

Speaking truth about justice

By Robert Kirchner

From 26-29 March, Meredith Egan, Programme Coordinator of Quakers Fostering Justice (QFJ), a program of CFSC, visited Edmonton and gave a series of well-attended presentations on restorative justice issues, including: guest lectures in criminology and sociology classes at Grant MacEwen College and University of Alberta; a presentation on the Canadian criminal justice system at Lendrum Mennonite Brethren Church; a workshop on restorative justice and a justice-inspired art workshop, both at L'Arche Edmonton, home of Edmonton Monthly Meeting.

I was excited about Meredith's visit as an opportunity to bring together the work of QFJ and Edmonton Monthly Meeting (EMM) with the Edmonton programs of Community Justice Ministries (CJM, an initiative of Mennonite Central Committee Alberta). Indeed, Janet Anderson and Gary Garrison of CJM helped EMM members Barbara Heather, Patti Hartnagel, and I to organize and publicize the workshops. As a long-time participant in CJM's prison visitation programs at the Edmonton men's and women's prisons, I was eager for Friends to learn about these opportunities for ministry and for the CJM coordinators to learn about the work of QFJ.

Among the things I learned from Meredith's presentations, I was particularly struck by the statistic that, of a conservatively estimated 6.76 million criminal code violations occurring every year in Canada, only 3.6% of these result in the conviction of an offender. Canada is thus spending many billions of dollars per year (more than \$12.5 billion in 2003) on a system which, by its own



Emma Engler, Noah Garver, and Ted Garver (all of Edmonton Meeting) participate in an art exercise as a part of a workshop on justice offered by Quakers Fostering Justice Programme Coordinator Meredith Egan in March 2009.

criterion of success, is ineffective in 96.4% of cases! Put this together with the pressure on police and prosecutors to obtain convictions, and it is not surprising that the brunt of this system is directed not against people who offend most seriously, but against people who have the fewest resources to fight a criminal prosecution – hence the vastly disproportionate numbers of the socio-economically disadvantaged in the Canadian prison system.¹

Another eye-opener was a role-playing exercise, focussing on a young man from a troubled family who steals a car, the car-theft victim (who is thereby prevented from taking his family on a vacation), and the families of both offender and victim. Considering the likely concerns and underlying needs of all the parties to this incident, workshop participants

compared these to the likely outcomes of a criminal prosecution: the offender's family falls apart and his younger sister goes into foster care, and the victim is given no role in the criminal trial. Meanwhile, no action is taken in this case against the local "chop shop", so future car thefts from the victim or his neighbours remain likely. These outcomes were contrasted with a scenario where the victim and offender meet in a restorative justice process: the offender has the opportunity to ask for community support for his troubled family, and the victim is reassured that he will not suffer from this sort of crime again.

A theme in the workshops is that a restorative approach requires each of us to step up to take responsibility for what goes on in our communities, to

Continued on page 2

1. For information on these statistics and the sources used for this analysis, email Meredith Egan at <qfj@quaker.ca>

KEEPING UP WITH FRIENDS

Docs return to Iraq

Dale Dewar (Prairie MM) and the Care to Care medical team returned to Iraqi Kurdistan in April to offer skills development in obstetrics to medical personnel and to learn from each other in providing effective rural health care (particularly to women). This is the Care to Care team's second visit since CFSC secured a three-year funding partnership with CIDA last year.

Prison farm closings

Individual committee members of Quakers Fostering Justice are concerned about plans to close all prison-affiliated farms, as reported by Correctional Services of Canada.

Background information is available through an internet search or by contacting Meredith Egan at <qfj@quaker.ca>.

An opportunity missed

On March 26, the Government of Canada announced its strategy on Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR). In early 2007, the report of the National Roundtables on Mining in Developing Countries and Corporate Social Responsibility was released. This report, a consensus of extractive industry representatives and human rights advocates, called for an accountability mechanism that could lead to sanctions for companies that did not comply with recommended human rights and environmental standards in their activities overseas.

The government's announced strategy squanders this consensus, which it had demanded during the roundtable process, by returning to the ineffective idea of voluntary self-monitoring.

