

## Working hard in punitive times

By Meredith Egan and Vince Zelazny

Over the past months, CFSC's Quakers Fostering Justice (QFJ) program has been working hard responding to calls for increased punishment in Canada, including:

- Legislation like C-4, C-5, C-16, C-21, C-23 (and others) promising to eliminate pardons, provide "Truth in Sentencing", protect us from young offenders, sex offenders, white collar offenders, terrorism, auto and property crime, etc. at a time when crime rates are falling;
- Changing Correctional policy to close the prison farms;
- Removing Clinical Supervision from sex-offender treatment programs, and;
- Law enforcement responses to G20 protestors that were excessive and brutal.

The Canadian Government is providing many opportunities to explain why these responses will be an expensive failure at reducing victimization and increasing public safety. Our activities have included producing print resources and videos. We have held workshops, and done telephone interviews with students and media. We've worked ecumenically, collectively and individually, and been energized by our collective outrage, while exhausted by the immensity of the task, at times feeling helpless. The sense of concern and even desperation across Canada has demanded that our energies be well spent.

And yet, we are reminded that the

government through the legal and correctional systems only responds to about 4% of harm and crime that happens in Canada<sup>1</sup>.

We are reminded that perhaps the collective outrage we hear from Canadians calling for 'tough on crime' initiatives exist because of an awareness that this expensive system – more than \$13 billion annually, before these expensive legislative changes are implemented – is seriously failing us in what it promises. And while there is a clear public voice telling us Canadians are dissatisfied with the current systems, within this conversation the ability to imagine and adopt more creative and effective responses are limited.

### What are we called to do?

It is important also to remember the positive work we do helping those affected by crime. This includes:

- Offering workshops, including one recently videotaped (see *Friends on the Move*);
- Developing public education resources, including "Truth about Canadian Law Enforcement, Legal and Correctional Systems", "How



New legislation affecting Young Offenders is of concern to Young Quakers at Camp NeeKauNis, shown here reading educational resources provided by Quakers Fostering Justice. Perhaps summer camps like Camp NeeKauNis which promote respectful relationships and good self esteem would be more helpful to Canada's at risk youth than more punitive legislation?

Parole Keeps us Safe" and "Measuring Productive Justice Policies, to support those who feel led to take action on these concerns";

- Developing resources for the Peace Club at Happy Grove High School, part of our Jamaican Peace Education Project partnership with Jamaican educators and Toronto Monthly Meeting;
- Inviting those most affected by crime to speak publicly about their experiences;
- Doing peace education at the North Point Douglas Women's Centre in Winnipeg, MB;
- Helping congregations meet victims' pastoral need, offering Circles of Support and Accountability that work with sex-offenders to help them build support and safety when released from prison, and building resources for Restorative Justice Week 2010

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# KEEPING UP WITH FRIENDS

## New briefing papers on the oil sands

Two new CFSC briefing papers on oil sands leases and concerns about health impacts of the oil sands are available. They provide more information to help Friends consider how the positions taken last year at CYM sessions (calls for a moratorium on new leases and for an independent health study on the potential health impacts of development) should factor into directions taken this year, following consultation with Meetings by CFSC this spring. While oriented towards

the decision-making process among Friends, the papers may be of interest to many CFSC readers. The papers and the report are available from CFSC (see masthead) and are posted in the "News and Events" section of <[www.cfsc.quaker.ca](http://www.cfsc.quaker.ca)>.

## New coalition "voices" its concern about democracy in Canada

CFSC invites Friends and Meetings to sign the Voices-Voix Declaration <[www.voices-voix.ca](http://www.voices-voix.ca)>, which calls for a restoration of democratic traditions and values by the Canadian government. Over the past year, organizations noticed a widening trend: groups that disagree with the Government's positions and/or engage in advocacy have had their mandates criticized and their funding threatened (often with the rationale that the government's funding priorities have changed). This has happened to organizations involved in international development, women's rights, disabled people's rights, aboriginal rights, education, and human rights. As groups realized that much more than funding was at stake, the Voices-Voix coalition was formed. The Voices Declaration details a variety of undemocratic actions by the government since 2006, and sets out the coalition's call for freedom of expression, promotion of civil society, and transparency.

