

# WE MAY WORKS 2013 FESTIVAL



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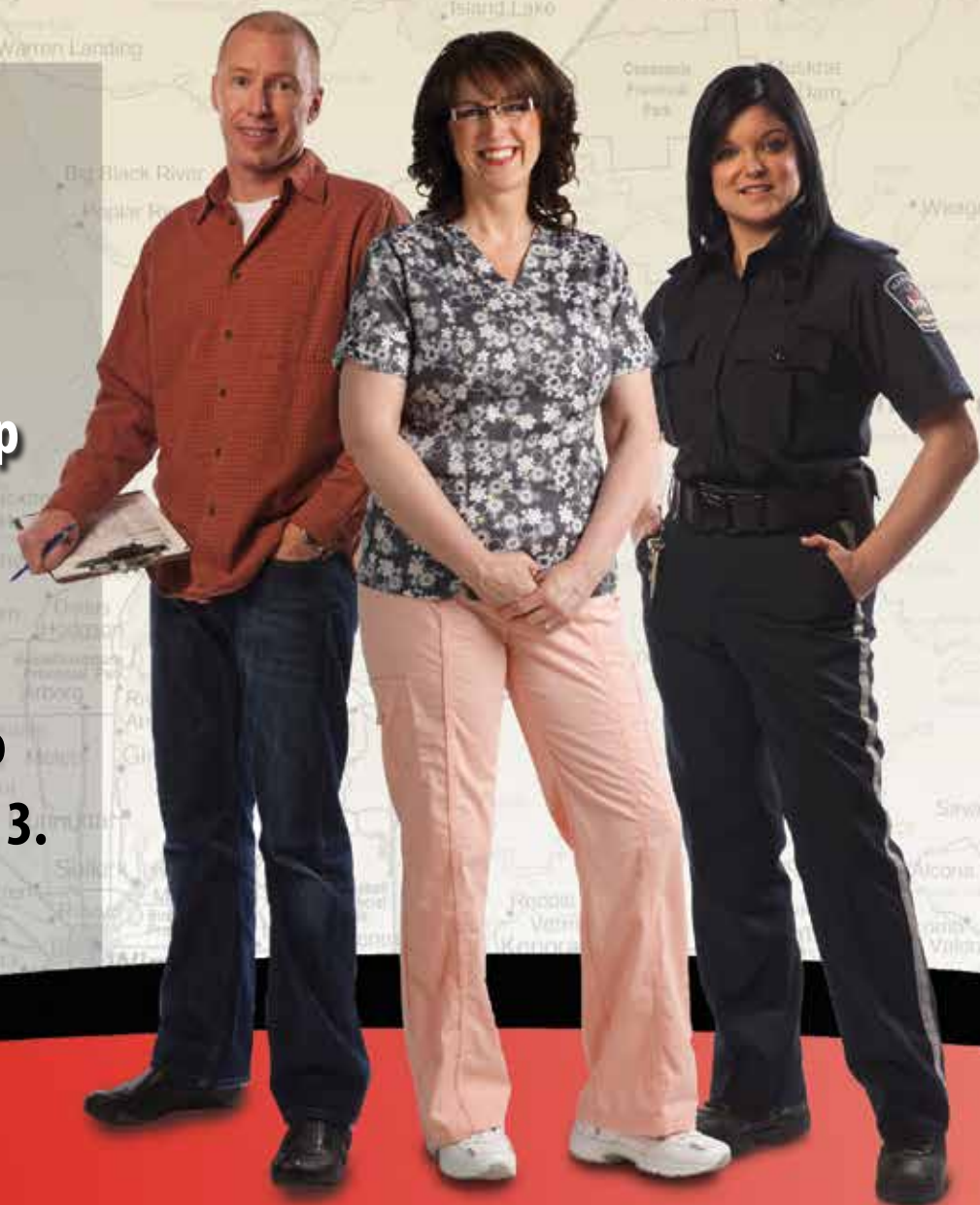
# KEEPING MANITOBA GOING AND GROWING

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# MAY WORKS

## WELCOME TO THIS YEAR'S MAYWORKS FESTIVAL

MayWorks Festival of Labour and the Arts is a multi-disciplinary festival that focuses on working class themes. It is held in Winnipeg every year throughout the month of May to honour and promote the many positive contributions of unions and working people in general. The first MayWorks Festival was held as part of the celebrations organized to mark the 75th Anniversary of the Winnipeg General Strike in 1994.

