



Canadian Friends Service Committee E-Newsletter

February, 2018

CFSC Radio & TV interviews on Indigenous rights

A federal legislative framework for the implementation of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples has taken another step forward. Bill C-262, introduced by MP Romeo Saganash, was approved at second reading and has begun work at the committee stage. CFSC, with many partners in the Coalition for the Human Rights of Indigenous Peoples, supports C-262 and urge all parliamentarians to support in a non-partisan manner. See our most recent statement here <http://quakerservice.ca/news/open-letter-mps-bill-c-262/>

CBC Radio interviewed CFSC staff Jennifer Preston (starting at 36:30 into the broadcast) <http://www.cbc.ca/listen/shows/daybreak-north/episode/15519897> and CFTX TV did as well. The interviews came as Jennifer and CFSC associate member Paul Joffe were on a whirlwind tour that saw them give presentations in Smithers, Hazelton, Terrace, and Prince Rupert, British Columbia, helping explain the significance of the *UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* for northwestern BC communities.

Penal abolition: a search for justice

Why is our criminal justice system based on punishment? Why do we harm people when we could be healing them? These questions will be explored in a CFSC-led workshop that's free and open to the public. The workshop will take place Sunday March 4th beginning at 12:45 at Friends House, 60 Lowther Ave, Toronto. Not in Toronto but interested in participating in these workshops? Contact us to ask about a workshop for your group.

Upcoming peace talks

From rising Islamophobia to climate change it seems we live in a moment of instability and dangerous polarization of beliefs. What can we do as individuals to respond to the tides of hate and to transform day-to-day conflicts? CFSC's Peace Program Coordinator Matt Legge will be speaking on this provocative question.

Matt has recently been researching these issues, linking ancient Quaker ideas about how to connect with people and bring about positive changes with the most up-to-date research findings from multiple disciplines. The talks promise to be low-key, interactive, and relevant to our day to day lives.

February 25th - Mid-Island (Nanaimo) Quaker Meeting (contact for details)

February 26th - Duncan United Church, 7 pm, free, all welcome, no registration required

February 28th - Victoria Friends Meeting (contact for details)

March 4th - Cowichan Valley Quaker Meeting (contact for details)

For details about these talks or to request a similar talk for your Meeting or group please email matt@quakerservice.ca or call 416-920-5213

QUNO Geneva Summer School

Twenty to twenty six year olds with a keen interest in international affairs and the United Nations are encouraged to join summer school at the Quaker United Nations Office in Geneva. From July 8 to 20 you can learn more about who the UN functions and what Quaker work at the UN looks like. For further details and booking forms see: <http://quaker.org.uk/events/quaker-un-summer-school-2018> **Application deadline is March 12**



Canadian Friends Service Committee (Quakers)

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

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