

**The Simons Foundation Award  
For Distinguished Global Leadership in the  
Service of Peace and Disarmament**

**Presented to**

**The Honourable Lloyd Axworthy**

**October, 29th, 1999**

The Simons Foundation Award is offered to an individual who has demonstrated Global Leadership in the Service of Peace and Disarmament and is presented, Mrs. Axworthy, to your son, the Honourable Lloyd Axworthy specifically for his initiative in calling for a review of NATO nuclear weapons policy.

Mr Axworthy is unable to be here in person to accept the Award. He is leading a Delegation to Pakistan in an attempt to restore democracy there. I am most disappointed. However, Mr. Axworthy is doing what the people of Canada expect him to do. Pakistan is a new nuclear weapons state and its command-control system for their nuclear weapons is not secure.

Though I am disappointed - I am - at the same time - pleased to welcome you, his mother, Gwen Axworthy who - given your own activist history - has presumably played a major role in shaping your son for his destiny. Mrs. Axworthy will accept the Award on his behalf and - following this presentation, a Virtual Lloyd Axworthy will address us tonight in a pre-recorded speech.

Some members of the peace movement in Canada have attempted to turn this event into one of political partisanship and for this reason, I want to emphasize that this Award is presented to an individual, to an activist, to a man who has been referred to as "the most distinguished Foreign Minister for Canada since Lester Pearson." He is a highly respected leading figure not only in Canada but internationally - a global statesman - an important presence and is highly regarded for his courageous and dedicated decision-making and willingness to take a stand.

Mr. Axworthy is an ardent and forthright advocate and activist for United Nations reform, particularly in regard to the Security Council: calling for the consistent enforcement of International Law; calling for established and consistently applied criteria for military action aimed at relieving the suffering of endangered people. He can count among his achievements, progress in ameliorating the conditions and protecting civilians caught in armed conflict; protection for war-affected children and child soldiers; in curbing small arms; in the establishment of the International Criminal Court; and for his outstanding achievement in accomplishing, in a remarkably short time frame, the Landmines Treaty. And under his leadership, he has forged a new kind of diplomacy based on full working partnerships between governments and civil groups.

This man is deeply concerned with peace and with humans' security and is attempting to shape a new world order in which the protection and safety of the individual is the dominant concern. He is endeavouring to replace the current concept of security as military might and force with the concept - and all the actions and rules of law necessary to make the concept reality - of humans' security. However - and I imagine he realizes this - human security can be no more than an illusion as long as nuclear war strategies are the cornerstones of defence policies and nuclear arsenals exist. I imagine he understands that military security which relies on nuclear weapons for protection is far more dangerous than a nuclear weapon free world.



Lloyd Axworthy has a long and consistent exemplary history of concern about nuclear weapons. At least twelve years ago he was an outspoken member of Parliament calling for nuclear disarmament. And in his current position - Minister of Foreign Affairs for Canada - as an honourable man, a man of conscience, has now taken on the most critical, difficult and complex issue in arms control and disarmament - that of nuclear weapons. In Canada he initiated the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Trade Hearings on Canada's nuclear weapons policy. He welcomed its report and is following the key recommendations.

At the Fiftieth Anniversary Celebrations of NATO he called for a review of NATO's nuclear weapons policy. In a recent speech in Boston, Lloyd Axworthy forcefully expressed his concern about the jeopardy of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty and the impasse on the Conference on Disarmament - and called again for a review of NATO nuclear weapons policy that, using his words, "reflects the next decade - not the last".

Lloyd Axworthy in speaking out against the United States and its lack of moral responsibility in jeopardizing the nuclear weapons treaties, and in its nuclear weapons policy, appears to be rejecting the politics of accommodation which has historically defined the political reality of Canada/ U.S. relations. He is to be commended for his courage.

We - at The Simons Foundation - strongly encourage him to carry the nuclear agenda further, to initiate a global dialogue with policy makers on the abolition of nuclear weapons - to continue in this area, to shape history, to lead us out of the evils of the nuclear age, in order to protect the present and future generations in the world.

Mrs Axworthy, I would ask you to take to your son, our gift. It is a work of art, sculptured glass, created by Susan Point of the Salish Nation. Vancouver occupies their lands. Susan Point describes the work in this way: She says

This work shows a human figure holding up the earth.

The Thunderbirds support the human figure whose hands they shape. The earth in turn, has a body that supports both the thunderbirds and the human figure. Inside the Earth are two thunder lizards. Both thunderbirds contain human faces.

This work is meant to convey the notion that all life is inter-related and that man; being "the shaper" of this World, must always be guided by this fact if he is to be a good caretaker of the planet.

This work is called The Shaper - and we believe it is a fitting symbol for, and tribute to, your son, Lloyd Axworthy. (Penelope escorts Mrs. Axworthy to the podium)

I also want to present this Citation (read the Citation). I have also a Cash Award and Mr. Axworthy has dedicated this to the Canadian Landmines Foundation. Mary McLaughlin, President of the Canadian Landmines Foundation is here tonight so Mary please come up and accept the cheque.

I have here also, letters of Congratulation from: The Right Honourable David Lange, former Prime Minister of New Zealand. He was Prime Minister when New Zealand declared itself nuclear weapon free and when the South Pacific became a nuclear weapons free zone.

General Lee Butler, former Chief of the Strategic Air Command and responsible for the Nuclear War Theatre. He regrets he is unable to be here tonight.

Mr. Jayantha Dhanapala, United Nations Under-Secretary General for Disarmament Affairs who also expressed his regret that he was unable to Attend.

Professor Sir Joseph Rotblat, Nobel Laureate who was disappointed that he was not able to be present.

His Excellency Kofi Annan, Secretary General of the United Nations.

Mrs. Axworthy, I would appreciate it if you would take these to your son.

**Jennifer Allen Simons**  
**President**  
**The Simons Foundation**