New film on Lubicon

Amnesty International's new documentary, "*Our land, my people: The struggle of the Lubicon Cree*" was launched in Alberta in April. In this half-hour documentary the Lubicon Cree of northern Alberta tell the story of their long struggle defend their culture and way of life. The film is freely available for public screenings in support of the Lubicon Cree. Visit <www.amnesty.ca/lubicon> for more details and to order the film.

A new vision for the RCMP
QFJ's Clerk, Vince Zelazny

(NBMM) had an Op-Ed published in New Brunswick. "Wanted: A new Vision for the RCMP" is his response to the RCMP report released in April on their actions surrounding the murder of John McKendy, a Fredricton Quaker, last November. Read it at: <<http://dailygleaner.canadaeast.com/opinion/article/627599>>

Orphans graduate, find work

Barbara Wybar of Montreal has been running the Bududa Vocational Institute (BVI) in Bududa, Uganda on behalf of CFSC-funded partner African Great Lakes Initiative for nearly two years. The first students have graduated; many have found jobs. On Saturdays, the BVI provides supplementary schooling, a hot meal and medical attention to about 200 of the most destitute orphans of this impoverished and incredibly beautiful part of Eastern Uganda.

The end of the world as we know it - Thank God!

June 17-20, 2009, KAIROS will host a national gathering (theme above) at the University of Waterloo to strengthen and inspire a growing ecumenical social justice movement in Canada. This gathering will bring together people from across Canada and around the world. CFSC sent information in April to Meetings about available subsidy (deadline was 10 May) – we hope for a strong Quaker presence. The Gathering is open to all – apply through KAIROS:

<http://www.kairoscanada.org/en/get-involved/gathering/>

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

Charitable number: 13214 6549 RR0001

E-mail directory:

General inquiries: cfsc-office@quaker.ca

General Secretary: cfsc@quaker.ca

Aboriginal Affairs: qaac@quaker.ca

Quakers Fostering Justice: qfj@quaker.ca

Quaker Peace & Sustainable Communities:

qpasc@quaker.ca

International Affairs: qiap@quaker.ca

SPEAKING TRUTH

Continued from page 1

build relationships, to reach out to people in their troubles before they resort to seriously harming others, to help people heal and come into right relationship after such a harm has been suffered. The punitive criminal justice system, in contrast, is much easier on us: it encourages us to leave all these problems to the professionals – the police, the court system, and the prison and parole system. It merely

requires billions of dollars of public spending, with few returns in the way of greater safety or healthier communities.

If your Meeting is interested in hosting a QFJ workshop, contact Meredith Egan at <qfj@quaker.ca> or 604-832-0954.

Robert Kirchner is a member of Edmonton Monthly Meeting.

Social activism: re-connecting in a new context

By Penni Burrell

“For the first time in my life, I felt everything came together, and I was integrated” is how the Annapolis Valley Monthly Meeting¹ outreach pamphlet starts. I’ve been a social activist off and on all my adult life. When I came to Quakerism after a long spiritual journey, I knew my autonomy and my commitment to democratic process was in a safe place.

My understanding of CFSC involvement with Aboriginal issues in Nova Scotia is that it has been sporadic historically. Betty Peterson’s name came up frequently. Betty, a member of Halifax Meeting, just celebrated her 90th birthday; her work spans support of the Labrador Innu in the 1980s (opposing low-level NATO flights) to current engagement with Indigenous women.

I’d been involved with Indigenous people 25 years ago when I lived in Kenora, Ontario: traveling to fly-in reserves, having Indigenous people as clients (I’m a social worker). My heart engaged, but I concluded firmly – there was no place for white people of privilege such as myself. Too many mistakes being made by Canadian society in my name for me to feel I could do anything positive. I left that thread behind.

When I was appointed to the board of CFSC, Jennifer Preston, the Quaker Aboriginal Affairs Committee (QAAC) staff person, announced, “We’re looking for members, particularly from the east”. Spirit inside me awakened to the possibility that I was being called there. I walked in to the committee, listened to a vibrant discussion about the Quaker Sweatlodge² - an issue that I ‘should’ not have any knowledge about. The broader analysis – cultural appropriation - is one I’ve struggled with for decades. The opinion being given was one I had heard before, and



MARGARETTUS-KING

Betty Peterson, long-time Quaker advocate for Indigenous rights, shares a moment with Georgina Doucette, a Mi’kmaq Elder from Eskasoni First Nation, at the annual “In Peace and Friendship Gathering” at the Tatmagouche Centre in NS in 2007.

didn’t agree with. I thought, “Did Friends pay my way here for me to keep silent, or speak out, and apply my knowledge and views from earlier activist frontiers?” I took a deep breath, and spoke out. My comment was supported by at least one other person, and contributed to the committee working through to a decision. I picked up the thread of the discussion about non-indigenous involvement with Aboriginal culture that I had thought was long rejected, it fit, and I felt I was home! The committee helped me with guidelines as how to be ‘an ambassador’ for QAAC, to start building relationships with Indigenous peoples in the east.

