

Interview with Robert Massoud of Zatoun: Extending the olive branch of peace

By Judy Gilbert

CFSMC members enjoyed meeting you briefly at our October meeting, and hearing about Zatoun, the fair trade Palestinian olive oil that you distribute to support farmers and Project Hope. That has also made us curious. Can you tell us something about your background and connection with Zatoun?

Although I was born in West Jerusalem, in Israel, I am Palestinian and my family moved to Montreal when I was six. There was a lot of negative press about the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) at that time, and I could not admit to being a Palestinian at school. I knew, though, in myself that one day I would have to speak my voice to this issue.

A few years ago, that time came. I felt I did not want to do something that had not already been done, what was needed was a different approach. I checked out organizations in Montreal, Toronto and Ottawa known to be on Israel/Palestine. In March 2003, I came across a group selling 17.5-litre tins of olive oil from Palestine mostly to Palestinians living in greater Toronto area. They had many tins left unsold. I realized that this could be my way of helping to create awareness of the Palestinian situation to North Americans. I knew the oil needed to be in typical size bottles and needed a beautiful label and a brochure to tell the story. All 1,500 bottles sold out within three weeks.

Also that year, the Palestine Fair Trade Association was founded, so fair trade olive oil was becoming available.

Since 2004, our annual sales have grown from 1,500 bottles to 26,000 bottles. The greatest achievement for me is the 'connectedness' that Zatoun has brought to people. I believe there are millions of people frustrated at the lack of peace and hope. They want to act, to do something to help bring about peace, to engage in world events at a human, individual scale and with each other.

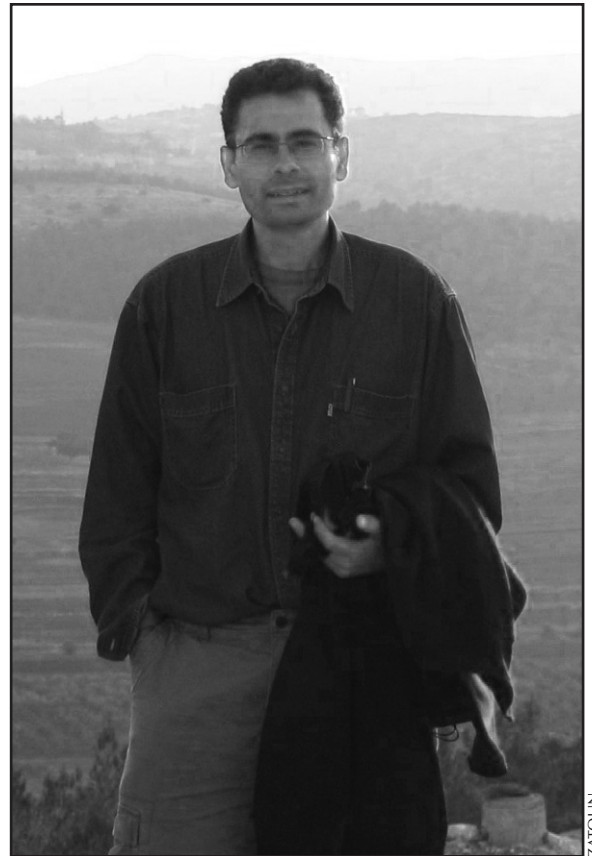
Robert, I gave my non-political sister-in-law a bottle as a gift. She looked at it and said, with awe in her voice, "This is really from there!"

Yes! The oil has two important qualities. First the oil is a real experience. People yearn for something real. The olive oil from Palestine speaks to the heart, not the intellect. If you appeal with words, your meaning can be manipulated. But olive oil? You can't lie about it. You can't attack it.

Second, the oil is shareable. People use it when they prepare food for

friends and family, or they give it as a gift, both opportunities to share information about Palestine. In addition, it has staying power—people continue to relate to the oil time after time as they use it in their kitchens.

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ZATOUN

Zatoun is a positive initiative to educate people about the situation in Israel-Palestine through the sale of products from Palestine, particularly their iconic (and tasty) olive oil. Robert Massoud (pictured) shares with QC readers about Zatoun's founding and its vision.

ANNUAL APPEAL – UPDATE

Goal: \$195,000 Status: \$175,000

Thank you for responding to this year's *Appeal*

"The Power of Love, the Path of Peace"!

For the first time in memory, our goal for undesignated donations to cover costs of CFSC's 2009-10 program was not met. CFSC is in good company with many charities and with its supporters in trying to do more with less this year. We are grateful for the response during economic times that are challenging people at home and abroad.

