



Nuclear Free Local Authorities Steering Committee

information

NFLA Media release - for immediate release, 9th April 2013

NFLA pays tribute to George Regan, its former Chair, who has sadly died

The Nuclear Free Local Authorities (NFLA) pays tribute to Bailie George Regan, its former UK & Ireland Chair, who sadly died over the weekend.

Bailie Regan was a Dundee City Councillor for over 20 years and its representative to the NFLA from 2000 until his retirement as a councillor in 2012. George was the Chair of the NFLA from 2004 – 2006 and again in 2009 – 2011 following the untimely death of NFLA Chair Bill Risby. George was also the Vice Chair (Scotland) of the NFLA Steering Committee.

George Regan was an inspirational leader of the NFLA and guided it through some difficult times to continue its objectives of calling for a phasing out of nuclear power, the development of renewable energy alternatives and energy efficiency programmes. He was also a passionate advocate for nuclear disarmament and a nuclear weapons free world.

Amongst the highlights of his two terms as NFLA Chair included representing the NFLA at Mayors for Peace Conferences in Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 2005 and 2009. George also represented the NFLA as part of an international Mayors for Peace delegation at the United Nations in New York in 2009 and 2010. Along with being an active member of NFLA, George was instrumental in Dundee City Council joining the Mayors for Peace. Messages of sympathy have been received from the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki and across the UK and Ireland, which will be passed on to his family.

George Regan was also the Chair of the COSLA group, the Scottish Councils Committee on Radioactive Substances (SCCORS), and played an instrumental role in assisting the policy formulation of the Scottish Government's policy on the management of highly active radioactive waste.

George was a lively personality with a clever turn of phrase and a great sense of humour. He will be sadly missed by his NFLA and Mayors for Peace colleagues. The NFLA and Mayors for Peace send its deepest sympathy to his family and colleagues on Dundee City Council.

A minutes silence in his memory will take place at the NFLA Welsh Forum meeting this Friday in Pontypool and at the joint NFLA Scotland / Mayors for Peace / Abolition 2000 / PNND seminar in Edinburgh City Chambers on Friday April 19th. (2) A minutes silence has been requested for the meeting of the Mayors for Peace 2020 Vision Campaign Board Meeting in Geneva on April 23rd.

NFLA Chair, Councillor Mark Hackett said:

"It was a great privilege to know George Regan and I will miss him very much both as a colleague and as a friend. My deepest sympathies go to his family and friends. I know he would want us to continue to pursue his desire for a nuclear weapons free world and the phasing out of nuclear power and I can guarantee that we will. On behalf of the NFLA I know George will be sorely missed."

Ends

Further information - Sean Morris, NFLA Secretary - 0161 234 3244 or 07771 930196.

Notes to editors:

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT VOICE ON NUCLEAR ISSUES



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- (1) 08/04/2013, Tribute to George Regan from Cllr Richard McCready, Dundee City Council, <http://richardmccready.blogspot.co.uk/2013/04/george-regan-rip.html>

“I was really saddened to hear of the death of my former colleague Bailie George Regan. George served his city and his party well for over twenty years as a councillor. It is a great shame that George did not get to enjoy a long and well-deserved retirement.

George served his constituents well over the whole period of his time in office. George served the city most notably as Finance Convener and Housing Convener. George was also a committed supporter of Devolution and served on the national committee of the Campaign for a Scottish Parliament. George's other passion was nuclear disarmament; he was very involved in Nuclear Free Local Authorities and the Mayors for Peace movement.

Behind George's many political achievements it is important to remember that his family have lost a husband, father and grandfather.

George was a great help to me after my election to the council back in 2007. I would like to thank George for his many kindnesses towards to me.

My thoughts and prayers and with George Regan and his family at this difficult time, RIP.”

- (2) NFLA Scotland joint seminar with Mayors for Peace, Abolition 2000 and Parliamentarians for Non-proliferation & Nuclear Disarmament - Friday 19th April 2013, Business Centre, City Chambers, Edinburgh, 10.30am – 1.00pm

2013 – Why is it a pivotal year for the international campaign to ban nuclear weapons? And how can a coalition be built up to work together for a nuclear weapons free world?

Speakers:

Tadatoshi Akiba

Former Mayor of Hiroshima and Chair of Middle Powers Initiative

Laurie Ross

Director of the New Zealand Nuclear Free Zone and Peacemaking Association

Matt Robson

Former New Zealand Minister for Disarmament & Arms Control / PNND SE Asia Co-ordinator

Bill Kidd MSP

Co-Chair of the Scottish Parliament's Cross Party Group on Nuclear Weapons

Karipbek Kuyukov

Honorary Ambassador of the ATOM Project, Kazakhstan and 2nd generation victim of Soviet nuclear weapon tests, visual artist

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