



(Be the) PEACE TALKS



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www.bethepeace.ca

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Be the Peace is a 3-year project of Second Story Women's Centre
www.secstory.com

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Links to Explore:

www.bethepeace.ca
on Twitter [@bethepeace1](https://twitter.com/bethepeace1)
www.onebillionrising.org
www.secstory.com
www.harbourhousebw.com

Dear Friends,

Well, winter is definitely upon us! And so is the final phase of the Be the Peace Project. It has been quite a ride, but it is not over yet!

We'd like to share **3 exciting events** happening in the next month or so. They are free and open to the public and service providers. Some of them are the culmination of things we have been working on for some time, and in partnership with others. We hope you will join us!

Registration is required! Just e-mail us at:

Helen helen@bethepeace.ca or
Sue sue@bethepeace.ca

1- Into the Heart of Gender

A series of 3 sessions:

Wednesday eve, February 25 ... 5:30pm- 9:00 pm

Saturday, February 28 9:00am- 3:30pm

Wednesday eve, March 4 5:30pm- 9:00 pm

At the Mahone Bay Centre Lunch and light suppers provided.

We recommend attending all 3 sessions.

Please register **by February 22nd**.

Finding common ground across gender lines can be challenging, especially when talking about relationship violence, gender stereotypes and patterns of thought and communication that often separate us as "the opposite sex." Given the media storm about Rehtaeh Parsons, Jian

Ghomeshi, Bill Cosby and the Dal dentistry students, etc. it is clear we need a better way to communicate and engage to address these complex social issues. But our socially constructed gender lenses often get in the way.

We are partnering with Dr. Bruce Dienes of the Engaging Men and Boys Project (www.cjproject.engagingmenandboys.ca, to co-facilitate this event. His experience in community psychology and facilitation of mixed gender groups will help us:

- Explore the dynamics of gender, violence and peace
- Challenge the gender-based structures that harm and stifle us all, like the “Man Box” and the “Woman Box”
- Build skills in overcoming communication barriers
- Become allies across gender lines

2- Trauma-Informed Approaches with Dr. Lori Haskell

A full-day event you can attend on either February 23rd or February 24th At the Best Western in Bridgewater. Lunch provided.

In partnership with the Sexual Assault Services (SASLQ) project of Second Story Women's Centre and Harbour House, a full-day event with Dr. Lori Haskell, a leading researcher and presenter on how trauma affects the brain, emotions and behaviour of survivors of violence. She has educated judges, attorneys, psychologists, police, health care providers and community groups on a trauma-informed lens and the complexities of trauma and its treatment.

This is a rare opportunity on the South Shore... this event is free. Registration is required by February 19th

3- A Restorative Legal System:

What would that look like (for women)?

March 24th 5:00 pm- 8:30 pm An evening panel discussion.
At Trinity United Church Hall, Mahone Bay Light supper provided.
(THIS DATE IS ALMOST CONFIRMED!)

For legal professionals, service providers, community members.

*Continuing education credits from the N.S. Bar Association may be available.

Panelists: (most are confirmed)

Judge Pamela Williams, N.S. Mental Health Court

Jennifer Llewelyn, Dalhousie Law Professor

Lisa Teryl, Legal Counsel, Human Rights Commission

Stephanie MacInnis Langley and Pat Gorham, N.S. Advisory
Council on the Status of Women

Tod Augusta-Scott, Bridges Institute

Pamela Harrison, Transition House Association of N.S.

Sean Kelly, Corrections

Women who report incidents of intimate partner or sexual violence, may enter a legal system that has limited options for handling their cases, and a perceived insensitivity to the impact of that trauma on their participation in the legal process. Many women describe it as a further traumatic and damaging experience.

How can a "restorative approach" to our legal system prevent further trauma and marginalization of women, while protecting, respecting and honouring their needs? Can it provide more 'just' outcomes for all?

Join in this discourse about a restorative/relational approach to the legal system- what would it look like? How could it be achieved? What difference would it make?

Please register by March 13th

What Next?

There's still more!

Watch for a notice about our final Be the Peace
Public Forum: A Report to the Community
This is in planning stages. We'll keep you posted.

New Links

- **Lezlie Lowe- Language Murky Around Sexual Assault** Chronicle Herald: <http://thechronicleherald.ca/opinions/1267586-lowe-language-murky-around-sex-assaults>
- **Ian Brown- Can Domestic Abusers Be Rehabilitated?** Globe and Mail Jan 30, 2015 <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/report-on-business/careers/career-advice/life-at-work/arresting-domestic-violence-at-work/article21205695/>
- **Grade 8 girls start a petition:** <http://o.canada.com/news/grade-8-girls-start-petition-to-get-consent-in-the-curriculum>
- **El Jones- Being a Dentist is Not Right-** Halifax Media Coop: <http://halifax.mediacoop.ca/story/being-dentist-not-right/32534>

As always... we are so appreciative of your support in the work to create healthy, peaceful relationships and can never fully express our gratitude for all your help, encouragement, expertise and collaboration.

Refer: someone in need of support, services, safety planning to:
Second Story Women's Centre, 543-1315 or 640-3044
Harbour House Transition House, 1-888-543-3999 (24 hrs.)
Family Service of Western Nova Scotia (and men's intervention), 543-7444

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