Since then we have continued to hold the Festival in the month of May as part preserving and developing culture which speaks to the struggles waged to defend and extend the social, political and economic rights of all.

As the world continues to experience shockwaves from the deep economic crisis of capitalism many are looking for a way out. "Another World is Possible" is the theme of MayWorks 2013 in recognition of the growing awareness – from the Occupy Movement to Idle No More – that the current world order is unsustainable. In keeping with the striving for alternatives you will see a feature (beginning on page 6) on the co-operative movement written by Lynne Fernandez and Monica Adeler of the Canadian Centre of Policy Alternatives (Manitoba).

Finally, we note with sadness that MayWorks 2013 is dedicated to the memory of Errol Black who passed away in November 2012. Our theme "Another World is Possible" is certainly one that Errol subscribed to in all of his activity. Errol was well known in his academic and political life as an advocate for social justice, progressive and democratic causes and workers' rights (please see page 12 for more on the life of Errol Black).

Whatever your interest we invite you to come and participate in the events that are part this year's MayWorks Festival of Labour and the Arts. Enjoy this program book as part of that offering. And beyond the month of May we are looking to expand the presentation of events on a year round basis to present items of interest as the opportunities arise.



Glenn Michalchuk, MayWorks President

# 2013 MAYWORKS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## APRIL

**26** FRI

NATIONAL DAY OF MOURNING- SAFE WORKERS OF TOMORROW ANNUAL LEADERS' WALK  
11:45 am **p4**

**28** SUN

NATIONAL DAY OF MOURNING- MFL CANDLELIGHT SERVICE  
1:30 pm **p4**

## MAY

**1** WED

MAY DAY MARCH IN CELEBRATION OF INTERNATIONAL WORKING CLASS DAY 5:30pm **p5**

CKUW: MUD AND WATER CELEBRATES MAYWORKS  
5:30pm **p4**

MAY DAY CABARET: UNITED IN SONG 7:00pm **p5**

**2** THURS

INCANTATIONS FROM THE REPUBLIC OF FIRE BOOK LAUNCH  
7:00pm **p5**

**4** SAT

WPWC OPEN HOUSE CHILLER  
6:30-10:00pm **p5**

SOLIDARITY TOUR: FROM WINNIPEG TO WINDSOR  
6:30pm **p10**

**5** SUN

AUUC SPRING CONCERT  
2:00pm

VICTOR JARA: THE RIGHT TO LIVE IN PEACE  
7:00pm **p10**

**8** WED

CKUW: MUD AND WATER CELEBRATES MAYWORKS  
5:30pm **p4**

**11** SAT

FESTIVAL OF MANDOLINS  
7:30pm **p11**

**15** WED

CKUW: MUD AND WATER CELEBRATES MAYWORKS  
5:30pm **p4**

**16** THURS

JAIL BABY  
8:00pm **p11**

**17** FRI

JAIL BABY  
8:00pm **p11**

**18** SAT

JAIL BABY  
8:00pm **p11**

**19** SUN

JAIL BABY  
2:00pm **p11**

**21** TUES

JAIL BABY  
8:00pm **p11**

**22** WED

JAIL BABY  
2:00pm & 8:00pm **p11**

CKUW: MUD AND WATER CELEBRATES MAYWORKS  
5:30pm **p4**

**23** THURS

JAIL BABY  
8:00pm **p11**

**24** FRI

JAIL BABY  
8:00pm **p11**

PETE SEEGER TRIBUTE SHOW  
7:00 doors, 8:00 show **p12**

**25** SAT

JAIL BABY  
8:00pm **p11**

**26** SUN

JAIL BABY  
2:00pm **p11**

**29** WED

CKUW: MUD AND WATER CELEBRATES MAYWORKS  
5:30pm **p4**

**All of May**

POSTCARD ART  
Millenium Library **p4**

## JUNE

**1** SAT **p12**

MAYWORKS PICNIC  
12:00-4:00pm



# 2013 MAYWORKS SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

## National Day of Mourning- SAFE Workers of Tomorrow Annual Leaders' Walk



**APRIL 26, 11:45AM**

Depart from Union Centre entrance, 275 Broadway

**FREE EVENT**

HOSTED BY: SAFE Workers of Tomorrow

A youth-led march to honour the National Day of Mourning for workers killed or injured on the job. This year's march will head to the Manitoba legislature.

