

Peacebuilder's Toolbox:

52 Online Resources for Peace Work



2015 Directors' Edition

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52 Online Resources for Peace Work

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[Canadian School of Peacebuilding](http://www.csop.cmu.ca)

This book is dedicated to the 10,175 peacebuilders on the Canadian School of Peacebuilding online network. You are our inspiration. Thank you for courage and compassion to be peace in the midst of violence.

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INTRODUCTION

Sometimes we are asked about the tools we use when engaging in peace work online. As academics, administrators, organizers, and networkers, we have tried and tested a variety of tools. This first CSOP ebook reveals some of the tech tools we use. Peacebuilding cannot be done primarily by technology and yet technology greatly extends our ability to bring people together.

As current and former Co-Directors of the [Canadian School of Peacebuilding](#) (CSOP), over the last 8 years, we have been building an international network of engaged peacebuilders. We have seen it as our work to equip, to inspire and to challenge—and to be challenged and inspired by—these peacebuilders. One element in that work is the use of online tools. Over time we have found particular tools that serve us well in our peacebuilding work. It seems consistent with peacebuilding that we share our best tools in the hope that others might find them useful and use them to build peace in ways that we couldn't even imagine.

What is listed within these pages is our tried-and-tested toolkit for online peacebuilding. Since the Canadian School of Peacebuilding (an Institute of [Canadian Mennonite University](#)) started in 2009, we have been building an online platform to serve engaged peacebuilders around the world. Here are 52 of the tools we wish someone had told us to use sooner. Click on the name of the tool to hyperlink to their website. This is only a sampler. Let us know if you have suggestions of what would be helpful to include in future editions of this toolkit (csop@cmu.ca).

This book is a gift. Please feel free to share it with others. It is our hope that this gift helps you to live and to be peace in the here and now. Blessings on the journey.

Wendy, Jarem and Valerie



PEACE STORIES and INSPIRATION

Global Nonviolent Action Database

[Global Nonviolent Action Database](#)

The database contains 1000 case studies in nonviolence around the world. Two former CSOP teaching faculty, George Lakey and Karen Ridd, participated in this project. The case studies have been collected by academics but also by emerging scholars (students) in the field. This is an inspiring use of student research.



[Tanenbaum's Peacemakers in Action Network](#)

is made up of the men and women doing the hard, dirty, grassroots work that tackles violence head-on. Each year they add to the network. The first peacemaker in this network was Ivo Markovic, who taught at the CSOP in 2012.



[Canadian School of Peacebuilding](#)

Ok, we admit that we like to brag about our alumni and past teaching faculty. Our website contains profiles, audio clips, videos and even a song. Our plan is to keep posting profiles of what our alumni and past faculty are currently doing in peacework.



[Mennonite Central Committee \(MCC\)](#)

is a deeply respected relief, development, and peace organization, active around the world. MCC is a founding partner of the CSOP. Visit the "Stories" section of their website for inspiration and information. Many of their partners are part of the CSOP community.



NETWORKING WITH PEACEBUILDERS



[Peace and Collaborative Development Network](#)

Through this Facebook-like network, members can get regular email updates on emerging issues and resources in the field. Wendy uses this to keep up in this constantly changing field. For example, she found the *Apps for Social Change* link particularly helpful.



[Canadian School of Peacebuilding](#)

Sign up for our email list to become part of our international network of engaged peacebuilders that includes people from more than 150 countries.



[iContact](#)

We send e-mails, maintain our e-mail lists and conduct surveys through this paid subscription. A key part of peacebuilding is networking. This tool helps manage the processes of networking through email.



[LinkedIn](#)

This website is designed for professional networking. It's a great place to connect with other peacebuilders, connect with groups and find out about job postings.





[Survey Monkey](#)

We are learning of the importance of finding creative ways of listening to the needs of those around us, in order to better serve those needs. Surveys play a role in helping us discover and reorient ourselves towards the needs of others.



[The Council of Canadians](#)

The Council of Canadians is Canada's leading social action organization, mobilizing a network of 60 chapters across the country. The Council advocates for clean water, fair trade, green energy, public health care and a vibrant democracy. They are also a



[Alliance for Peacebuilding](#)

The Alliance for Peacebuilding (AfP) is a diverse community of nearly one hundred peacebuilding organizations, several hundred professional members, and a network of over 15,000 people. AfP members are active in 153 countries and employ more than 5,400 people.



[Peace Research: The Canadian Journal of Peace and Conflict Studies](#)

This is Canada's oldest and its primary scholarly journal in its area. This multi-disciplinary professional journal is committed to publishing scholarly articles on the causes of war and the conditions of peace. *Peace Research* is a sponsor of CSOP.



PEACE ADVOCACY



[Peace and Justice Studies Association](#)

This members-only listserv is a fantastic exchange between scholars and practitioners in North America on emerging issues in the field as well as job postings. Designed for both activists and scholars this is a great source of friendship-building and awareness raising. The PJSA is a sponsor of the CSOP.