Returning to the Maritimes, I learned that New Brunswick Friends had alliances with Americans the US north-east on Indigenous issues. I was aware that I was following the footsteps of previous well known

Quakers. Betty Peterson’s name was spoken in reverence by Indigenous people I met, and other activists (I found the picture for this article at an Atlantic Aboriginal Rights Coalition Meeting).

I started attending events focused on working together with Indigenous peoples. Conferences with a community development theme allowed for me to learn about the divergent activities that Indigenous people throughout the world are working on. One project is youth video taping a ‘First Voices’ series – Indigenous youth from Canada meeting with Indigenous youth in South America and taping their experiences. These DVDs give voice to their learning about the loss of their cultural pride, regenerating a connection with commonalities among various Aboriginal peoples. Hearing the strength they have gained from learning about their common past brought us all to tears.

1. “Monthly Meeting” refers to a local Quaker congregation.

2. The Quaker Sweat Lodge is a former activity of Friends General Conference. QAAC wrote a letter stating our concerns about this practice during a review by FGC. Their final report can be found at: <<http://www.fgcquaker.org/about-us/qs-l-final-report>>

Refugee protection and the health of democracy in Canada

By *Gianne Broughton*

The recent decision by the Supreme Court of Canada to not hear the case regarding the Safe Third Country Agreement raises serious questions about balance of powers in Canadian democracy. In the Safe Third Country Agreement signed by the Government in 2004, Canada and the US designate each other as “safe countries”; if a refugee arrives in one country first, the other country will not allow him or her to apply for refugee status. The Agreement implements a provision in Canada’s Immigrant and Refugee Protection Act (IRPA), where it says that Cabinet can designate a country as “safe”, and lists four factors that are to be considered:

- (a) whether the country is a party to the Refugee Convention and to the Convention Against Torture;
- (b) its policies and practices with respect to claims under these Conventions;
- (c) its human rights record; and

(d) whether it is party to an existing agreement for the purpose of sharing responsibility for refugee protection.

In December 2005, the Agreement was challenged in the Federal Court of Canada by the Canadian Council for Refugees, the Canadian Council of Churches, and Amnesty International, along with an anonymous refugee who did not feel safe in the US and wished the opportunity to claim refugee status in Canada. (CFSC is a member of CCR; CYM is a member of the CCC). They presented clear evidence that the United States does not fully comply with the Refugee Convention and the Convention Against Torture, and therefore should not be designated as “safe” for all refugees. In November 2007, the Court agreed and quashed the designation of the US as a safe third country.

The current Government (elected in 2006) appealed the decision to the Federal Court of Appeal. In June 2008, that Court reinstated the Agreement,

because they found that the Act did not require that the Cabinet prove that the designated country actually abides by the Conventions, but only that the Cabinet be acting in good faith. This interpretation of the law is shocking because it does not require that the Cabinet make decisions that actually protect people and it insulates such Cabinet decisions from challenge through the courts.

The Federal Court of Appeal also found that a Charter challenge could only be brought by someone who actually came to the border and was refused the opportunity to claim refugee status. The Court wrongly maintained that a person could make a legal challenge while at the border: in fact a claimant denied on safe third country grounds has no opportunity to initiate legal proceedings, let alone get a decision from the court, before being sent back to the US. This is shocking because it demands that the vulnerable put themselves in further danger before Canada will offer them protection.

