



Canadian Friends Service Committee (Quakers)

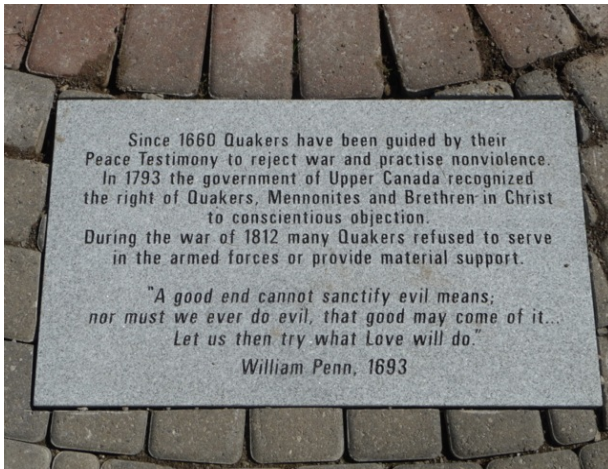
E-Newsletter

May 2012

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Marking CO witness in the War of 1812 – June 10th event



The Quaker plaque draws attention to our historic commitment to pacifism, our rights of conscientious objection in Canada, and Quaker witness in the war of 1812, which ended in 1814.

Members of the traditional peace churches in the Niagara region are commemorating the experience of Canadian pioneers of peace and conscientious objection in the War of 1812 during the 200th anniversary year. Historical markers honouring the witness of the peace churches were developed and have been installed at various locations in Niagara (for location information, visit: <http://mcco.ca/historical-markers-peace>). You can find also the markers via Google maps with this link: <http://bit.ly/IPpLbx>

A full-day public event will be held on Sunday June 10th in the Niagara region, including touring all of the markers. In the morning, Friends are invited to join Pelham Executive Meeting for Worship at 11 am at the site of the marker at the Port Colborne (on Lake Erie). Email don [at] donalexander.ca for full details. CFSC is pleased

to have provided a small grant towards the costs of the two Quaker markers.

A blog has been created for Mennonites, Brethren, and Quakers (a.k.a. the traditional peace churches) to reflect on peace in light of the commemoration of the War: <http://warresistancein1812.blogspot.ca/>

Get on the Freedom Train!

The Yinka Dene Alliance, a leading group of British Columbia First Nations that has used its laws to ban the proposed Enbridge Northern Gateway pipelines and tankers in their territories, embarked on a "Freedom Train" journey on April 30 aimed at protecting their rights and their freedom from the threat of devastating oil spills. Representatives of numerous First Nations will join the Canada-wide trip that will build on the wide support they have received across the country. The journey began on April 30 and will culminate in Toronto for two days of events, including a concert, rally, march and attendance of First Nations representatives at Enbridge's Annual General Meeting on May 9.

Full information on the cross-Canada schedule can be found at: <http://www.freedomtrain2012.com/>

Three Young Adult Friends named to attend Youth & Militarism Conference

The Peace and Social Action Committee of Halifax Friends Meeting has selected three Young Adult Friends to attend the War Resister's International Conference "Countering the Militarisation of Youth" in Darmstadt, Germany (June 8-10) – Christel LeBlanc (Halifax Monthly Meeting), Sheehan Moore (New Brunswick MM, currently in Montreal attending McGill), and Matthew Webb (Coldstream MM). The conference provides a unique opportunity to develop an understanding of the reach and consequences of militarization and the possibilities of non-violence in resolving conflicts. Participants will come from around the world, including from Britain, Chile, Germany, Sweden, Netherlands, Israel, Finland, Spain, South Africa, Venezuela, Colombia, USA, and Canada. More information about the conference can be found at <http://wri-irg.org/militarisationofyouth>.

Christel will be blogging during the conference –CFSC will post the blog site on its Facebook and Twitter feeds when available (email cfsc [at] quakerservice.ca if you want to follow the blog but are not on Facebook or Twitter). Halifax Meeting appreciates the financial support of Meetings and individuals in making this project possible.

FWCC World Gathering Epistle and statement on peace and eco-justice

The largest worldwide conference of Friends since 1967 came together from 17-25 April 2012 in Kenya. The theme was "Being Salt and Light - Friends living the Kingdom of God in a broken world". One thousand Friends gathered on the campus of Kabarak University, near Nakuru, Kenya, coming from many parts of Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Europe, Latin America and North America. Near the end of the conference, Friends approved the "Kabarak call for peace and eco-justice", the climax of the [Global Change](http://bit.ly/JQecpa) consultation. The call is posted at: <http://bit.ly/JQecpa>. Read the Epistle from the conference at: <http://www.saltandlight2012.org/FollowTheConference>.

PHYM and YSHYM session on youth and militarism

Pelham Half-Yearly Meeting and Yonge Street Half Yearly Meeting will meet jointly at Camp NeeKaunis in Waubashene, Ontario from 1 – 3 June. On Saturday morning, there will be a workshop to develop a plan to address the militarization of youth. Roger Davies, a member of CFSC's Conscientious Objection Working Group, is being supported by CFSC to attend as a resource person, given the experience of Halifax Meeting in undertaking local counter-recruitment work. To register, contact the Clerk of Pelham Half-Yearly Meeting: pelham-hym-clerk [at] quaker.ca

AGLI Workcamps in Burundi, Rwanda, and Kenya (June – July)

CFSC overseas partner, the African Great Lakes Initiative (AGLI), is offering three workcamp options in cooperation with local Quaker Meetings from run June 23 – July 28 (Cost: minimum of \$2300 USD and return airfare). No skills required, all ages welcome. Go to www.aglifpt.org and click on "workcamps" or "volunteers" for more information and an application. Want speak with someone who has volunteered? Email Sheila Havard, CFSC board member, at havard_translations@hotmail.com

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.

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Canadian Friends Service Committee (Quakers)

60 Lowther Avenue, Toronto, Ontario, M5R 1C7

Tel: 416-920-5213 Email: cfsc[at]quakerservice.ca Website: www.quakerservice.ca

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