



## Canadian Friends Service Committee (Quakers)

### E-Newsletter

March 2011

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#### **News from the CFSC board meeting**

The board and staff of CFSC gathered from 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> March to attend to business, including the management of projects in Canada and overseas. To follow is a bit of news from the weekend.

#### ***CFSC representatives going to ecumenical mining conference***

KAIROS is hosting an ecumenical conference on mining May 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> in Toronto. The conference will bring together Church leaders from the global South and North; church members who are actively engaged on resource extraction issues; Indigenous and civil society partners from Canada and the global South affected by resource extraction, and church investment staff and/or pension trustees. CFSC is appointing several Friends to participate in the conference (*names being confirmed at press time*).

#### ***Discernment on uranium issues***

Canadian Quaker Meetings were sent a document for consideration by CFSC in January to further Friends' discernment on uranium issues. Thanks to the Meetings who have responded so far - **responses from Meetings are requested by April 4<sup>th</sup>**, so that a document can be finalized for Documents in Advance for Yearly Meeting sessions (to be held in August in Windsor, NS). Responses should be sent to Gianne Broughton at [gianne \[at\] quakerservice.ca](mailto:gianne[at]quakerservice.ca)

#### ***UN Declaration - KAIROS event in Ottawa – June 20<sup>th</sup>***

CFSC continues its extensive work towards the implementation of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People in Canada and at international forums. CFSC encourages Friends to engage in KAIROS' "Roll with the Declaration!" action, wherein local communities make banners supporting the Declaration and send them to Ottawa to be unfurled on National Aboriginal Day, June 20<sup>th</sup>. Details are at: <http://bit.ly/eQPUR>. This project may be of particular interest to First Day Schools. Carol Dixon, Clerk of Canadian Yearly Meeting, and Jane McKay Wright, CYM's representative on the KAIROS Board, will formally represent Friends in Ottawa.

#### ***AGLI Workcamps***

CFSC is a partner of the African Great Lakes Initiative of Friends Peace Teams. Friends who wish to participate in this summer's AGLI workcamps (June 25 – July 30<sup>th</sup>) in Burundi and Rwanda can access more information on costs and applying to participate at [www.aglifpt.org](http://www.aglifpt.org) or by contacting Dawn Rubbert, AGLI's program manager at [dawn@aglifpt.org](mailto:dawn@aglifpt.org). AGLI accepts workcampers of all ages (and families) - workcampers have been as young as 8, as old as 84. AGLI's goal is for each team to include 6 international (non-African) and 6 local workcampers plus professional builders. Physical & skill requirements: good health and willingness to do manual labour. Construction skills and experience are not necessary.

### ***Grants awarded***

Smoke Signals First Nations Radio, an award-winning syndicated radio program produced in London, Ontario continues to receive a grant towards operations. Learn more at: <http://smokesignals.netfirms.com/>

Keith Maddock, of Toronto Meeting, was awarded a grant to assist with his expenses (art supplies, etc.) in his prison ministry work at the Don Jail.

CFSC is continuing its financial support of “Out of Bounds”, a publication produced by people imprisoned at William Head Institution in BC.

A request for support from Peterborough Community Chaplaincy for building supplies to complete a room in the Chaplaincy Centre to accommodate elderly disabled clients was approved. Members of this organization visited us at the last CFSC Board Meeting and have had ongoing contact with members of Peterborough Allowed Meeting. Peterborough Community Chaplaincy is dedicated to improving community safety by providing a supportive environment for individuals making the transition from prison to the community.

### ***80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary***

Our thanks to Don Alexander, CFSC’s Treasurer, who has been doing double duty over the past two months coordinating a special 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary edition of *The Canadian Friend* (May 2011 Edition), the national publication by and about Canadian Quakers. Once published, *The Canadian Friend* is posted online at: <http://www.quaker.ca/Publications/cfriend/cfriend.html>.

### ***CFSC liaisons***

In the winter, CFSC asked all Meetings and Worship Groups to name a Friend to act as a liaison between their Meeting and CFSC – please send names and contact information for appointees to Jane Orion Smith at [janeorion \[at\] quakerservice.ca](mailto:janeorion@quakerservice.ca)

### ***New website coming!***

In April, CFSC will be launching a new website at [www.quakerservice.ca](http://www.quakerservice.ca). It will be more user friendly and integrate new media. Please also see the reminder in this *E-Newsletter* about the new CFSC email addresses.