Human capacity for non-violence recognized in UN R2P Report

By *Gianne Broughton*

On February 12, the Secretary-General released his report to the General Assembly of the United Nations, “*Implementing the Responsibility to Protect*”¹. The report was a follow-up to the Millennium Summit in 2000, where Heads of State and Government unanimously affirmed that “each individual State has the responsibility to protect its populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity”. They also agreed that the international community should “assist States in exercising that responsibility and in building their protection capacities.” (Pg. 1)

In July 2008, I participated in a

meeting convened by the Quaker UN Office in New York with a consultant assisting the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on the Responsibility to Protect to carry out the consultations preparative to the February 12 report. I recounted experiences of our partners in countries like Palestine, Rwanda, Cambodia, and Sri Lanka, where they have lived or are living through terrible conditions. The conclusion that I shared with him was that in every armed and deadly conflict situation there are local people working non-violently to de-escalate the conflict and protect non-combatants. It is a human capacity that anyone can draw on. Non-violent intervention

involving outsiders, even by the “international community” also exists. Strengthening of this work should be the first goal of efforts to promote sovereign and international responsibilities to protect.

He asked me, “So, how do you do that? How can this human capacity be strengthened?” I told him that people who hear the true stories of how other people have acted non-violently develop their own ability to imagine non-violent responses. Our partner in Asia, the Alliance for Self-reliant Peacebuilding, publishes such stories, gathered locally and written in the local language, and also organizes exchange visits between people from countries experiencing conflict. These

1. Available at: http://www.responsibilitytoprotect.org/index.php/featured_reports/2105

Continued on page 6

So, the three organizations applied to the Supreme Court to examine this decision. On February 5, the Supreme Court decided not to hear the case, and, as is customary, its reasons have not been published. This raises deep questions:

- How is it that a Canadian law can empower Cabinet to base life-and-death decisions on opinions that do not reflect reality?
- How is it that the Cabinet can be empowered to make policy that does not comply with the Conventions on refugees and against torture?
- How can these questions not be of concern to the Supreme Court of Canada?
- How is our government to be held accountable to the hard-won international laws that are our framework for living in peace if our courts do not hold them to that standard?

Brydon Gombay, clerk of the Toronto MM Refugee Committee (a CFSC-funded project), comments, "The refusal of the Supreme Court risks politicizing decisions made about some of the most vulnerable people in the world. When that is combined with



Brydon Gombay (L) and Eusebio Garcia (R) are the Clerk and staff person respectively of the CFSC-funded Toronto Meeting Refugee Committee which operates a unique refugee resettlement service in the most ethnically diverse city in Canada (with largest refugee intake); Eusebio represents CFSC at the Canadian Council for Refugees bi-annual meetings.

the proposed changes to Immigration and Refugee Protection Act (IRPA) included in the recent Federal Budget (Bill C-50), which give inordinate power to the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration, the future safety of refugees is worrying indeed."

Gianne Broughton (Ottawa Meeting) is the Program Coordinator of the Quaker Peace and Sustainable Communities Committee of CFSC. She thanks Janet Dench, Executive Director of CCR, for work on the legal cases and for reviewing this article.

Uranium Working Group recommends Peaceful Energy Policy

In fall 2007, the Quaker Peace and Sustainable Communities Committee of CFSC formed the Uranium Working Group to focus on concerns about depleted uranium weapons; nuclear weapons; the civilian nuclear energy industry; environmental concerns about new uranium deposits being extracted; etc. This Working Group is a meeting place for Canadian Quakers concerned about the peace, environmental and health issues raised by the mining, export and use of Canadian uranium. An e-mail list was established and Friends began to network.

Last summer, the Working Group held an interest group at the annual sessions of Canadian Yearly Meeting and were asked to prepare materials for local Meetings to be able to

consider these issues. These materials, and a draft minute on peaceful energy for CYM to consider adopting as policy this summer, have been sent to Meetings to help Friends prepare for discussion of the minute at CYM.

"Today, with the dual concerns of global warming and global warring, and the realities of a finite planet, we are challenged to find energy pathways which are consistent with Quaker values of Peace, Community and Equality," asserts the Working Group in the proposed minute. The minute offers six recommendations for energy development and use. The Working Group has written a short, cogent, informative background paper that lays out six core issues raised by the use of Uranium: hazards of radioactive materials, mining and use,

nuclear power plants, nuclear power and nuclear weapons, expense of nuclear power, nuclear power and climate change.