KEEPING UP WITH FRIENDS

Mercury at Grassy Narrows
CFSC endorsed the recent events in Toronto in support of Grassy Narrows First Nations. April 6th was the 40th anniversary of Ontario's ban on fishing on the Wabigoon River due to mercury contamination. The date also marks the release of the newly translated health study by Japanese mercury expert Dr. Harada. A public educational event was also held. On April 7th, a demonstration took place at the Ontario legislature buildings. For more information see <www.freegrassy.org>.

QUAKER CONCERN

Canadian Friends Service Committee/Secours Quaker Canadien

Quaker Concern is the newsletter of Canadian Friends Service Committee (Quakers). Published three-times a year, it features articles on CFSC projects and concerns of Friends. CFSC's **Annual Report and Appeal** is sent to all donors in late autumn.

Canadian Friends Service Committee, founded in 1931, exists to unify and expand the concerns of Friends in Canada. Our work is carried out by three program committees (Quaker Aboriginal Affairs Committee, Quakers Fostering Justice, Quaker Peace and Sustainable Communities Committee) and a special project under our care (Quaker International Affairs Programme).

Donations are received with gratitude (donations to QIAP need to be so designated). We rely on the support of individuals to carry out our work. CFSC issues tax receipts for donations over \$10.

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Scrupling - a Quaker practice to revive?

Toronto Monthly Meeting (TMM) organized a 'scrupling' session on the subject of the erosion of democracy in February. 'Scrupling' is an old Quaker practice where we listen to each other, share our concerns and examine our consciences. It is not a debate, it is not a panel discussion, it is not an argument. 18th century Friend John Woolman refers to scrupling in his Journal when describing efforts to end slaveholding amongst Friends.

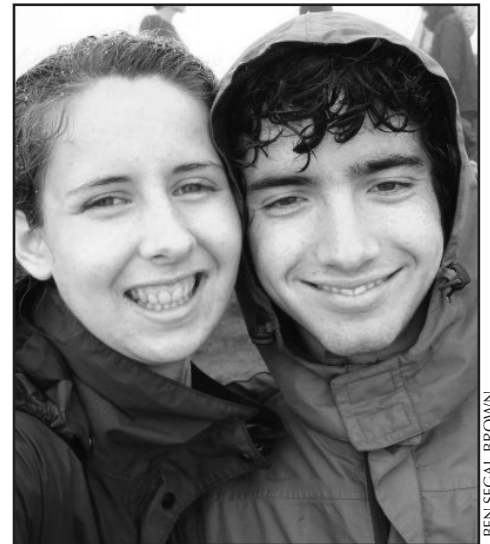
TMM decided that scrupling would be an appropriate process to follow in addressing a concern about the erosion of democracy. While it is the constitutional mandate of the Government of Canada to promote peace, order and good government in the country, it seems that actions of the present government do not represent or promote the interests of the people of Canada. Example: removing individuals and committees who are guardians of the public good such as Canadian Biotechnology Advisory Committee, Nuclear Safety Commissioner Chair Linda Keen, etc.

TMM feels that the current Federal Government is using public institutions, public money and political interference to pursue a partisan agenda. Canadians want a working Parliament where the Government in power is accountable to Parliament and where their views are articulated by and through their elected representatives.

The February 7th scrupling session provided TMM members and regular attenders with an opportunity to meet with Members of Parliament in order to have a serious but non-argumentative discussion of their concerns regarding the erosion of democracy in Canada. Most participants, including the MPs, felt that this was a helpful and constructive event, and that the discussion had yielded many good insights. Many said this might be a useful format and approach for other communities to adopt as they attempt to stem the erosion of democracy in Canada and move discussions to a level of common and urgent concern.

On April 17th, a follow-up working session was held. 14 people gathered, include representatives from CFSC and the broader, faith community. After discussing scrupling and how it could be used in our various communities, the group agreed that a 'tool kit on scrupling' would be useful and that the group would keep in touch and share further thoughts on scrupling.

CFSC will make this toolkit available to Friends through the *CFSC E-Newsletter*. To subscribe (or to receive a kit when ready), email <cfsc@cfsc.quaker.ca> or call 416-920-5213.



Rachel Singleton-Polster and Ben Segal-Brown on the 2008 Quaker Youth Pilgrimage in the UK.

The interns are coming, the interns are coming!

