



## Canadian Friends Service Committee E-Newsletter

July, 2014



Tsilhqot'in press conference after Supreme Court of Canada ruling June 26, 2014. Photo credit: UBCIC

### Supreme Court of Canada rules unanimously in favour of Tsilhqot'in

CFSC extends our warmest congratulations to the Tsilhqot'in people in their historic victory at the Supreme Court of Canada. In an unanimous decision the Court recognized Tsilhqot'in title and their rights to own, control and enjoy the benefits of their traditional territory in central British Columbia. CFSC is proud to have intervened in this case, which also provides clear directions on the need for consent of Indigenous peoples when there is proposed resource development on their lands. Read our full statement on the ruling here:

<http://quakerservice.ca/news/landmark-supreme-court-decision-crucial-step-justice-reconciliation/>

### CFSC Sessions at CYM

We'll be at Canadian Yearly Meeting's 2014 sessions in Winnipeg from August 8th to 16th (if you haven't already, register at <http://quaker.ca/news-and-events/cym-gathering-2014/>!).

CFSC will be hosting two Special Interest Groups. One will provide an overview of some of the key aspects of **charity law** that your Meeting should be aware of, such as regulations on political activities.

The other will be on **synthetic biology**, and in preparation (or just to learn more about synthetic biology) we recommend that you read (in order of importance):

1. The draft minute to be discussed at the SIG (2 pages) <http://quakerservice.ca/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/Draft-minute-on-synthetic-biology-2014-CYM.pdf>
2. Background report on synthetic biology (4 pages) <http://quakerservice.ca/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/2014-Synthetic-biology-background-report.pdf>
3. A summary of what we heard back from Monthly Meetings about synthetic biology (9 pages) <http://quakerservice.ca/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/Excerpts-from-Meeting-study-groups-synthetic-biology.pdf>

### "Sky Pilots" – chaplains in the Canadian prison system

CFSC Associate member Kate Johnson gave an excellent interview on prison chaplaincy recently for CBC Radio's Sunday Edition. Kate discussed the challenges and rewards of being a chaplain, the critical importance of the chaplain's role, Quaker faith in chaplaincy, and recent harmful changes within Canada's prison system which seems to be moving toward an increasingly punitive approach to justice. Listen here:

<http://www.cbc.ca/thesundayedition/features/2014/06/15/prison-chaplain/>

## Database of non-violent actions

CFSC has documented examples of effective non-violent peacebuilding work from around the world in our book *The Four Elements of Peacebuilding: How to Protect Nonviolently* (copies have been distributed to Meetings - to request more contact us or download a copy from <http://bit.ly/4ElementsofPeace>).

For many more examples of the effective use of nonviolence to create positive change you can visit *The Global Nonviolent Action Database*. It has more than 800 stories of non-violent direct action in over 190 countries, classified into over 198 different non-violent methods used.

<http://nvdatabase.swarthmore.edu/>

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## Seeking Resident Friends for Meeting House in Victoria, BC

Vancouver Island Monthly Meeting is seeking a hospitable couple for the position of Resident Friends, for a term of 1-3 years commencing Summer 2015. Duties, in addition to being a Friendly presence to the community; include loving care of our Heritage Meeting House, and marvelous garden and fruit trees. In exchange the Meeting will provide an unfurnished suite in the Meeting House. For more information, email Janine Gagnier: [adjuajanine@telus.net](mailto:adjuajanine@telus.net).

Apply with resume and references by email, or by post to Personnel Committee c/o Fern Street Meeting, 1831 Fern St, Victoria, BC, V8R 4K4, by **September 15, 2014**.

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## Call for submissions to *Sporadical*

Over the past decade, militarism has been making its mark in Canada - from a heightened military presence in our academic and cultural settings to significantly altered international relationships.

The next issue of *Sporadical* (a publication of Canadian Young Friends Yearly Meeting) will be hosted by the Education and Outreach Committee of CYM, in preparation for a conference in April 2015 addressing Young Friends' approaches to Youth and Militarization in Canada.

Young Friends and Young Adult Friends are invited to send submissions of writing (e.g. poems, short stories, scripts, lyrics), art (e.g. drawings, doodles, comics, paintings), or electronic media (e.g. videos, audio recordings, vlogs).

All submissions should be emailed to Matthew Webb at [mptw1987@gmail.com](mailto:mptw1987@gmail.com) before **August 31st**.

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