## National Day of Mourning- MFL Candlelight Memorial Service



**APRIL 28, 1:30PM**

Main Gallery, Ground Floor, Manitoba Hydro Place, 260 Portage Ave Winnipeg

**FREE EVENT**

HOSTED BY: Manitoba Federation of Labour

A candlelight service to remember those who have lost their lives earning a living, and those who have become disabled from work.

## Postcard Art



**ALL OF MAY**

Millennium Library

**FREE EVENT**

HOSTED BY: MayWorks

A gallery of post card sized art created by individuals from every corner of the world. A traveling gallery coming to a mailbox near you.

## Mud and Water Celebrates MayWorks

**MAY 1, 8, 15, 22, 29**



CKUW Radio Show

Every Monday in May, tune into Mud and Water at 5:30 pm for special radio programming on labour and the arts. Mud and Water is a weekly current affairs and arts program, broadcast live in Winnipeg on CKUW, 95.9 FM. It is an alternative voice on issues that are often muddied through the corporate lens of mainstream media. For more information, email [mudandwatermail@gmail.com](mailto:mudandwatermail@gmail.com) or go to [mudandwater.org](http://mudandwater.org).

Images of co-operative success stories are featured throughout this program.



Photo by Caroline Wintoniw

## May Day March in Celebration of International Working Class Day



**MAY 1, ASSEMBLE 5:30 AT CITY HALL,  
MARCH LEAVES AT 6:00PM**

For more information: 942-0522

HOSTED BY: Winnipeg Labour Council

The annual May Day March is organized by the Winnipeg Labour Council in recognition of International Working Class Day. The theme of this year's march is: "We Are All In This Together".

## May Day Cabaret: United in Song



**MAY 1, 7:00PM DOORS, 7:30PM SHOW**

Mondragon, 91 Albert St.

**Admission by donation**

An evening of entertainment featuring: Pat McGuire, Annharte (Marie Baker), Pat Krawec, Sara Kreindler, RasTamils.



Photo: neechi.ca

## Incantations from the Republic of Fire Book Launch



**MAY 2, 7:00**

McNally Robinson Booksellers, 1120 Grant Ave.

**FREE EVENT**

HOSTED BY: Ron Romanowski

*Incantations from the Republic of Fire* is a poetry collection that imagines a world where people will resist the oppressions of daily life in our unfair society by using the poetry in their own imaginations. This new release will fire up other people to speak out and express themselves.

## WPWC Open House Chiller

Parecon Worker Co-ops:

A new way to own your labour.



**MAY 4, 6:30-10:00PM**

Ram Wools Yarn Co-op, 989 Portage Avenue

**FREE EVENT**

HOSTED BY: Winnipeg Parecon Worker Council

Video presentations, open presentation and discussion about Parecon, demonstrations from Ram Wools Yarn Co-op. Reps from ParIT Worker co-op, Mondragon and Urban Eatin' Gardeners Co-op will be on hand. Music by Leonard Podolak. Snacks will be available.



Photo by Caroline Wintoniw

# MAY DAY 2013

ANOTHER WORLD IS POSSIBLE

As we digest the news coming out of Europe, with millions of people out of work at the same time as austerity measures are shutting down the social programs they need more than ever, it is hard not to be worried about the future.





Closer to home, the economy remains sluggish and household debt is at an all-time high as workers struggle to stretch stagnant wages as much as possible. Locked as we are in the aftermath of a global recession we all feel powerless: how can we take control of our lives? How can we put a sense of purposefulness into our work? What happened to community and how can we get it back? Bad as the news is, we can take hope this May Day that another world is possible.

There are examples close to and far from home that demonstrate that workers can take control of their lives. Whether it be through large-scale cooperatives—some supported by the labour movement, or through one-off co-ops such as we see developing in Winnipeg, we need to take heart that we can take control in a meaningful way. The following three examples explain how.

Starting in the 1980s in Quebec, an energetic program of social mobilization supported by organized labour, the state and other social movements was able to build new legal, financing and technical assistance models for cooperative development. Part of the regeneration of the Quebec co-operative movement during the 1980s was due to the support of and ties with the labour movement, which was ready to partner with the co-operative sector, and the state. These organizational connections between the co-operative sector

and the trade union movement have translated in more support for both movements with the creation of a venture capital fund. For instance, the Chantier de l'Economie Sociale Trust is a fund supported by Canada Economic Development, Fonds de solidarité (a labour-sponsored venture capital corporation), Fondation-Fonds de développement de la CSN pour la coopération et l'emploi (a labour-sponsored development fund), and the Government of Québec. This fund finances collectively-run businesses and social enterprises.

