

Virtual Ethics Café Presents:

THE EARTH'S FUTURE: NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Virtual Ethics Café:

The Earth's Future: Nuclear Disarmament and Climate Change

Welcome to the Manitoba Association for Rights and Liberties Ethics Café. Ethics Cafés provide an opportunity for critical dialogue on significant ethical issues faced by society. We would like to address some issues exploring the intersection between the two greatest issues of the 21st century: nuclear disarmament and climate change. Open to everybody with no prep work necessary; how you choose to participate in the discussion is up to you!

Date: November 25, 2021

Time: 7:00pm - 8:45pm

Event Registration:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/ethics-cafe-the-earths-future-nuclear-disarmament-and-climate-change-tickets-210017577227>

Preparation for the Evening

- Those new to zoom should download the app and come 10 minutes early to test your video and audio.
- Close any other windows on your browser so that notification noises don't disrupt discussion.
- Be sure to not have any bright lights behind you and be conscious of your surrounding environment.



During the Meeting

- Please mute your speaker unless you are speaking. The space bar can be used to temporarily unmute your speaker when you are speaking.
- You will be placed in small groups of 4-6 for each discussion question. The groups will stay the same for the first two questions, and will be changed for the last discussion question.
- Please be patient if tech problems arise, we'll work hard to ensure everything goes smoothly.

Agenda

1. Introductions, Land Acknowledgment, Outline of Meeting Procedure
2. **Question 1:** Introduced | Small group discussion | Large group discussion
 - *Northern Saskatchewan contains the largest high-grade uranium deposits in the world, providing almost a quarter of the world's uranium supply. Several other provinces are estimated to have sizable reserves of their own.*
<https://www.macleans.ca/news/canada/northerners-debate-uranium-mine-and-caribou-effects/>
 - *Do the economic advantages of uranium mining justify its environmental implications? Who are the stakeholders and what roles, if any, should civil society have in the discussion of uranium mining development?*
3. **Question 2:** Introduced | Small group discussion | Large group discussion
 - *The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) is the first legally binding international agreement that comprehensively prohibits nuclear weapons. Despite claiming to support total nuclear disarmament, Canada has not signed on, citing its commitment to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).*
https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/international_relations-relations_internationales/un-onu/statements-declarations/2017-10-13-nuclear-nucleaires.aspx?lang=eng
<https://policyoptions.irpp.org/magazines/april-2021/government-out-of-step-with-canadians-on-nuclear-weapons/>
 - *Should Canada endorse the TPNW or does it go against its national security? Is it possible for Canada to maintain its membership in NATO while also supporting the disarmament of nuclear weapons?*
4. **Question 3:** Introduced | Small group discussion | Large group discussion
 - *In a report of global CO₂ emissions, Canada was ranked as the worst emitter on a per capita basis, releasing more than 600 million metric tons of CO₂ this year. The federal government has committed to carbon pricing and funding programs. Most recently proposing a cap and elimination of pollution from the oil and gas sector toward net zero by 2050.*

<https://www.nationalobserver.com/2021/10/07/news/any-way-you-slice-it-canada-one-worst-emitters-planet>

- *Is Canada doing enough to address the ongoing climate crisis? Who bears the most responsibility in implementing policy (federal, provincial, municipal, or individual) and why?*

5. Closing Remarks

After the meeting

- Thank you for participating in our Virtual Ethics Café!
- We would appreciate your feedback by following the link to answer a few questions about the event:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSekvPqphIm70mAuaSbxqYfrKvljXXs_428Z23N4v1y47eoA4Q/viewform?usp=sf_link

This event is a collaboration between the Manitoba Association for Rights and Liberties, the Centre for Professional and Applied Ethics at the University of Manitoba and International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War Canada.

