City to Denman Island B.C., gathered for five days at an historic International Women's Conference to discuss alternative ways of negotiating peace.

These are but a few of the examples of the vibrancy of the peace movement of the 1980s in Canada.

Across the country, thousands of individuals are involving themselves in a myriad of organizations, expressing their concern that the world has too many arms; demanding that the relentless upward spiral of ever-more sophisticated and lethal weapons be stopped.

The peace movement in Canada is gathering strength, continuously widening its body of support. In the 1960s, it was often dismissed as being left-wing and radical, representing a minority opinion. But in the 1980s, the expanded peace movement — led by pioneering organizations such as Project Ploughshares and Operation Dismantle — cuts across all ages, professions and backgrounds.

Lawyers, physicians, teachers, students, scientists and countless concerned individuals have formed associations so that they might act in concert in helping the public and politicians to understand the threat posed by the world's conventional and nuclear arsenals.