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Cross-Canada Protest Movement against $100 Billion Procurement for New Fighter Jets and Warships

By Ken Stone
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Hamilton Coalition to Stop The War

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Next Monday, the day on which Parliament reconvenes, the Hamilton Coalition to Stop The War will organize an informational picket of the constituency office of ***Filomena Tassi****, the new federal Minister of Procurement.*

The picket is part of a cross-Canada week of protest to demand that the Trudeau government scrap its plans for these largest procurements in Canadian history, namely, **$19 billion for new fighter jets and $82 billion for new warships**. But these are only the sticker prices for these proposed new weapons. The lifetime costs of these war machines are actually estimated to be $77 billion and $286 billion respectively.

These procurements effectively mean that Canada won't be able to afford the costs to transform to a green economy or adequately fund social programs such as medicare. In addition, these weapons are NOT designed to protect the territory of Canada, but rather to carry out Canada's commitment under NATO to wage aggressive wars on other countries. Finally, the purchase of the war machines will preclude Canada from meeting its climate commitments as the jets alone will burn an estimated 4 trillion litres of jet fuel during their projected thirty-year lifespan.

The in-person, masked, and socially-distant event will take place for one hour outside of the Minister's office at 1686 Main Street West, Hamilton at 11 am on Monday, November 22, 2021.

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