

Peace is a process

From July 6th to 9th, 2006 Nelson will be the home to two events. While the events are separate and each have their own agenda, there is also a great deal of overlap.

Our Way Home is an event meant to honour Canada as a peaceful country who receives those who flee from violence. Firestorm is an event organized by the Vietnam Veterans in Canada. Their purpose is to help heal those veterans who experienced active service, especially those with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. They want to hold their event at the same time as Our Way Home because they want the opportunity to come into contact with veterans who have not yet made use of their support. Both groups have a desire to share stories and to participate in workshops that would lead to a greater understanding of each other's choices in life.

Nelson is an obvious place for a broad based peace event. Peace has to be seen as wide ranging and encompassing the cessation of violence between nations and more. Peace has to be seen as a process rather than as an end result in and of itself. Working in a peaceful way is more meaningful than saying "one day we will achieve peace."

There is a connection between peace between family members, neighbours and friends and peace between nations. Peace is something within yourself.

When we speak about peace, the tone of our voice must carry our message.