## Invitation to test Biotechnology Curriculum

As an Associate Member of CFSC, Anne Mitchell represents Quakers on the Biotechnology Reference Group (BRG) of the Canadian Council of Churches (CCC). Her concern is about the impacts of biotechnology – for better and for worse – on communities, agriculture and sustainable food production. The BRG is preparing a curriculum on biotechnology for faith groups that will address genetic privacy, genetics and reproduction, transgenic beings, cloning of human embryos. One discussion topic is on the engineering of future generations and designer babies; another is on genetics and social justice. The BRG wants to pilot

this curriculum with a few faith groups – 6 to 10 people willing to participate in about 4 meetings over the winter months. Interested Meetings or Worship Groups can contact <[qpasc@cfsc.quaker.ca](mailto:qpasc@cfsc.quaker.ca)> or call CFSC at 416-920-5213. Anne is also working on a pamphlet on biotechnology to be published by Quaker Institute for the Future in 2011. Keith Helmuth, Susan Holtz and Raja Rajagopal are other major contributors.

## "That of God" - Quaker education video available

For several years, filmmaker Chanda Chevannes interviewed and followed the lives of various Friends to better understand Quakerism, the Testimonies and the central tenet that there is "that of God" in everyone. CFSC General Secretary Jane Orion Smith and former CFSC staff person Marc Forget are two of the Friends featured in this 60-minute film. A great introduction to Quakerism for use in Meetings, it is available as a DVD for \$25 (incl. shipping/HST). To order, contact <[chanda@theppcinc.com](mailto:chanda@theppcinc.com)> or The PPC, 1522 Davenport Rd., Toronto, ON, M6H 2H8 (payment via PayPal or cheque to "The People's Picture Company"). Chanda has also just released "Living Downstream", her first full-length documentary about the connections between what we put into the environment (specifically synthetic chemicals) and cancer (based on the book of the same name by scientist and poet Sandra Steingraber who is a Quaker). Visit <[www.livingdownstream.com](http://www.livingdownstream.com)>.



Marc Forget, former CFSC staff, shares about how his lived life and Quaker belief come together in "That of God".

## QUAKER CONCERN

Canadian Friends Service Committee/Secours Quaker Canadien

**Quaker Concern** is the newsletter of Canadian Friends Service Committee (Quakers). Published three-times a year, it features articles on CFSC projects and concerns of Friends. CFSC's **Annual Report and Appeal** is sent to all donors in late autumn.

**Canadian Friends Service Committee**, founded in 1931, exists to unify and expand the concerns of Friends in Canada. Our work is carried out by three program committees (Quaker Aboriginal Affairs Committee, Quakers Fostering Justice, Quaker Peace and Sustainable Communities Committee) and a special project under our care (Quaker International Affairs Programme).

**Donations** are received with gratitude (donations to QIAP need to be so designated). We rely on the support of individuals to carry out our work. CFSC issues tax receipts for donations over \$10.

CFSC, 60 Lowther Ave., Toronto ON M5R 1C7  
tel. (416) 920-5213, fax (416) 920-5214  
[www.cfsc.quaker.ca](http://www.cfsc.quaker.ca)  
Charitable number: 13214 6549 RR0001

### E-mail directory:

General inquiries: [cfsc-office@quaker.ca](mailto:cfsc-office@quaker.ca)  
General Secretary: [cfsc@quaker.ca](mailto:cfsc@quaker.ca)  
Aboriginal Affairs: [qaac@quaker.ca](mailto:qaac@quaker.ca)  
Quakers Fostering Justice: [qfj@quaker.ca](mailto:qfj@quaker.ca)  
Quaker Peace & Sustainable Communities:  
[qpasc@quaker.ca](mailto:qpasc@quaker.ca)  
International Affairs: [qiap@quaker.ca](mailto:qiap@quaker.ca)



# Speaking from Experience: Counter-recruitment work in Halifax

By Roger Davies

In fall 2008, CFSC produced a counter recruitment brochure for use by Quaker Meetings or community groups to encourage young people to think about their life goals and ambitions and whether the military was a good choice. To follow is a recent story of experience using the brochure by Halifax Friends. Hopefully it will provide readers with some ideas of how they might try something similar.

