

His Worship Mayor Walker and White Rock Council Members:

My name is Dr Huguette Hayden, M.D., retired. I have lived in White Rock since 2000. Previously, I lived in Langley.

You might be aware that in November of last year the Langley City Council signed the UN Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW). (See <https://www.langleyadvancetimes.com/opinion/letter-langley-city-council-lauded-for-anti-nuclear-weapons-stance/>). This is the first legally binding international agreement to comprehensively prohibit nuclear weapons with the ultimate goal being their total elimination. It was adopted by a vote at the UN on July 7th 2017, with 122 votes in favour, one against, and one abstaining. Since being opened for signature on September 20th 2017, 86 countries have signed, and it has been ratified by 51 of those. It entered into force on January 22nd 2021. Unfortunately, Canada has not signed or ratified this treaty, meaning our country is not against the retention and potential use of nuclear weapons.

The International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN), representing 648 partner organizations in 101 countries, who with Sutsuko Thurlow shared the Nobel Peace Prize in 2017, are launching a Mayors for Peace Appeal to encourage all mayors of municipalities and cities to undertake to write to the government of Canada calling on it to change the policy which currently supports the use of nuclear weapons and to sign the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW).

Many cities around the world have already sent letters to their governments including, in Canada, Cape Breton, Halifax, Oakville, North Saanich, Saanich, Sooke, Squamish, Toronto, Vancouver, Victoria, West Vancouver, and, as mentioned above, Langley. (See [https://cities.icanw.org/list\\_of\\_cities/](https://cities.icanw.org/list_of_cities/).) For more information, visit <https://www.icanw.org/>.

I am strongly urging you to consider the following motion or one similar:  
WHEREAS the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) is a landmark global agreement calling for national and local governments to abandon nuclear weapons of war;

WHEREAS the UN Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) global agreement was adopted in 2017, and the Nobel Peace Prize Committee has

acknowledged this initiative as providing the best pathway towards a world without nuclear weapons;

WHEREAS nuclear weapons threaten every nation's security and would cause catastrophic humanitarian and environmental harm;

WHEREAS cities are the main targets of nuclear weapons, municipalities have a special responsibility to their constituents to speak out against any role for nuclear weapons in national security doctrines;

WHEREAS municipal governments form a close and active link with their constituents and local social movements;

WHEREAS a national awareness is needed to advance the standard determined by the TPNW against nuclear weapon states and their military alliances with countries that have nuclear weapons;

WHEREAS the time has come to end decades of deadlock in disarmament and moving the world towards the elimination of nuclear weapons;

WHEREAS there is no winner in an exchange of nuclear weapons;

BE IT RESOLVED that City of White Rock support the Mayors for Peace Appeal and send a letter to the government of Canada to break the unacceptable status quo regarding a tolerant nuclear weapons policy by taking decisive steps toward the global elimination of nuclear weapons and sign the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW).

If further information is needed, please contact me at 604 312 0096.

Thank you for considering this important, ultimately life-saving, security-building initiative.

Sincerely,

Dr Huguette Hayden, M.D., Retired  
Member of International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW)  
Member of Women International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)  
Member of World Beyond War (WBW)