



AT THE 2009 NATIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE AUSTRALIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Mayors for Peace, an international network of around 3000 local Councils hosted a colorful stall at the ALGA conference this year, with a focus on local initiatives around nuclear weapons abolition.

ALGA participants were invited to fold a paper crane at the stall to learn about Mayors for Peace upcoming activities and non-members were encouraged to join the 50 Councils already part of the network in Australia.

Mayors for Peace supports member Councils to undertake local peace initiatives and participates in national and international advocacy efforts towards nuclear disarmament.

The network in Australia has had significant support this year by Macedon Ranges and Yarra City Councils, the Victorian Local Governance Association (VLGA), as well as the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN).

National Convener for Mayors for Peace Councillor Helen Relph from Macedon Ranges said the interest from Councils at the ALGA conference was extremely positive.

“We received an overwhelming response from Councils at ALGA wanting to be a part of Mayors for Peace. There is a huge upsurge of activity around the world on the issue of nuclear disarmament at the moment on an international and national level. Through local initiatives we will be able to add a significant contribution to this vital global issue.

Mayors for Peace is supporting Councils to host crane folding activities in August on the anniversaries of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Councils are also invited to host an international exhibition on nuclear disarmament, From A Culture of Violence to a Culture of Peace: Transforming the Human Spirit. The worldwide lay Buddhist association Soka Gakkai International is supporting the exhibition tour in Australia.

The exhibition will be made available to Mayors for Peace member councils to exhibit in their local area from September 2009.

If you would like more information about Mayors for Peace contact

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