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## MEDIA RELEASE

# Jody Williams, Nobel Peace Prize recipient, speaks at SFU

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Jody Williams, who won the 1997 Nobel Prize for her efforts and leadership in the fight to ban anti-personnel landmines, will discuss this honour during her keynote speech at “Peace and the Environment: A Symposium Exploring the Legacy and Insights of Six Nobel Peace Prize Laureates,” taking place Feb. 6-7, at SFU’s Vancouver campus.

Williams, along with a group of international scholars, will discuss the diverse contributions of six Nobel Peace Prize laureates to international peace efforts. The laureates are Jane Addams, Emily Greene Balch, Wangari Maathai, Andrei Sakharov, Joseph Rotblat, and Linus Pauling.

An internationally known figure and author of three books, Williams is currently the Sam and Cele Keeper Professor in Peace and Social Justice in the Graduate College of Social Work at the University of Houston.

In a symposium dialogue, “Social Democracy, Human Rights and Peace”, Williams and Susan Dimock of York University will explore the idea that peace is not just the absence of war. It involves creating and maintaining social systems that enhance justice and freedom for individuals and simultaneously includes care and responsibility for the physical and natural environment.

The symposium has been organized to address a subject that is rarely discussed, while providing a public forum for highly accomplished thought leaders to hold conversations that draw upon their own work, and cross academic disciplines and the public realm.

The symposium is free of charge, and open to members of the public.

Simon Fraser University is consistently ranked among Canada’s top comprehensive universities and is one of the top 50 universities in the world under 50 years old. With campuses in Vancouver, Burnaby and Surrey, B.C., SFU engages actively with the community in its research and teaching, delivers almost 150 programs to more than 30,000 students, and has more than 125,000 alumni in 130 countries.

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