



## Canadian Friends Service Committee E-Newsletter

February 2014

---

### Update on the Tsilqot'in case at Supreme Court – and public events!



*Tribal Chairman Chief Joe Alponse and Chief Roger William of the Tsilqot'in Nation speak at a CFSC co-sponsored public event in Ottawa at the time of the case coming before the Court. Credit: <http://www.jeremywilliams.ca>*

The Supreme Court of Canada may be preparing to release its decision in the Tsilqot'in Title case in the coming weeks (see Winter 2014 [Quaker Concern](#) for background). Last fall, CFSC intervened with Amnesty International in this precedent setting case, arguing that the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples must be used to help inform the Court in such cases. As soon as the decision is released, we will share the decision (and our response) on Facebook, Twitter, and our website so stay tuned!

Live in Vancouver or Victoria? Lucky you! CFSC is co-sponsoring two public events in February wherein the Tsilqot'in case will be a focus.

In Victoria, on February 18<sup>th</sup> (7 – 9 pm) at St. John the Divine Church (1611 Quadra St.), Jennifer Preston, Indigenous Rights Program Coordinator, will moderate a panel, "The Struggle for Justice: Indigenous Land Rights in BC", featuring four dynamic partners involved in Indigenous rights in Canada.

In Vancouver, CFSC will be co-sponsoring a public event on February 19<sup>th</sup> at UBC's Law School at 7 pm on the intersection of Indigenous rights and resource development in British Columbia. Jennifer will moderate a panel of equally illustrious Indigenous rights defenders. These events will be a great way to learn about the issues and meet Jennifer and our partners.

---

### Visiting partners in the DR Congo

This month, Matthew Legge, CFSC staff, and Sheila Havard, volunteer and former board member, are visiting long-time partner Project Muinda.

Established in the early 1990s by Kinshasa Monthly Meeting, Muinda has offered peace education, set up "Peace Cells" in every neighbourhood of Kinshasa (a city of 8 million), and economic development opportunities. A Peace Cell is a small group of people drawn from different parts of the community who are trained in peacebuilding and conflict resolution skills.

Look for a report in the next issue of *Quaker Concern* and, photos and video in due course on our Facebook and Twitter.

---

## CFSC staff out in community, sharing about our work and ways

CFSC staff have been busy engaging in communities beyond Friends this past month.

In January, Jane Orion Smith (General Secretary) and Janet Ross (Quaker biblical scholar) spoke to the theme "Walking in the Light" at Mennonite Community Church in Stouffville, Ontario. They emphasized the importance of spiritual practice as a foundation for service and witness in the world. Thanks to Susan Reesor, former CFSC staff, for the invitation and coordination!

This week, Jane Orion was a part of a panel at Humber College, organized by the Ontario Council for International Cooperation (of which CFSC is a member). The "Pathways to International Cooperation" panel was for the 80 students in Humber's international development post-graduate certificate program. Panelists shared their career path journey, practical tips for entering the field, as well as encouraging students to live their values, beliefs, and passion.

Also this week, Jennifer Preston, Indigenous Rights Program Coordinator, was part of a panel at Emmanuel College (United Church of Canada seminary at University of Toronto) focusing on negotiating equitable relationships with partners. A key point that Jennifer raised was that the foundation of partnership has to be in the development of relationships of trust and mutual respect. These relationships take time to build, and require much listening and learning.

---

---

## Opportunity: Web Editor being sought by CYM

Canadian Yearly Meeting (CYM) has issued a call for proposal to contract the services of a Web Editor. The Web Editor is responsible for content and images on [www.quaker.ca](http://www.quaker.ca). S/he will plan, research, write copy, solicit material, and edit the content of the 'open' portion of the site. S/he will work with others to assist committees using and configuring the BUSINESS ('closed') side of the site. For full terms of reference, visit: <http://quaker.ca/news/cym-is-looking-for-a-web-editor/>

If you are able to provide the services outlined, please send a proposal to Clerk, Publications and Communications Committee, 91A Fourth Avenue, Ottawa, ON, K1S 2L1, or FAX 613-235-1753, OR to [pubcom-clerk@quaker.ca](mailto:pubcom-clerk@quaker.ca) for receipt by 16:00 h, Friday, 21 March, 2014.

---

---

## CFSC Annual Appeal – thanks again!

**THANK YOU to everyone who has contributed to the Appeal!** These funds are vital to making the great work that you are reading about here happen. As of January 31<sup>st</sup>, CFSC is only \$7,000 in donations away from our goal of \$215,000 in undesignated donations (i.e. individual and Meeting donations), and we feel confident that this will be met before March 31 (the end of our financial year). This is such good news!



Practical assistance, policy dialogue, research, and education - CFSC works for a world where peace and justice prevail.

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

Encourage others to subscribe <http://bit.ly/EnewsSignUp>

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

---

---

### Canadian Friends Service Committee (Quakers)

60 Lowther Avenue, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, M5R 1C7

Tel: 416-920-5213 Email: [info@quakerservice.ca](mailto:info@quakerservice.ca) Website: [www.quakerservice.ca](http://www.quakerservice.ca)

**Stand up for justice and peace: <http://bit.ly/SupportCFSC>.**