After much deliberation, the Peace and Social Concerns Committee of Halifax Monthly Meeting decided to “just do it”, and get the CFSC pamphlet “Considering Joining the Military?” into the hands of high school students.

Our preparation included:

- The printing of two large signs that would give recipients of our pamphlet an idea of what was coming up. Our messages read “Thinking of joining the military? Ask the hard questions now, not later! You owe it to yourself to really know what you are committing to.” The second sign read: “Want to serve your country?

There are many ways besides soldiering... Find out about the possibilities!” Both signs said at the bottom: “Halifax Friends Meeting [www.quaker.ca](http://www.quaker.ca)”

- The decision to leaflet just off school grounds at two large Halifax high schools, before classes began in the morning.
- We prepared for possible negative responses by consciously being aware that we would not argue with the youth or respond aggres-



Friends from Halifax Monthly Meeting gather outside a Halifax high school to hand out CFSC’s counter recruitment brochure to interested students. The brochure is designed to help youth think about their goals, what military service may involve, and their options.

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sively to any aggressive attitude. As it turned out, all students were very respectful of us, and appreciated our efforts to help them make wise choices.

So, we encourage

Friends who are so led to start in a similar manner. The military actively works to make soldiering appear to be just another “career choice”, promising training and emphasizing humanitarian assistance. As Quakers, let’s help our youth get the full

pamphlets from the CFSC office or download from <http://bit.ly/953Vi4>.

*Roger Davies is a member of the Board of CFSC and of Halifax Monthly Meeting.*

### Personal Testimonial: Lee Webb

*I, a 78 year old woman, was one of the four standing outside the high schools. However, I did not pass out leaflets, but stood with a poster explaining our positions. I was very impressed with the friendly reception we were given. Although some students did not want the leaflet, I saw no negative responses nor negative words. Some cars went by and honked, but it seemed like friendly approval. I feel the leaflets were slanted too much against the military and not enough toward pacific ways to serve Canada.*

picture and think wisely about the military. Order

### Personal Testimonial: Sarah Morgan

*Distributing counter-recruitment information to high school students has been an excellent experience; the meeting of theory and practice, or praxis as it is sometimes called. At home writing my thesis on peace, it was a joy to take part in some activism; to reaffirm our collective power as activists and to see that the students were thoughtful and earnest young people for the most part who welcomed someone taking an interest in them and concerned about their future and well being. Grassroots activism dispels the air of inevitability that many of us feel upon listening to the myriad of problems minus solutions discussed by the media on a daily basis and provides the hope necessary to continue working toward the creation of a peaceful world.*

# Permanent Forum advances Indigenous Peoples' human rights

By Lynne Phillips and Jennifer Preston

Representatives of the Quaker Aboriginal Affairs Committee (QAAC) of CFSC attended the ninth session of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII) in New York, 19-30 April. This year's Forum had the special theme *Indigenous peoples: development with culture and identity; articles 3 and 32 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*. A press release from the UNPFII stated that a "unique feature was the increased participation of States. A record 15 Governments had sent voluntary reports to the Forum describing the situations of indigenous peoples in their countries. The Governments of Bolivia and Paraguay participated in a first-ever dialogue with Governments, reporting on the situation of the Guaraní, among others, in the Chaco region, while a representative of Brazil participated in an expert panel on forests."

The UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples has great prominence and was cited in almost every presentation. The Forum began on a high note with the unexpected announcement from the New Zealand government that they had decided to support the Declaration, adopted in 2007 by the UN General Assembly with only 4 negative votes: US, Canada, New Zealand, and Australia (which had previously reversed its position). The United States also announced that it is formally reviewing its position. Canada declared that it is taking steps to endorse, but Canada's stated position that it will endorse "in a manner fully consistent with Canada's Constitution and laws" is of concern. International declarations cannot be subject to national laws, or the entire international human rights system is undermined. In an intervention that CFSC supported along with 20 Indigenous and non-governmental organizations we stated "Indigenous Peoples and human rights and faith based organizations welcomed the announcement on March 3 that the

Canadian government is taking steps to endorse the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. We urge the government to embrace this vital human rights instrument without qualifications."

