

HIGH SCHOOL ESSAY CONTEST 2013 TERMS & CONDITIONS

An essay contest to promote critical thinking about the Canadian government's policies and spending.

Please answer this question in an essay of no more than 1000 words.

Question: Instead of spending \$25 billion to build new warships for the navy at the Halifax Shipyard, how could the Canadian government invest our tax dollars to make our society and our economy greener, more equitable, and more peaceful?

Background: Background: In 2010, the Canadian government announced the National Shipbuilding Procurement Strategy. Under the strategy, the federal government stated it would spend \$35 billion of our tax dollars to build new combat and non-combat vessels for the Canadian Navy and Coast Guard. In 2011, the federal government awarded the \$25 billion bid to Irving Shipbuilding Ltd. to manufacture a fleet of new armed combat vessels (warships) for the navy over the next 20 years at the shipyard in Halifax. It is the largest defence procurement in our country's history. In 2012, the Nova Scotia government released its Kids & Learning First policy. Under the policy, the Department of Education has introduced a new Manufacturing Trades course, so that students can gain the skills to help build the new warships at the Halifax shipyard. However, our country is faced with the serious human security challenges of climate change and poverty. The essay contest asks high school students to critically examine the issue of the federal government planning to spend billions of tax dollars to acquire new warships in Nova Scotia. No warships have been built yet. Are there other ways the federal government could spend tax dollars to make our society and economy greener, more equitable and more peaceful?

Eligibility: Open to all high school students in Nova Scotia.

Prizes: First prize: \$150 cash & prize pack

Second prize: \$100 cash & prize pack

Third prize: \$50 cash & prize pack

Deadline: Monday, June 10, 2013 (midnight).

Conditions:

- Essay limited to 1,000 words not including references.
- Must be sent in English as a Microsoft Word (doc) attachment.
- Include your name, phone number, age, grade, high school and hometown.
- Please send essays electronically to: peace@demilitarize.ca

Deadline June 10, 2013. Winning essays will be announced and posted on the web site by June 17, 2013.

Organized by DEMILITARIZE.ca and sponsored by the Nova Scotia Public Interest Research Group (NSPIRG). For more information, please visit www.demilitarize.ca