[Mediation Services – Resolution Skills Centre](#)

A Canadian leader in mediation training and service, Mediation Services is a founding partner of the CSOP. The link above connects to their training resources where you can order their manuals and training kits.



[Twitter](#)

The use of twitter for activism is sometimes called Hashtag activism. We saw this used effectively in the Arab Spring as well as with Canada's [Idle No More](#) campaign, which has over 24K followers on twitter.



[Nobel Women's Initiative](#)

Throughout its 110-plus year history the Nobel Peace Prize has been awarded to only 15 women. Nine of these women work together through this bold organization to advocate for peace, justice and equality. They give special attention to the role of women in peacebuilding.





KAIROS Canada

faithful action for justice

[KAIROS: Canadian Ecumenical Justice Initiatives](#) unites Canadian churches and religious organizations in a faithful ecumenical response to the call to “do justice, and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God.” Their news service highlights Canadian and International issues.



[ReliefWeb](#)

This is a gateway calendar for humanitarian training programs from more than 1000 organizations. They offer free postings for events. Google analytics tells us that this online calendar sends us more leads than any other online calendar.



[Facebook](#)

Facebook has allowed CSOP to connect with 5500 “fans” from more than countries. We are still learning how to direct this online community to our website and live events. Follow the link above to see our Facebook page.



[YouTube](#)

CSOP has [10 videos](#) on YouTube totaling more than 7000 views. We’ve put together free videos that we hope serve the needs of peacebuilders. However, our alumni have again outdone us. [The 59 Cent Campaign](#), a project for one of our classes, has more than 15,000 views.



Berghof Foundation

[Berghof Handbook for Conflict Transformation](#)

This is our favourite free handbook on conflict transformation – in 8 languages. It is authored by many of the leading figures in the field, including Michelle LeBaron, who taught at the CSOP in 2011.



[CDA](#)

The mission of the CDA is to facilitate collaborative learning in promotion of effective and accountable international engagements. Their publications are very strong and their website offers many for free download in order to encourage their dissemination.



[Transcend Media Service](#)

While so much of the media fuels violence, this news service utilizes a different approach – solution-oriented peace journalism. Peace journalism, an emerging part of the field, is encouraged by Johan Galtung, one of the founders of the field.



[Avaaz](#)

This is a global web movement. *The Guardian* calls it "the globe's largest and most powerful online activist network." They focus on signing petitions, funding media campaigns and direct actions, emailing, phoning, and lobbying governments and organizing "offline" protests and events.



PEACE FUNDING and JOBS



[Idealist Careers](#)

This site helps purpose-driven professionals to find, land and love their social impact jobs. At time of writing they have 12,405 open job postings with free access!



[Peace and Collaborative Development Network – Resources of Job Seekers](#)

One of the goals of this network is to provide a centralized resource for anyone seeking employment in the field of international affairs, peacebuilding, development and related areas.



[ReliefWeb Jobs](#)

This is a free gateway for humanitarian and development jobs. We know that this site is very helpful for communicating upcoming events. More and more are now also posting jobs here. At time of writing they had 2,833 open job postings.



[Alliance for Peacebuilding](#)

We reviewed this organization in the peace networking section as they have such a significant network of peacebuilders. We repeat it here because their members have access to a valuable listing of job postings in the field.





Yunus Centre

[The Yunus Centre Social Business Design Lab](#)

is a meeting place for people of diverse backgrounds who share the goal of developing social businesses for the betterment of society. The site is organized by Nobel Laureate, Professor Muhammad Yunus.



pcdn

peace & collaborative
development network

[Peace and Collaborative Development Network – Guide to Key Resources for Funding Work in Peacebuilding, International Dev and Related Fields.](#)

The site lists 21 key funding sources in the field. It is one of the best guides to funding in the field.



[Leadpages](#)

Part of the financial sustainability model of many peace organizations is selling online digital versions of peace products that serve the needs of the world. Leadpages helps with online selling. It is easy to use, even for people with relatively limited technological skills.



E-JUNKIE
we help you sell online

[E-junkie](#)

One of the ways to reduce dependence on donor funding is to sell digital peace products to the online world. We, at CSOP, are starting to use this service for online sales and to track sales coming via organizational partners in the upcoming launch of our new book, *Voices of Harmony and Dissent: How Peacebuilders Are Changing Their Worlds.*



RESEARCHING PEACE



[Google Chrome](#)

Jarem's browser of choice because, once logged in, you can switch almost seamlessly between windows and Mac operating systems.



[Mozilla Firefox](#)

Valerie's preferred browser. It's free, open-source, and created by a non-profit organization. It also functions well. See, peacebuilders can't agree on anything...



[Scrivener](#)

Scrivener is a powerful, content-generation tool for writers that allows you to concentrate on composing and structuring long and difficult documents. It is designed for, and by, writers. It is designed for projects of considerable length.