The Forum focused on current problems with poorly planned developments of traditional territories, including huge dams, biofuel plantations, national parks and extractive operations. There was also a look into the past for the origins of colonial ideologies and their disastrous impact on Indigenous peoples. A presentation on the 'Doctrine of Discovery', used by colonial powers to lay claim to newly discovered lands, revealed the need to repudiate such documents as a step towards reconciliation between Indigenous peoples and their colonial invaders.

The Forum provides an essential opportunity for Indigenous peoples to have a chance to connect with each other on a global basis and discuss such issues as continuing violations of their human rights. The Inter-agency support group, consisting of 34 international agencies in the UN system, has increased awareness of Indigenous peoples' rights throughout the international system. One of the mandates - to get Indigenous issues mainstreamed throughout the UN system - is definitely having results. Each year there is an interactive dialogue with United Nations agencies, held over two days, which this year included the Secretariat of the



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Indigenous peoples from around the world come to the Forum to dialogue about issues of concern. Pictured from Guatemala: Alvaro Pop, elected member of Guatemala to the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues; Clotilde Cu Caal, Defensora de la Mujer Indígena - DEMI - Defender of the Indigenous Women; Connie Taracena, Minister Counsellor of the Mission of Guatemala to the United Nations; and Saqch'n Ruperto Montejo, Commissioner of the Presidential Commission against the discrimination and the racism against the indigenous people in Guatemala.

Convention on Biological Diversity. CFSC supported a joint statement relating to this agenda; check our web page for statements that we supported ([cfsc.quaker.ca/pages/aboriginal.html](http://cfsc.quaker.ca/pages/aboriginal.html)). Other topics were explored: Indigenous peoples' right to access and benefit-sharing arising from genetic resources; the marginalized status of Indigenous women; the need for disaggregated data noting ethnicity and gender in order to determine the real situations of Indigenous peoples who are otherwise 'invisible' in national statistics.

Readers may be wondering why our Aboriginal Affairs Committee attends the Forum each year. To begin with, CFSC represents Quakers world-wide on this important international file of Indigenous concerns. We also provide practical support to our partners from around the globe who are representatives of Indigenous, human rights, and faith-based organizations. And last but not least, we benefit through information-sharing and networking with organizations with similar missions. The engagement with UN agencies and states is a critical part



of the reconciliation journey. Each year we host an event at Quaker House with our Indigenous partners and representatives of States to contribute to the ongoing dialogue. Our gathering this year focused on implementation of the Declaration, and best practices of partnership between Indigenous peoples and States. This year for the first time, we also co-hosted a 'side-event' with our partner Quebec Native Women, held at Quaker House. Our side event was related to the theme of the Forum, titled "Development with Culture and Identity, Perspectives of Indigenous Women."

Our work at the international level connects to the work we do domestically. We bring much of value back to Canada. During Canadian Yearly Meeting's annual sessions in August, we will be presenting two events on topics that were on the agenda of the Permanent Forum. The history of residential schools in North America was given much exposure, both in the Forum plenary sessions and in the side-events. As part of the 1/2 session that focused on North America, Shawn Atleo, National Chief of the Assembly of First Nations, shared a story



While at the Forum, CFSC is pleased to work with our partners Kenneth Deer (Secretary, Mohawk Nation at Kahnawake), Ellen Gabriel (President, Quebec Native Women), and Willie Littlechild (International Chief for Treaties 6, 7 & 8).

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about his grandmother who, at 87, heard the apology by the Prime Minister on behalf of the Government of Canada and remarked to her grandson, "They are beginning to see us." He lamented that she had wanted to be a nurse but was not allowed by law to be educated beyond the 8th grade.

Atleo also spoke to Canada's position on the Declaration, expressing pleasure at Canada's "taking steps" but calling for Canada to make an effective and unqualified endorsement of the Declaration. This position was often

strongly reinforced by the other speakers. He discussed the right of Indigenous peoples to determine their citizenship, questions of land rights, problems with borders between the US and Canada, the on-going role of the Permanent Forum, climate change and water rights issues. He called for a special rapporteur to examine the tragedy of violence against Aboriginal women and the disappearance of many women. These are all issues that QAAC has worked on. At Yearly Meeting we will also present on the UN Declaration. We are bringing forward a statement on Quakers' commitment to the long term work of implementation of the Declaration.

