

Conversion is...

... a labour issue!

Military industrial conversion is the process of planning ahead to facilitate the change from capital-intensive, military-related production to labour-intensive, civilian contracts.

... an economic justice issue!

By reducing military budgets and supporting the production of socially useful products and services, government resources previously invested in military production can be used to create more jobs and to rebuild domestic social programs.

... a peace and human rights issue!

Providing civilian alternatives to military production also has many beneficial spin-offs worldwide. By stopping our government's military exports to countries at war or which are abusing human rights, we are helping activists in other countries who are struggling for peace, democracy and justice.

... a sociocultural issue!

Our society is being militarized by a bombardment of cultural products from action films, violent video games and TV programs to war toys, model aircraft building and "air shows." It's time we worked actively to build a culture of peace.

... an educational issue!

To build a culture of peace, it is necessary to teach a global perspective on the interconnectedness of human development, peace and the environment. Educating children, the public and ourselves on these issues is a crucial task.

... a psychological issue!

Although, we are working to promote social change, this cannot come about without transforming the beliefs, attitudes and perceptions of individuals, including ourselves.

... an environmental issue!

Instead of making military equipment, many military industries could be producing much needed environmental technologies to prevent pollution and cleanup the environment.

... a legal issue!

The world is governed by those with the most money and the biggest weapons. Government institutions commit crimes against peace and humanity. We need to move from the antiquated rule of "might is right" to one based on respect for the Nuremberg Principals and international law.

Coalition to Oppose the Arms Trade Mentors

- Maude Barlow**, National Chairperson, Council of Canadians
 - Dr. Rosalie Bertell, G.N.S.H.** Biometrician Epidemiologist
 - Bonnie Cappuccino**, C.M. Child Care Worker, India and Nepal
 - Fred Cappuccino**, C.M. Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Ottawa
 - Marion Dewar**, chair, Oxfam Canada & former Mayor of Ottawa
 - Muriel Duckworth**, C.M. Voice of Women - Canada
 - Ed Finn**, editor, *The CCPA Monitor*, Cdn. Centre for Policy Alternatives
 - John Foster**, former Executive Director, Oxfam Canada
 - Marion Frank**, Veterans Against Nuclear Arms - Canada
 - Anton Kuerti**, Concert Pianist
 - Jean-Claude Parrot**, former Vice-Pres., Canadian Labour Congress
 - Karen Ridd**, Peace and Development activist
 - Senator Doug Roche**, O.C.,
former Canadian Ambassador for Disarmament to the UN
 - Svend Robinson**, NDP MP, Burnaby-Douglas, BC
 - Pete Seeger**, musician
- (groups listed for identification purposes)



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