Today the cooperative sector in Quebec employs around 3500 workers. Worker co-operatives seek to provide stable employment, better wages and working conditions. A private enterprise, on the other hand, strives to buy labour at the cheapest possible price in order to keep costs down. In contrast, worker co-ops, with their one-member, one-vote model, are an example of economic democracy which allows for the ownership of the means of production by the workers. In this way, workers participate in the management and decision making of the enterprise.

As manufacturing in the United States continues to shrink, the United Steel Workers (USW) is exploring new strategies for saving jobs. They are considering using employee-run businesses to create new, middle-class jobs to replace union jobs gone overseas. For example, the USW is considering the



Photos by Caroline Wintoni

replication of the Evergreen Cooperative model, which was started in Cleveland in response to the high unemployment left by the economic downturn. Foundation money, public funds, and private investment capital helped get the model going. The Evergreen Cooperative Initiative creates living-wage jobs in Cleveland's low-income neighbourhoods and has become known as the "Cleveland Model". The model is being considered in other American cities that have suffered manufacturing job losses. The Initiative considers strategies to confront several difficult economic problems such as:

- How to create decent jobs in an increasingly difficult economic environment with growing job dislocation
- How to anchor capital in low-income neighbourhoods
- How to implement green jobs
- How to rebuild inner-city economies.

Strategies aim to increase community asset ownership, create local jobs, strengthen the local tax base and overall, ensure local economic stability. This model already has support from various sectors, so if unions like the USW get involved, the potential for expansion will be even greater and may help revitalize the union sector.

These two examples suggest that there can be valuable connections between various sectors to keep jobs local, tie new businesses to existing city institutions and give workers a voice in decision-making and an ownership stake in the means of production. There are less-extensive, but equally important worker cooperatives right here in Winnipeg that are also making a difference.

Neechi Food Co-op Ltd. (325 Dufferin) is an Aboriginal worker-owned and run cooperative that has been operating in Winnipeg's North End for over 23 years. Neechi uses its worker/ownership structure to foster a strong sense of community identity and responsibility. Neechi Foods Co-op developed the new Neechi Commons Community Business Complex, located on Main Street, which houses a new expanded grocery including a cafeteria/restaurant, a bakery, fish market, specialty foods, Aboriginal books, arts and crafts, a farmers market and a hardware and dry goods section.

With Community economic development (CED) at the core of Neechi's operations, one of its mandates is to stay in the North End, an area that private enterprises have abandoned. Neechi Commons' goal is to have a noticeable positive impact on Main Street and the North End where many Aboriginal families reside. It plans on providing employment to local workers, with up to 30 new fulltime and 30 new part-time



Photo: neechi.ca



Photo by Caroline Wintoniw

jobs being created. By selling locally harvested and produced foods such as wild rice and bannock, it will also promote regional economic development.

As in the previous examples, various institutions contributed capital financing to get this initiative off the ground. The Winnipeg Partnership Agreement, federal and provincial governments, and St. Mary's United Church contributed capital financing and both co-op members and non-members have purchased shares. The Assiniboine Credit Union, The Jubilee Fund, the Canadian Worker Co-operative Federation and Co-op members have also provided loans. The Assiniboine Credit Union, a cooperative in its own right, keeps its members money circulating in the local economy and plays a key role in supporting the cooperative network in Winnipeg.

There are other workers co-ops in Winnipeg, including Organic Planet Co-op, Mondragon Workers Co-op, Natural Cycle Courier and Northern Star Worker Co-op.

What better way to mark this International Workers' Day than to celebrate the resilience and resourcefulness of those workers who have taken control of their workplaces, lives and communities. In the face of so much bad news, they remind us that another world is possible.

Lynne Fernandez is the Errol Black Chair in Labour Issues at the CCPA MB. and Monica Adeler has a PhD. in the cooperatives movement.