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## **Water Walk 2011**

Two Anishinawbe Grandmothers and a group of Anishinawbe women and men have taken action regarding their concerns about water by walking the perimeter of the Great Lakes since 2003. This year, the Water Walk will go in four directions, involving many Indigenous nations, starting in June 2011, connecting the salt waters with the fresh waters on which we depend for life. For information about the Water Walk and how to support it, visit <http://motherearthwaterwalk.com>.

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## **New CFSC emails – update your address book**

CFSC’s staff and Clerk have moved to new emails as well, so please update your address book:

Merrill Stewart, Clerk – [clerk \[at\] quakerservice.ca](mailto:clerk@quakerservice.ca)

Jane Orion Smith, General Secretary – [janeorion \[at\] quakerservice.ca](mailto:janeorion@quakerservice.ca)

Jennifer Preston, Finance and Aboriginal Affairs – [jennifer \[at\] quakerservice.ca](mailto:jennifer@quakerservice.ca)

Gianne Broughton, Peace and Sustainable Communities Program – [gianne \[at\] quakerservice.ca](mailto:gianne@quakerservice.ca)

Meredith Egan, Quakers Fostering Justice Program – [meredith \[at\] quakerservice.ca](mailto:meredith@quakerservice.ca)

*\* Meredith is currently on leave; all enquiries should be sent to [vince.zelazny \[at\] gmail.com](mailto:vince.zelazny@gmail.com)*

Tasmin Rajotte, International Affairs Program – [tasmin \[at\] quakerservice.ca](mailto:tasmin@quakerservice.ca)

Helen Melbourne, Office Administrator – [helen \[at\] quakerservice.ca](mailto:helen@quakerservice.ca)

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## **“Refusing to be Enemies” now in paper and in e-book**

*Refusing to be Enemies: Palestinian and Israeli Nonviolent Resistance to the Israeli Occupation* (Ithaca Press 2010) by Maxine Kaufman-Lacusta (Vancouver MM) is now available in paperback and e-book editions. Maxine received financial support from CFSC in her research for this book, which is becoming critically acclaimed. **Ordering information:** E-book (including "delivery") - \$9.99US: <http://amzn.to/hnjF9R> Paperback - \$24.95 US: <http://amzn.to/hzEQqM>. In the US and Canada, discounts are available for 5 paperback copies or more (44% discount on \$24.95 US. You do pay postage but only pay 50% of the order cost up front and returns are accepted). Contact Lenny Gerson at [lenny@isbs.com](mailto:lenny@isbs.com) to discuss discount terms.

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## **Show your support for the War Resisters!**

The War Resisters Support Campaign needs your help to show the broad support for Iraq War resisters that exists across Canada. Take a photo showing two things - your support for war resisters and where you live - and send it to the Campaign. You could hold a sign saying, "[City] supports war resisters, let them stay!" You could stand near a local landmark that identifies your town or city. You could stand beside the sign for the public library or city hall or the "welcome to...." sign on the road into town, and hold a sign supporting Iraq War resisters. Assemble a small group or just get a friend to take your photo. Get creative – or keep it simple – whatever you like. **Send your photos to [resisters@sympatico.ca](mailto:resisters@sympatico.ca).** Please put the word "photo" in the subject line so we don't miss it. The War Resisters Support Campaign will collect all the photos, then assemble them into a montage that we can all circulate through YouTube, Facebook, email, and so on.

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## **New posters, new brochures**

The Ad Hoc Coalition of which CFSC is a partner has produced a poster version of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, double-sided in English and French. These can be seen on line at <http://cfsc.quaker.ca/pages/un.html> and ordering information is below.

CFSC has printed another run of 5000 copies of its counter-recruitment brochure, which can be used in local campaigns to educate youth to think about their goals and choices. Friends may remember the article in the summer 2010 *Quaker Concern* (download at <http://bit.ly/fcODdC>) about Halifax Friends' work in using these brochures to encourage youth to think about their choices before joining the military.

If you are interested in either resource, contact the [CFSC office](#) (416-920-5213).

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## **CFSC Annual Appeal – Thank You!**

CFSC is nearing our goal of \$200,000 for the year ended March 31st. The information on making donations to CFSC can be found at: <http://www.cfsc.quaker.ca/pages/donate.html>

***Thank you to everyone who has responded to the Annual Appeal– it makes the work possible.***

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***The CFSC E-Newsletter shares current concerns and information related to CFSC, its projects, and other news with Quaker Meetings in Canada, friends and donors to CFSC.***

***Share the E-Newsletter with friends and your Meeting or Worship Group's E-mail list.***

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***Please support the work of CFSC: <http://www.cfsc.quaker.ca/pages/donate.html>***