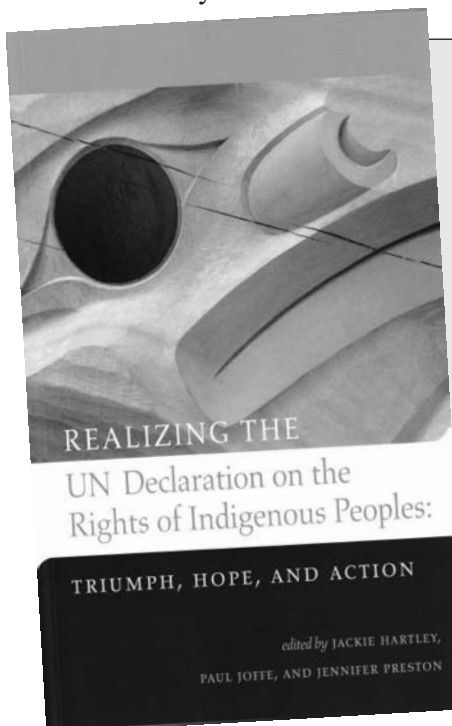
Given that the progress towards a realization of rights has been agonizingly slow, it is understandable that Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples in Canada sometimes are discouraged, even angry. There has been progress, however, and the United Nations has been one of the agents of change. To a question on whether there would ever be real respect for Indigenous rights, Carlos Mamani Condori of Bolivia, Chairperson of the UNPFII said, "We are peoples and nations, as all other peoples and nations. Indigenous peoples had existed prior to French, British or Portuguese conquest. In the 1960s, they had been completely ignored and were nonexistent in national statistics. However, Bolivian President Evo Morales' election was a huge event. Such progress had been impressive."

QAAC will continue its engagement with the PFII, and our active relationships internationally. These relationships inform and enrich all our work.

*Lynne Phillips (Vancouver Island MM) is the Clerk of CFSC's Quaker Aboriginal Affairs Committee. Jennifer Preston (Hamilton MM) is the Program Coordinator.*

## New Book: "Realizing the UN Declaration"

Adopted by the UN General Assembly on 13 September 2007, the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* affirms the "minimum standards for the survival, dignity and well-being of the indigenous peoples of the world." The contributors to this collection analyze the development of the Declaration, recall the triumph of its adoption, and illustrate the hopes and actions for its implementation. The book is edited by Jackie Hartley (policy analyst), Paul Joffe (lawyer, CFSC partner), and CFSC staff person Jennifer Preston. Order through Purich Publishing Tel: 306-373-531 or <[www.purichpublishing.com](http://www.purichpublishing.com)> (\$38.00, 288 pp., ISBN 978-1-895830-385).



Faithful and successful:

# A satisfying moment for CO rights

In Winter 2010 *Quaker Concern*, we reported the Federal Court of Appeal's (FCA) rejection of a request from CFSC and Mennonite Central Committee Canada (MCCC) to intervene in an appeal by US conscientious objector Jeremy Hinzman. Hinzman applied for permanent resident status in Canada on humanitarian and compassionate (H&C) grounds, but our application was rejected. The focus of the appeal was on whether punishment for desertion from the military - if motivated by a "deeply held" objection to war - could amount to "undue hardship" for the purpose of a H&C application.

The appeal was heard in Toronto on 26 May, with many Friends in attendance. On 6 July, the Court issued its unanimous judgment that an immigration officer's decision rejecting Jeremy Hinzman's application for permanent residence in Canada on humanitarian and compassionate grounds (H&C) was "significantly flawed" and "unreasonable."

The Federal Court of Appeal decided that the Federal Court erred in a June 2, 2009 ruling by dismissing the application by the Hinzmans for judicial review of an immigration

officer's negative assessment of them for status in Canada on H&C grounds. The same immigration officer had negatively assessed the Hinzmans on their Pre-Risk Removal Assessment (PRRA) the same week and used the same reasoning for the H&C decision—even as the two assessments have different criteria. The officer found that the Hinzmans would not face risk of torture, persecution or "cruel and unusual treatment or punishment" if returned to the USA (the PRRA decision) nor would they face "undue hardship" (the H&C decision).

