

February, 2015

# CFSC sponsors Israeli peace activist's speaking tour



We're sending you the February E-News early because there's something exciting happening that we don't want you to miss. From January 17th to February 13th, long-time peace activist and Nobel Peace Prize nominee Jeff Halper, director of Israeli Committee Against House Demolitions, will be touring across Canada. Many Friends are volunteering to support Jeff's tour in their respective cities and CFSC is a sponsor.

Jeff is a deeply knowledgeable and balanced speaker with valuable insights about ways we can all get involved for a just peace in Palestine/Israel. A recent brief interview with Jeff touches on his background and why he has decided to launch into this tour:

http://canadatalksisraelpalestine.ca/2015/01/13/who-is-jeff-halperand-why-is-he-visiting-12-canadian-cities-in-the-dead-of-winter/

For tour dates and locations visit <u>http://www.unjppi.org</u> (scroll to the bottom of the page)

# 2015 CFSC Program Assistant deadline Feb 15

Just one month remains to get your application in to be the CFSC Program Assistant! Applicants should be 19-29 years of age and have an interest in CFSC's areas of work. This is a paid position working full time hours from May 1 to August 31, 2015. **Application deadline is February 15, 2015**: <u>http://www.quakerservice.ca/ProgramAssistant</u>

### Peace Tax time is right around the corner

A reminder to our readers who cannot in good conscience pay for Canada's military expenditures - you can submit a Peace Tax



Return when doing your taxes this year. This return expresses your conscientious objection to paying for military spending. You'll find the Peace Tax Return link on Conscience Canada's website at <a href="http://www.consciencecanada.ca">http://www.consciencecanada.ca</a>

### Ontario says "No" to Grassy Narrows mercury assessment

Friends have worked in solidarity with Grassy Narrows First Nation (located north of Kenora, ON) since the 1970s. Plans for clear-cut logging, mining, and the legacies of residential schools and mercury poisoning are among the realities faced by Grassy Narrows residents today.

A Grassy Narrows press release notes that "Ontario is rejecting the community's request for an Individual Environmental Assessment of the mercury impacts from the controversial final plan for clear-cut logging

on their homeland. Grassy Narrows is concerned that the planned clear-cut logging will harm the health of their families by raising mercury poison levels in local fish – a traditional staple." Read more at <a href="http://www.freegrassy.net">http://www.freegrassy.net</a>

## Participate in survey about the impacts of crime

Our Quakers Fostering Justice program committee participates in the Canadian Families & Corrections Network. The Network is conducting a research project and is inviting participation from those who have been or have had a family involved in crime and the justice system. Findings will be presented to the Government of Canada to inform them "about the needs of families affected by incarceration in order to develop more effective and sensitive support services and resources." Find the link to the survey at: http://www.cfcn-rcafd.org



**Canadian Friends Service Committee (Quakers)** 

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