## Solidarity Tour: From Winnipeg to Windsor

**MAY 4, 6:30PM**



Eckhardt Gramatte Hall, University of Winnipeg

**FREE EVENT**

**For more information: [solidaritytour.ca](http://solidaritytour.ca)**

HOSTED BY: The Stephen Lewis Foundation

The Stephen Lewis Foundation is touring from Winnipeg to Windsor with three HIV/AIDS activists from Kenya, Zambia and Zimbabwe to raise awareness about the AIDS pandemic. The tour will include a labour-community event to hear directly from the front lines of the AIDS pandemic from activists who are using inspirational and innovative grassroots efforts to affect change and turn the tide of HIV/AIDS.

## AUUC Spring Concert

**MAY 5, 2:00PM**



Ukrainian Labour Temple, Pritchard and McGregor

**Tickets \$10 call (204) 589-4397**

HOSTED BY: Association of United Ukrainian Canadians

Set in the historic Ukrainian Labour Temple in Winnipeg's North End, the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians celebrates the arrival of spring in dance and song with the AUUC School of Folk Dance, Yunist Dance Ensemble and the Festival Choir under the direction of Vasylyna Streltsov with music by the Winnipeg Mandolin Orchestra.

## Victor Jara: The Right to Live in Peace

**MAY 5, 7:00PM**



Cinematheque, 100 Arthur St. (at Bannatyne)

**Tickets \$6-\$9 available online at [www.winnipegcinematheque.com](http://www.winnipegcinematheque.com)**

HOSTED BY: Co-sponsored by Chile 40 Years Organizing Committee, Cinematheque and Mayworks

September 11, 2013 is 40th anniversary of Chile's coup d'état. The coup and its aftermath saw countless human rights violations, and many people were

tortured and disappeared. The film focuses on the life and art of Victor Jara, who was revered within Chile for his work as a singer-songwriter, theatre director, folklorist and political activist. With historical footage and interviews, the film describes the dramatic story of how Jara, rose to international prominence as a Chilean folk singer.

## Festival of Mandolins

**MAY 11, 7:30PM**



Ukrainian Labour Temple, Pritchard and McGregor

**Tickets: \$15 call 589-4397**

HOSTED BY: Association of United Ukrainian Canadians

The Winnipeg Mandolin Orchestra of the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians celebrated its 90th Anniversary in 2011. Manitoba's oldest orchestra, predating the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, performs at the Ukrainian Labour Temple under the direction of Annis Kozub. The ensemble will present "Festival of Mandolins" an evening of music set in the historic Ukrainian Labour Temple.

**Guest performers:** Maritel Spanish Dance Ensemble with Baile Flamenco

## Jail Baby

**MAY 16-18, 21-25 8:00PM**

**MAY 19, 22 & 26 2:00PM**



Asper Centre for Theatre and Film

**Tickets and information call (204) 586-2236**

**[www.sarasvati.ca](http://www.sarasvati.ca)**

HOSTED BY: Sarasvati Productions

This powerful new play was workshopped at FemFest in 2011 and received overwhelming support. After years of working with the Elizabeth Fry Society, conducting research and facilitating drama sessions with incarcerated women we are excited to share the resulting script with audiences.



## The Songs & Music of Pete Seeger



**FRIDAY, MAY 24TH.**  
**DOORS OPEN 7:00, SHOW TIME 8:00**

Winnipeg Art Gallery- Muriel Richardson Auditorium

**Tickets \$20 available at [ticketweb.ca](http://ticketweb.ca)**  
**Organic Planet and at the door**

*Proceeds dedicated to a memorial stone for fallen 1919 strike victim Steve Schzerbanovich*



Pete Seeger, often called America's tuning fork, is the living history of the world wide urban folk music revival that began in the 1950's and continues unabated until this day. He is the cultural leader for hundreds of thousands of folks, who upon hearing him, picked up guitars and banjos and began to change the sound of North Americas music. His music is the sound track for the civil rights and anti-war movements,

making his societal impact insurmountable. This night of music comes from all parts of Pete's repertoire. Traditional songs, political songs, and old fashioned mountain songs all packed into one evening featuring local talent Leonard Podolak, Red Moon Road, Nathan Rogers, Rob Varrmeyer and more.

