



Canadian Friends Service Committee
E-Newsletter

September, 2014

Missing and Murdered Aboriginal Women

CFSC supports the position of partner organizations including the Native Women's Association of Canada, Assembly of First Nations and Amnesty International Canada in calling for an independent national inquiry on murdered and missing Indigenous women as part of a larger, comprehensive national action plan, as called for in various UN General Assembly resolutions on violence against women.

There are urgent measures that may never be implemented unless they have the weight of a judge and inquiry behind them. This includes the need for consistent police recording and reporting of rates of violent crime against Indigenous women. Families and communities who have lost daughters, sisters and mothers deserve to have their voices heard in a proper forum. For further information:

<http://www.amnesty.ca/get-involved/lead-in-your-community/violence-against-indigenous-women-and-girls-in-canada-a-summary>

We are more than our Genes



The Canadian Council of Churches (of which Canadian Yearly Meeting is a member) will be hosting a workshop on November 1st, from 9:30 am – 2 pm, in Toronto where they will share a new curriculum and generate discussion about questions of faith, ethics, and biotechnology. Learn how you might share the workbook "When Christian Faith and Genetics Meet" with your Meeting. Cost is \$20 and includes lunch and a copy of the book, which was developed by a CCC group chaired by CFSC Associate member Anne Mitchell (Toronto Meeting).

The workshop will be held at Toronto School of Theology, 47 Queens Park Cres E. For more information (i.e. how to order the curriculum alone) and to register: <http://www.councilofchurches.ca/biotechnology/>

World Week for Peace in Palestine/Israel

Each year on September 21st, members of the World Council of Churches (of which Canadian Yearly Meeting is a member) are invited to participate in a national prayer for peace (this year fitting nicely with massive climate change demonstrations on the same day - see below!).

During the week following the International Day of Prayer for Peace, Meetings are encouraged to make a common witness by participating in educational events and acts of advocacy in support of a just peace for Israelis and Palestinians. If you will be taking part or would like support from CFSC please let us know.

This may be an opportunity for your Meeting to consider taking action on the boycott of settlement products, on which Canadian Yearly Meeting found unity last month (<http://www.quakerservice.ca/bds>) or to engage in other forms of outreach or witness for peace.

Climate change rally

In our last issue we shared news about the massive climate change marches happening September 21st. But did you know that, Quaker Earthcare Witness (among the 700+ organizations involved with the NYC march) may be able to provide billets and even a small travel scholarship if you let them know of your needs? Register as soon as you can at: <http://secure.quakerearthcare.org/node/2596> Resources designed for Canadian Christian faith communities are available through the Canadian Council of Churches and Citizens for Public Justice: <http://www.cpj.ca/climate>

World Quaker Day!

Friends World Committee for Consultation - which connects Friends internationally - invites Meetings globally to participate in World Quaker Day on October 5th, to celebrate our deep connections across cultures and Quaker traditions. On the 5th, your Meeting may wish to reflect on the Kabarak Call for Peace and Ecojustice (<http://www.saltandlight2012.org/kabarak-call-peace-and-ecojustice>) approved at the 6th World Conference of Friends. Whatever your Meeting does, you are invited to email a short description, poem, photo, etc. to FWCC to share with Friends everywhere: harrya@friendsworldoffice.org

World War 1 & Contemporary Policy on War & Peace

A conference to draw lessons from WWI and open to anyone with an interest in current issues of war and peace will take place in Ottawa later this month. The Group of 78 and Project Ploughshares (of which Canadian Yearly Meeting is a member) are hosting the conference at the Canadian War Museum September 26-28: <http://group78.org/>



Susan Stevenson (top left, with (L-R) Carol Dixon, Elaine Bishop, and Marilyn Manzer at CYM 2012. (Photo: <http://www.quaker.ca>)

Giving thanks for the life and service of Susan Stevenson

Susan Stevenson (Vernon Meeting), Mentoring Clerk of Canadian Yearly Meeting, died on August 29th, in hospital in Nelson, BC. While living with a return of cancer over the past 8 months, Susan continued to actively fulfill her roles as Presiding Clerk.

Both Susan and David, her husband, have felt greatly blessed in the many ways they have been supported through this journey. Susan possessed many gifts, including a deep groundedness, patience, her thoughtfulness, and humour. She will be deeply missed by many Friends. We hold the Stevenson family in the Light at this time.



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

<http://www.quakerservice.ca/facebook> | <http://www.quakerservice.ca/twitter>

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

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 Website: www.quakerservice.ca

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