We hope that people attending Yearly Meeting will have had the opportunity to discuss these ideas within their Monthly Meetings so that they can speak to what Friends in their area think about these issues. There will be a special event at CYM on Saturday August 15th at 4:30 pm featuring Dr. Gordon Edwards, president of the Canadian Coalition for Nuclear Responsibility, and Bob Deltredichi, a photographer of the nuclear fuel system. For more information on attending CYM sessions, visit <www.quaker.ca>. For more information on this issue, contact <qpasc@quaker.ca>.

SOCIAL ACTIVISM

Continued from page 3

I was hesitant to join into the ‘non political’ aspect of being with Indigenous people. I was conscious of ‘cultural appropriation’ – partaking in Aboriginal customs in a disrespectful manner. Jennifer and the committee helped me understand that certain activities are held to introduce non-Indigenous people to Aboriginal culture.

I decided to attend a Pow Wow near Truro, hosted by the Millbrook band. The Pow Wow website included information that allowed us to know how to act in a respectful manner. A warm and humorous MC let us know the meaning of each dance, and asked us to join in when appropriate. The food was terrific, and there were crafts available. People were friendly; it was a great way to spend a sunny summer afternoon. The traditional regalia worn for the dances were amazingly beautiful; children and elders mixed in a lovely multi generational time. Maybe you should consider attending a Pow Wow this summer in your area? It's a great family activity, fun, and a simple but clear way to let indigenous people know of your support and interest in their culture.

HUMAN CAPACITY

Continued from page 4

are village people who have done non-violent de-escalation in their own communities, sharing experience with others like them in a different country in the same region.” He took notes carefully.

So, I was delighted to find, on page 14 of the Secretary General’s report, the following recommendations:

“26. In all of the discussions of global, regional and national institutions, care should be taken not to lose sight of the individual victims and survivors of such crimes. They need to be supported and encouraged to tell their stories candidly and fully...

“27. Similarly, one of the keys to preventing small crimes from becoming large ones, as well as to ending such affronts to human dignity altogether, is to foster individual responsibility. Even in the worst

I missed the annual In Peace and Friendship event, held at The United Church’s Tatamagouche retreat centre. The term ‘in Peace and Friendship’ is the phrase that was used to sign treaties Indigenous people invited descendants of the signatories on both sides to talk together, to share and care for each other in a week long gathering.

Many thanks to Quakers, particularly CFSC, in helping me adapt my new life’s tapestry – by picking up some threads long thought gone, and learning new ways to weave the long standing strong ones. I had wondered about joining CFSC early on, but had wanted to keep my social justice side and spiritual aspect separate. I wasn’t sure if it was time for this vibrant thread of my life to be woven with my spiritual commitment, if at all. I have come to the conclusion that, in fact, they always were. I am glad to be here.

Penni Burrell (Annapolis Valley Meeting) is a member of the Quaker Aboriginal Affairs Committee of CFSC.

genocide, there are ordinary people who refuse to be complicit in the collective evil, who display the values, the independence and the will to say no to those who would plunge their societies into cauldrons of cruelty, injustice, hatred and violence. We need to do more to recognize their courage and to learn from their actions. States that have suffered such traumas, civil society and international organizations can facilitate the development of national and transnational networks of survivors, so that their stories and lessons can be more widely heard, thus helping to prevent their recurrence or repetition elsewhere.”

Many CFSC’s partners do exactly what is recommended here, and more, by encouraging people to extend individual experience to form collective action.

PLANNED GIVING



Giving

“Why do we give? For most of us, it is a spiritual and moral imperative – and a pleasure.” (Is Your Money Working for the World?)

Friends donate thousands of voluntary hours to CFSC. Financial support – donations and planned gifts – is equally vital to our work.

Make Monthly Donations

One of the best ways you can support CFSC is to become a Sustaining Donor – giving a donation to CFSC monthly (through your bank, or through CanadaHelps.org). Many people find monthly contributions more manageable (and simpler), rather than a larger annual gift or remember to reply to the Appeal. “Sustaining donors” offer CFSC the gift of an assured cash flow for projects which means we can better plan programs and expenditures. And, once set up, sustaining donations cost less to administer – meaning more funds for the work.

Enrolling in the *Quaker Star Sustaining Donor Programme* is easy to do, it is safe and secure, you get one annual receipt (at the year end), and you can change your donation information at any time – with our thanks and appreciation.

Donors receive *Quaker Concern*, our *Annual Report* and the satisfaction that they are supporting work helps and transforms communities.