## MayWorks Picnic



**JUNE 1, 12:00-4:00PM**

Freight House Park (Isabel and Ross)

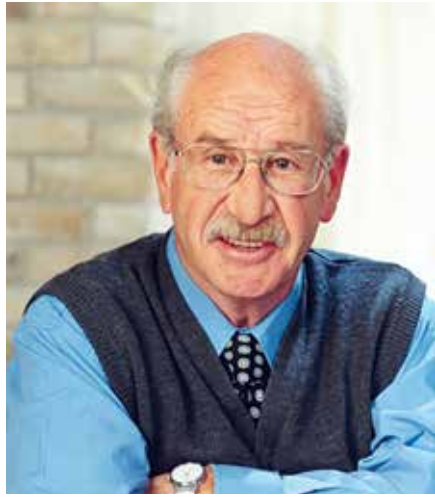
**FREE EVENT**

HOSTED BY: Winnipeg Labour Council

Come and celebrate! Free hot dogs, orange drink, inflatable play stations, bean bag games and free bicycle draw!



Photo by Caroline Wintoniw



# A TRIBUTE TO ERROL BLACK

If we're very lucky, every once in a while someone special will come into our lives. Errol Black was special.

He would be the first to claim otherwise, and to insist that we are all special, he no more than others. That was Errol's way: down-to-earth, friendly with everyone, loyal to family, friends, and the progressive, people-based ideas that he fought for his entire life.

Errol died November 3, 2012. He had been suffering from Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS)—Lou Gehrig's disease.

Errol was a fixture in the east end of Brandon. He served for 12 years as a combative, informed and effective Brandon City Councillor for his East End ward. He worked consistently for, and sometimes was a candidate for, and frequently was a forceful and principled but supportive critic of, provincial NDP governments. For 30 years he was a Professor of Economics at Brandon University. His specialty was labour economics, and he published widely, including a book on trade unions in Canada that is used by unions and in university courses across the country.

For 30 years he was an active member of the Brandon Labour Council, and an active member of BUFA, the Brandon University Faculty Association. Mel Myers—long-time labour lawyer—considers Errol to have been one of Manitoba's most outstanding trade unionists.

Errol was a co-founder of the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives-Manitoba (CCPA-Mb), and stayed actively involved with CCPA-Mb to within a week of his death. He

published voluminously with CCPA-Mb: on the threat to Canadian trade unionists from recent developments in the USA; on the railroading of the leaders of the 1919 Winnipeg General Strike; on the growing inequality between rich and poor and its many adverse impacts, and on and on.

Most striking to me about Errol is that he was able to combine his warm, loving personal qualities, with his determined and always principled and energetic and deeply intelligent opposition to social injustice, and his never-ending fight to build a better world.

CCPA-Mb, in recognition of his enormous contributions to the labour movement and to the struggle for social justice, is establishing the Errol Black Chair in Labour Issues. This will create a permanent position at CCPA-Mb for a first-class labour researcher, whose job will be to continue into the future the legacy left by Errol Black, by doing research and writing about the central role of organized labour in building a better world.

Consistent with the spirit of May Day and of Mayworks, you are invited to contribute financially to this important initiative. All financial contributions will be put to good use in an important, labour-friendly and labour-supported cause. To contribute please contact Karen: karen@policyalternatives.ca or (204) 927-3200.

Jim Silver is a member of the CCPA-Mb Board.

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204-786-5055

# TURN TURN TURN

Songwriters:

WORDS FROM THE BOOK OF, ECCLESIASTES FRENCH, GEORGE ABER ADAPTATION AND, PETE SEEGER

Words-adapted from The Bible, book of Ecclesiastes, Music-Pete Seeger

**To Everything (Turn, Turn, Turn)**

**There is a season (Turn, Turn, Turn)**

**And a time to every purpose, under Heaven**

**A time to be born, a time to die**

**A time to plant, a time to reap**

**A time to kill, a time to heal**

**A time to laugh, a time to weep**

**To Everything (Turn, Turn, Turn)**

**There is a season (Turn, Turn, Turn)**

**And a time to every purpose, under Heaven**

**A time to build up, a time to break down**

**A time to dance, a time to mourn**

**A time to cast away stones, a time to gather  
stones together**

**To Everything (Turn, Turn, Turn)**

**There is a season (Turn, Turn, Turn)**

**And a time to every purpose, under Heaven**

**A time of love, a time of hate**

**A time of war, a time of peace**

**A time you may embrace, a time to refrain from  
embracing**

**To Everything (Turn, Turn, Turn)**

**There is a season (Turn, Turn, Turn)**

**And a time to every purpose, under Heaven**

**A time to gain, a time to lose**

**A time to rend, a time to sew**

**A time for love, a time for hate**

**A time for peace, I swear it's not too late**



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