



Canadian Friends Service Committee E-Newsletter

May, 2013

Join the team – we're hiring!

CFSC has a staff position available (location: national office, Toronto). The **Quakers Fostering Justice (QFJ) Program Coordinator** is a half-time position (17.5 work hours/week). S/he supports the work of the QFJ program committee, which sets directions for the program, and is involved in program delivery. Work includes:

- Research, education and writing on justice-related issues
- Policy dialogue on justice-related issues
- Administer community-based grants program, workshops and training
- Maintain relationships with partners, meetings, policy makers
- Administrative support to the program

For detailed information (job description, gifts/abilities sought, program committee terms of reference), visit: <http://bit.ly/QFJProgramCoordinator>. **Application Deadline: 9 am (Eastern) on Monday 27 May 2013.** Canadian Friends Service Committee is an equal opportunity employer.

Doctrine of Discovery – draft statement of repudiation coming to CYM

CFSC has prepared a draft Statement on the Doctrine of Discovery, which has been sent to Meetings via the CFSC Liaisons, along with background information on the issue. The statement will be brought forward for consideration of approval by the Yearly Meeting at CYM's annual sessions in August. Please send any questions to Jennifer Preston <jennifer@quakerservice.ca>. We will be pleased to engage with you on this concern. The material will be on the website, as well, by May 1. You will find it under header "Indigenous Peoples' Human Rights" on this page: <http://quakerservice.ca/news-and-resources/educational-resources/>

Honouring Conscientious Objection to war

A new memorial has been unveiled to honour Conscientious Objectors to World War II who served in Friends' Ambulance Unit (FAU). We were aware of the work being done on it after being contacted to help locate surviving Canadian Friends who served in the FAU and to help provide historical background on that service through documents from the Canadian Yearly Meeting archives.



The monument to pacifist service was unveiled at the National Memorial Arboretum in Staffordshire, England. Read more in this article from *The Guardian*: <http://bit.ly/CO-Memorial>.

CFSC releases kit on synthetic biology

Synthetic biology combines biology, engineering and other fields to literally manufacture new and unique forms of life. We are asking that Meetings and individual Friends consider engaging in a process of discernment regarding the issue of synthetic biology. To many this area may seem complex, hard to keep track of due to rapid changes in the field, and often highly technical and

esoteric. Our new resource kit is designed to help render the key issues accessible for your Meeting to engage in the discernment process. We ask for responses from Meetings regarding participation (yes and no) by **June 30th, 2013**, with information from Meetings (following their discernment process) being sent to CFSC no later than **December 31, 2013**.

Friends attending Representative Meeting on April 26-27th in Toronto were sent home with a précis of the first section of the Kit, which focuses on the process, as well as with copies of three different resource booklets from the Quaker Institute for the Future to further illuminate the issue.

We highly encourage you to read more about synthetic biology and to share this resource kit, your thoughts, and any feedback you have for us: <http://bit.ly/SynthBioKit>

Proud to protect refugees



Many Canadians arrived here as refugees fleeing persecution. Recent changes in Canada have increased negative talk, which may make it tougher for refugees and others to find protection and to feel welcome.

A campaign of our partner, the Canadian Council for Refugees, is seeking to change the conversation. Showing public support and promoting a positive vision of what we want for refugees will ensure that Canada remains a safe haven. Join the **Proud to Protect Refugees** campaign. Here are some suggestions to get started:

- Take photos holding a **Proud to Protect Refugees** sign and email them to us at info@quakerservice.ca. We will share them through social media and our website.
- Ask your city council to pass a motion recognizing the contributions of refugees and the importance of protecting and welcoming refugees in your community.
- Talk to others about why you are proud to protect refugees and about misconceptions about refugees that need to be set straight.
- Share stories of refugee contributions in your community.

For more on the campaign check <http://ccrweb.ca/en/proud-to-protect-refugees>

UN helps to inform about Conscientious Objection

A new publication from the United Nations “brings together applicable international standards and jurisprudence relating to conscientious objection to military service”. This is a very useful reference and resource for those interested in ensuring that the right to Conscientious Objection is respected. http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Publications/ConscientiousObjection_en.pdf



Through practical assistance, policy dialogue, research, and education, CFSC works toward a world in which peace and justice prevail. The values and practices we embrace are not exclusive to Quakers - we work in cooperation with a wide range of partners.

<http://bit.ly/CFSCFacebook> | <http://bit.ly/CFSCTwitter>

Please encourage others to subscribe to the e-news at <http://bit.ly/EnewsSignUp>

Read past issues at <http://bit.ly/PastNews>

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Please support the promotion of justice and peace: <http://bit.ly/SupportCFSC>.