[CRinfo](#)

This is a free, online clearinghouse of high-quality information related to conflict resolution, with a searchable database containing thousands of conflict resolution and peace-related Web pages, books, journal articles, audiovisual materials, organizational profiles, events, and career





Restorative Justice Online

[Restorative Justice Online](#)

As far as we know, this is the best resource online for restorative justice information. You can search their library of 11,192 publications. They provide free PDF access to many of these publications.

The Chicago Manual of Style Online

[The Chicago Manual of Style Online](#)

This is where we go when we forget the little details of citing or formatting an academic paper in CM style.



[Canadian Mennonite University Library - Peace and Conflict e-journals and periodicals](#)
Many of these are free online. Here is another [access point for 535 open access peace journals](#).



LIBRARY OF
CONGRESS

[Library of Congress](#)

Do you need to search every copyrighted book on a particular topic? Search here. They keep extensive records.





[Google Scholar](#)

Are you looking for quality, academic work on a particular subject? This search engine is designed to help you find it.



[Google Books](#)

Do you want to search the insides of a book? Can't remember what page that quotation came from? This is the place to search. They have millions of books you can preview or read for free.



[Evernote](#)

Designed for the digital age, Evernote acts as an ideas notebook that lets you add photos, websites, video, audio... as you write, collect, search and present your ideas. It works on all devices.



[Mendeley](#)

This is a free reference manager and academic social network. You can import book and journal articles into the manager at a click of a button and then export citations and bibliographies into papers automatically.



ORGANIZING PEACE



RegOnline

We use this service for event organizing. Create, receive and process registration forms and payments. Set-up is free, and then you pay per application.



Dropbox

We use this for file sharing between colleagues and between platforms. Update a file at work computer, and it gets updated on any computer connected to your folder. There is a free version, or you can pay to have more space.



WordPress

The CSOP website is created and maintained through this service. It's free and works with many other services – like RegOnline, LeadPages, iContact, Twitter, and Facebook.



iAnnotate

Do you ever need to mark up a paper and send it back to someone? Do it electronically with this app. Use voice, typing or printing to make your comments. It's great for marking papers.



PERSONAL HABITS FOR GOOD LIVING



[Fellowship of Reconciliation](#)

This group is bold and inspirational in the ways that it engages faith-based peace and it engages violence. The Fellowship is composed of people who recognize the essential unity of all creation and have joined together to explore the power of love and truth for resolving human conflict. The FoR website has valuable multi-media resources and a great store. FoR is a CSOP sponsor.



[WeekPlan](#)

An app designed around Covey's *Seven Habits of Highly Effective People*. It is a weekly planner that focuses less on doing more and more on doing right things.



Wunderlist

[Wunderlist](#)

This free electronic “to-do” list works across platforms and devices.



ABOUT THE AUTHORS



Hi, I'm Wendy Kroeker. I am the author of "Shaping Peacebuilding Partnerships between International and Palestinian NGOs: Implications for Peace Studies" in [*Peace Studies between Tradition and Innovation*](#) (Cambridge Scholars). I am Co-Director of the Canadian School of Peacebuilding and a Peace and Conflict Transformation Studies teacher at Canadian Mennonite University (CMU). As a peace trainer and facilitator I have worked in Philippines, Burma/Myanmar, Indonesia, Cambodia, Bangladesh, India, Canada, and Latin America.



Hi. I'm Jarem Sawatsky. I am the author of [*Justpeace Ethics: A Guide for Restorative Justice and Peacebuilding*](#) (Cascade Books). I am a founding Co-Director of the Canadian School of Peacebuilding (retired) and Associate Professor of Peace and Conflict Transformation Studies at Canadian Mennonite University (retired). My research into healing justice has taken me to communities in Sri Lanka, Papua New Guinea, Israel, Scotland, England, Canada, United States, France, and Fiji.



Hi. I'm Valerie Smith. I am co-editor and author of [*Harmony and Dissent: How Peacebuilders are Transforming their Worlds*](#) (Canadian Mennonite University Press). I am Co-Director of the Canadian School of Peacebuilding (CSOP). I have worked with the CSOP since its beginning in 2009. Prior to that I worked with Mennonite Central Committee for three years in Bosnia and Herzegovina, working with a local relief and development agency and teaching peace studies and theology at the Novi Sad Theological College.



SHARING THE GIFT



We know that this is an online toolbox and that not all peacebuilding work can be accomplished online. Whatever habits we have for good living, virtually all of them are offline.

We hope that these tools will help to equip, inform and inspire your work online but also offline, in the many ways—big and small—that you work to build peace within yourself, in your community, and around the world.

P.S. If you liked this book and want to share it with others – please send them to this [link](http://csop.cmu.ca/toolbox-opt-in) (<http://csop.cmu.ca/toolbox-opt-in>) to receive their free copy.

