

Group of 78 Luncheon Speaker Series

Barbara Shenstone

Former Director of Operations, West Bank For UNRWA, UN Relief and Works Agency

The Plight of the Palestinians: A View from the Field

DATE: Tuesday May 31, 2011 TIME: 12:00 noon

PLACE: Palais Imperial, 311- 313 Dalhousie St., Ottawa

COST: \$30 for luncheon and presentation

\$5 for presentation only

(For presentation only, please plan to arrive by 12:45. Coffee and tea will be available.)

RESERVATIONS: group78@web.net or 613-230-0860 by Friday May 27, 2011.

We regret that late registrations cannot be accepted.

The group is required to pay for those who reserve but do not come.

Therefore, individuals who do not cancel their reservations at least 24 hours before the luncheon will be billed \$30.

Palestinians as a people have lived as refugees for more than two generations. Without any stable self-determination, they have had to depend on the international community for support for their living conditions. The United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) has been the primary vehicle for this support. It has had to operate in the difficult context of conflict and high degree of political volatility, with many frustrated efforts at resolution. What has it been like to operate in this environment? What progress, if any, has been made? What have been the successes and failures of the international community to address the many questions confronting the Palestinian people?

Barbara Shenstone has just returned to Canada after serving for several years as Director of Operations in the West Bank for UNRWA. She brings a depth of up close and personal experience in managing the many contending factors affecting the daily lives of Palestinians. She will share her experiences and her perspectives on the future of people and players in this conflicted region.