What to do now? – Fill in the donation slip on the back page of *Quaker Concern* and send it, with a voided cheque, to CFSC. Or visit CanadaHelps.org, do a search for CFSC (using our full name), and sign up using your credit card (*note: CanadaHelps deducts a 3% administration fee from your gift before sending it to CFSC*).

For more information, or to receive our Planned Giving Kit, contact Jennifer or Jane Orion at 416-920-5213, or <cfsc-office@quaker.ca>

Church leaders, partners visit oil sands

Last summer, Canadian Yearly Meeting (the national church of Quakers) agreed to participate in a delegation of Canadian church leaders and Indigenous and Southern partners to the Athabasca tar sands. The delegation is being led by KAIROS, a partnership of 11 Canadian churches and church-based organizations (including Quakers). CYM appointed Dana Bush (Calgary MM), an ecologist with 10 years of experience in the oil sands and with indigenous communities.

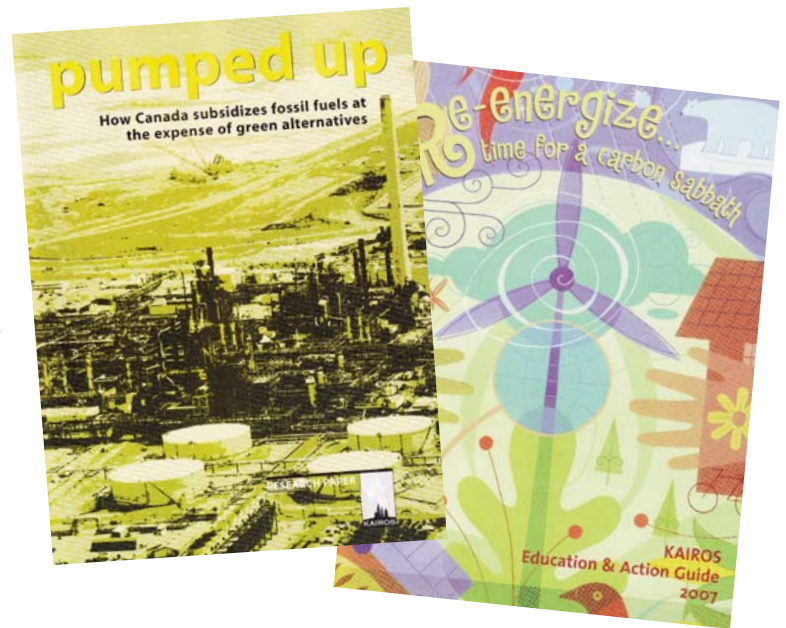
The delegation (21 – 27 May 2009) has three goals:

- To engage church leaders in an ecumenical experience that will explore the theological, moral, ethical and social implications of fossil fuel extraction in the Alberta oil sands;
- To hear about the experiences of and engage in dialogue with local churches, church leaders, KAIROS networks, southern partners, and Indigenous people on justice issues related to the oil sands;
- To provide new opportunities for church leaders to bear witness to government policies in the areas of energy and climate change, environment and Indigenous rights.

The pan-Canadian delegation will learn about the oil sands projects and their impacts on all involved communities – society at large,

workers, Indigenous peoples and communities, and the earth community – all this knowing that the global economic downturn has shifted the ground in this region considerably. It will be a time of listening and dialogue, of reflection and action. The delegation will also meet with industry representatives, community workers and elected officials.

The tar sands raise many questions for Canadians and Albertans in particular. The delegation hopes to explore those questions with the most affected communities. Upon conclusion, a public statement based on their experience is expected to be issued. Some delegates will then go to Ottawa to meet with government representatives to discuss what they heard, saw, experienced. In turn, the experience of the delegation will likely lead to a policy discussion



“Pumped Up” is a research paper by KAIROS that explores the Government of Canada’s subsidizing of the fossil fuel industry at the expense of green alternatives. The oil sands delegation is a part of a multi-year “Re-Energize” Campaign that seeks to get Canadians to think about our carbon footprint, our reliance on fossil fuels and their destructiveness, and the alternatives.

within KAIROS and the churches and further steps.

