

Sept.12, 2011.

The Editor,

The Chronicle Herald.

Dear Editor,

I applaud Mr. Paul Moreau's concern for peace [Letter, Sept.12]. I agree with him that for peace to be achieved, it has to be based on "honest and genuine dialogue", with primary emphasis on facts. This has been my consistent message, challenging falsehoods that defy historic facts. In accordance with this, I am open for honest dialogue with all those who are willing to take note of facts and legitimate rights.

The Palestinians and Arab countries have, over the past decades, repeatedly offered Israel full peace and diplomatic relations if Israel would withdraw from territories it occupied in 1967, in a war of aggression, that Israel planned and waged, as confirmed by its own leaders. Israel's only response to these peace offers is continuing oppressive occupation, expropriation of property and creation of illegal settlements, on illegally-occupied Palestinian territory.

Peace and security for Palestinians and Israelis must be secured. But it must be based on Justice, in compliance with international law and repeated UN resolutions.

Yours sincerely,

Ismail Zayid, MD.