Justice Johanne Trudel wrote in the Court's decision that "... the H&C Officer had the duty to look at all of the appellants' [the Hinzman family's] personal circumstances, including Mr. Hinzman's beliefs and motivations, before determining if there were sufficient reasons to make a positive H&C decision. She did not. ... the H&C decision was significantly flawed and therefore unreasonable. ... Consequently ... I would refer the application back for redetermination by a different officer in accordance with these reasons."

This decision is very good news for the Hinzmans but also other war resisters who undergo assessment for

permanent residency on H&C grounds. A new standard has been set: the person's sincerely held beliefs must be assessed if relative to the situation.

In lawyer Alyssa Manning's submissions to the Court on Jeremy's behalf, research and information from Quaker UN Geneva publications were cited. While not given permission to appear before the Court, the CFSC-MCC Canada submission was a part of the docket and our arguments are reflected in the decision by the Court and demonstrated the broader concern that Canadians have for conscientious objectors' rights.

Friends often say that we are called to be faithful, not successful, but once in a while, it feels pretty darn good to be successful! Our thanks to all involved in helping bring about this "small victory". The resubmitted H&C application by the Hinzmans will likely be re-considered by Canadian Immigration by fall 2010. To follow this case, subscribe to the *CFSC E-Newsletter* (contact [cfsc@cfsc.quaker.ca](mailto:cfsc@cfsc.quaker.ca)).

*Written with information from the War Resisters Support Campaign*  
<[www.resisters.ca](http://www.resisters.ca)>.

## WORKING HARD

*Continued from page 1*

- working within and with Church Council on Justice and Corrections, (CCJC) of which we are members;
- Supporting the Christian Council for Reconciliation in NS, providing family support for prisoners, helping fund "Out of Bounds" which is a prison-run magazine at William Head Institution and Rittenhouse which offers prisoner reintegration support groups in Toronto, ON;
  - Writing a formal statement on what matters most in the aftermath of crime. (We invite you to speak to this concern formally or informally, as we meet during Canadian Yearly Meeting in August or via telephone,

email or mail).

These projects demonstrate our efforts to build peace through justice in our communities. They are united in purpose around our shared sense of what harm and violence is, and how to compassionately respond. We sense that in spite of the vast sums spent trying and punishing criminals in Canada, there remains an enormous unmet need to respond to the harm caused both by crimes that 'the system' deals with, and crime that is never acknowledged by authorities, never prosecuted by the Crown, considered 'not chargeable' by the police, or not identified by victims to

authorities; harm that is not acknowledged and is never encouraged to heal. We sense that we must witness to the reality of the pervasiveness of violence and harm in our society, identify the unmet needs, find creative and effective responses, and with our partners, implement them in our communities.

We call on all Canadians to join us in supporting this important work, formally or informally.

*Meredith Egan (Vancouver MM) is the Program Coordinator of CFSC's Quakers Fostering Justice program; Vince Zelazny (New Brunswick) is its clerk.*



# Scrupling with Friends

by Anne Mitchell

Scrupling is an old Quaker practice in which Friends and neighbours meet to listen to each other, share concerns, and examine their consciences. A scrupling session is not a debate, a panel discussion, or an argument. The purpose of a scrupling session is to address uneasy feelings that arise from conscience or principle, feelings that tend to hinder action, and to identify the scruple – that which makes us uneasy – so that we might be freed to act. 17th Century Friend John Woolman refers to scrupling in his *Journal* in the context of his own struggle to articulate the scruple that led him to oppose slavery and to engage with those who held slaves.

The scrupling session at Toronto Monthly Meeting (TMM) arose out of a strong feeling of helplessness and frustration at the lack of response from the Federal Government to our concerns, particularly when faced with requests from KAIROS for letters of support concerning cuts to their funding. A decision was made at the December 2009 business meeting of TMM to explore other options for obtaining clarity and response that might be open to us. With a recognition that the problems we saw as manifestations of the large structural problem – the erosion of representative democracy that is affecting our country – we wanted to search for understanding with those outside Quaker circles who suffered under other manifestations of the same root problem.