CFSC contributed two-thirds of the funding for the Quaker delegate and anticipates the outcome of it as a part of its own reflections on peaceful energy. To follow developments on the delegation, and learn more about KAIROS’ “Re-Energize Campaign” (and access lots of resources), visit <www.re-energize.org>.

Change afoot at KAIROS

As we go to press, some programs at KAIROS are being laid down and some staff laid off, due to a range of mostly financial factors (having to move to significantly more expensive quarters; renovations of space; impact of market drop on investment income; reduced member contributions; and unsustainable level of programming). Realising that cuts were imminently required (there were not sufficient funds to carry a deficit), the KAIROS Board agreed in December that the awful changes to come were also an opportunity to renew KAIROS so that it would have a deeper, more focused faith-based program; be more connected to the denominations at the

local church level; retain its theological courage; and be integrated with the social movements in the South.

Following a limited member consultation process, the Board met in February and affirmed five program priorities: human rights – economy and ecology; Indigenous rights; ecological justice; education and grassroots advocacy; human rights – conflict and peace-building; human rights in Canada (migrant justice/anti-poverty). With much sadness, the Board affirmed that KAIROS discontinue the following program priorities: refugee work, International

Debt and Trade, Corporate Social Responsibility and Debt and International Finance.

These program reductions and lay offs are painful but it is hoped that with a more focused program, KAIROS will be able to be more effective and prophetic in its work. For more information on KAIROS, please visit <www.kairoscanada.org>.

Both articles by Jane Orion Smith, General Secretary of CFSC and Friends’ Representative on the KAIROS Board (with thanks to KAIROS for much of the oil sands information).

FRIENDS ON THE MOVE

Meredith Egan, Programme Coordinator of QFJ, and **Vince Zelazny** (New Brunswick MM) will visit Winnipeg in June to participate in a community development project with the Point North Douglas Women's Centre and will work with local facilitators to offer an Alternatives to Violence Project workshop. NPDWC brings women together to identify and address community and poverty-related conditions in the neighbourhood.

Sarah Chandler, Trevor Chandler (Vernon MM) and **Meredith Egan** will attend the Restorative Practices International Conference in June in

Vancouver. Trevor (a CFSC board member) is co-presenting the workshop "Nlaka'pamux National Approach to rebuilding respect & harmony in Natural Resource Management".

Meredith will co-present "Pastoral Care for people harmed by crime – what is the best role for churches to play?" QFJ is also helping fund Sarah's participation (QFJ Associate Member, former CFSC board member).

Dana Bush (Calgary MM) was awarded a CFSC Individual Grant (\$1000) to participate in a KAIROS church leaders delegation to the Alberta oil/tar sands in May. CFSC

contributed an additional \$1200 towards the costs of the delegation. Dana is an ecologist with 10 years of experience working in the oil sands and with indigenous communities.

Stephanie Deakin (Vancouver Island MM) received a CFSC Individual Grant (\$1000) to participate in "Justice Camp 2009: Poverty - Finding Abundance." Justice Camp is a 10-year ecumenical justice project of the Anglican Church of Canada. Stephanie helped plan and participated in "Justice Camp 2007: The Environment" (for which she also received an Individual Grant).

YES, I support a just peaceful world!

All donors receive our newsletter *Quaker Concern* which provides information and analysis of CFSC projects and concerns.

Name: _____

Address: _____

All donors will receive an income tax receipt.

To receive our monthly E-Newsletter, provide email address:

To also receive Quaker Concern by email, tick here

To receive CFSC's Planned Giving Kit, tick here

Be a Sustaining Donor:

I/we hereby authorize Canadian Friends Service Committee to debit my/our account in the amount of: \$ _____ on the first day of every month beginning (month) _____, 20____.

(please enclose an unsigned, voided cheque)

Cheque of Money Order:

I/we would like to contribute:

\$500 \$250 \$100 \$75 \$50 Other \$ _____

Credit Card Donations:

Donations are processed on-line by CanadaHelps.org. Visit <www.cfsc.quaker.ca/pages/donate.html>

Mail to: CFSC, 60 Lowther Ave., Toronto, Ontario M5R 1C7
email: cfsc-office@quaker.ca

Type, Design & Printing by Newbury Ng Inc.

 Printed with 100% post consumer non-bleached paper.



Canadian Friends Service Committee
Secours Quaker Canadien
60 Lowther Avenue,
Toronto, ON Canada M5R 1C7