A proposal came to the January 2010 business meeting to consider a scrupling session. TMM agreed, and a small group undertook the planning. The objective was to consider how scrupling could be used to help us understand the structural issues that result in the fact that our concerns are not addressed by our elected representatives, whose salaries we pay.

During the TMM scrupling session, held on 7 February 2010, a group of about 50 Quakers scrupled with two local sitting Members of Parliament. The session began with an introduction and the presentation of the two questions around which we wished to scruple:

- Why do certain policy issues of concern to us and others not receive parliamentary attention or resolution?
- What can we, as a community, do, after the traditional means of communication we have tried have been so unsuccessful?

The lively and successful scrupling session lasted for more than an hour and closed with silent worship.

Based on comments from those who attended, most people, including the two MPs, felt that the session was a helpful and constructive, and that the discussion had yielded a number of good insights. Many commented that scrupling might be a useful format and approach for other communities to adopt as they attempt to stem the erosion of democracy in Canada and to move discussions to a level of common and urgent concern.

This February session was followed by a report on the experiment sent out by the clerks of TMM to Quaker Meetings and Worship Groups across Canada. The next step was a working session during which 14 people from different

religious backgrounds gathered to consider how scrupling might be used within their communities.

TMM encourages others to acquaint themselves with the concept and practice of scrupling as a principled way of drawing individuals together into a process of discernment and collective action. Guidance for those interested in planning a scrupling session is available in several formats:

- A diagram illustrating the structural disconnects that TMM scrupling participants perceived as the problem is available as part of the brief document, “Scrupling Session Principles,” available in TMM’s library and at: <<http://bit.ly/aHS108>>.
- Weeks after the TMM scrupling session in February, Ursula Franklin was interviewed about scrupling for *The Current*, on CBC Radio One. An audio version of this interview is available at <<http://bit.ly/bPHWiD>>.
- Participants from the TMM scrupling session will share their experiences at a Special Interest Group during Canadian Yearly Meeting in August.

Anne Mitchell (Toronto MM) is a member of their scrupling planning group, and an Associate Member of CFSC’s Quaker Peace and Sustainable Communities Committee for her work on biotechnology concerns. She invites you to visit her blog at <[www.annemitchell.ca](http://www.annemitchell.ca)>.

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1. For Woolman, the scruple was owning slaves: if we believe that ownership of human beings is wrong, it is not possible to support or participate in slaveholding, no matter how kind or well-intentioned an individual might be. An online edition of Woolman’s *Journal* is available at: <http://www.luminarium.org/renascence-editions/woolman.html>

# FRIENDS ON THE MOVE

In May, **Meredith Egan**, Programme Coordinator of CFSC's Quakers Fostering Justice program, presented on the theme "What Really Matters in the Aftermath of Crime?" at Victoria (BC) Friends Meeting. 6.7 million crimes are committed each year in Canada—how do we as community pay attention to what matters most? Exploring this from the perspective of those directly suffering as a result of crime, Meredith offered what might be a more satisfying model of justice. A videotaping of the session can be viewed at [www.pasifik.ca/node/19950](http://www.pasifik.ca/node/19950).

**Elaine Bishop**, Associate Member of CFSC's Quaker Aboriginal Affairs Committee (QAAC), represented Friends at the launch of Canada's Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) in June in Winnipeg. Hundreds of Residential School survivors, Aboriginal leaders, church groups, government representatives and citizens attended the opening ceremonies. The Commission is tasked with telling Canadians what happened in the schools, honouring the lives of former students and families, and creating a permanent record of school legacy. For information, visit [www.trc.ca](http://www.trc.ca).

QAAC is examining the role of Friends in the TRC and will have educational materials available soon.

**Anne Mitchell**, Presiding Clerk of Canadian Yearly Meeting, was an observer at the World Religions Summit of Interfaith Leaders in the G8 Nations, held in 21-23 June in Winnipeg. Since 2005, faith leaders have met in parallel to the G8 Leaders' Summit to dialogue and to challenge the G8 nations to live up to the commitments they have made to the world's most poor and vulnerable peoples. Read the Summit's statement at <http://bit.ly/dDapxk>. Educational resources are also on the website.



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