Rachel Singleton-Polster (Vancouver Is. MM) will serve full-time as a CFSC intern this summer in BC and Toronto. Rachel is in her final year at the Lester B. Pearson College United World College of the Pacific. Ben Segal-Brown (Ottawa MM) will serve half-time as an intern in Ottawa. Ben is completing his first year of studies in the Public Affairs and Policy Management program at Carleton University. In addition, Lana Robinson, also Vancouver Is. MM, will be interning with the Quaker International Affairs Program as a part of her Global Studies degree program at University of Victoria. Welcome all!

20th Anniversary of landmark decision: Lubicon youth speak to United Nations

By Jennifer Preston

March 26th, 2010 marked the 20th anniversary of a landmark decision by the UN Human Rights Committee. In 1990, it ruled against Canada, in favour of the Lubicon Cree, affirming that the resource development that had been carried out on Lubicon land violated the human rights of the Lubicon people. The Committee indicated that “historical inequities... and certain more recent developments... threaten the way of life and culture of the Lubicon Lake Band and... so long as they continue”. These factors constitute a violation of the right to culture as protected by the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

With this ruling, the international system established a milestone in recognizing the critical importance of land to Indigenous Peoples’ enjoyment of their collective and individual human rights. The decision contributed to the evolution of international human rights standards which led to the adoption *UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* in September 2007.

To mark the anniversary of this landmark UNHRC decision, CFSC was honoured to partner with Amnesty International Canada, and KAIROS: Canadian Ecumenical Justice Initiatives on a trip to New York City with 3 Lubicon youth, Leticia Gladue, Daphne Ominayak and Dawn Seeseequon, ages 15, 16, and 17, respectively. These young women won an essay contest in their school, writing on what human rights means to them. They were selected to travel to NYC to meet with members of the Human Rights Committee, who were meeting the week of the anniversary.

During our four days in NYC, there were a wide variety of events, in addition to the briefing with the Committee. We held a reception to honour the Lubicon youth at Quaker House, attended by NY-based non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and senior diplomatic representatives



Lubicon Cree youth, Daphne Ominayak, Leticia Gladue and Dawn Seeseequon meet with members of the UN Human Rights Committee to discuss the ongoing violations of the human rights of their people.

of States. The Secretariat of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues hosted us at their offices, as did the Canadian Mission to the UN. The young women were special guests on an Indigenous radio show, and the American Indian Community House held an event with the screening of the Amnesty film, “Our Land, My People”. All of this contributed to a rich and full week and provided many opportunities for these youth to speak of the conditions where they live—where they do not have running water, for example—and for people to hear them and understand the ongoing violations to their human rights.

They spoke from their hearts about their lives, and life in their community of Little Buffalo. Dawn read excerpts from her winning essay, describing how the way life has changed and the lack of game on her mother and grandmother’s trapline. She quietly looked up and noted that her culture was fading away and soon would be no more. More than could ever be possible for diplomats or experienced NGO representatives, these strong young ambassadors touched all who they encountered, reminding us why we do our work, and the importance of making international policy meaningful on the ground in Indigenous communities. Their experiences are very real. They deserved respect and attention received from UN and government

officials, as well as from all the people who came out to meet them and hear their stories.

It is unconscionable that inequitable policies and unresolved disputes are holding hostage the lives and futures of these adolescents and their people. Amnesty International has launched a major campaign in solidarity with the Lubicon. The details are at: <www.amnesty.ca/lubicon>. It is utterly unacceptable that twenty years after this UN ruling, the life of the Lubicon people has, if anything, become more precarious.

According to research by Amnesty International, five times more oil and gas installations have been built on Lubicon land than there are Lubicon people. An enormous pipeline is being built across Lubicon territory and the province of Alberta has leased vast areas of Lubicon land for tar sands development. These decisions are being made with inadequate consideration of the rights of the Lubicon or the impacts that this major development will have on the survival and well-being of the Lubicon people.

CFSC joined many other organizations in releasing a statement calling on the Government of Canada to engage in good faith negotiations on all outstanding issues in the Lubicon land dispute. This should be based on the fulfillment of Canada’s obligations

Continued on page 6

Living an urban Peace Testimony

By Meredith Egan

Nudging Main Street, the CPR tracks and downtown Winnipeg, nestled by the waters of the Red River is North Point Douglas. Here, the oldest inner city neighbourhood in Winnipeg seeks community and safety while challenged by poverty, drugs, gangs and violence. Roughly 40% of the area's population of 2200 self-identify as Aboriginal, Métis or Inuit. Less than half of the population has finished high school. Unemployment hovers around 20%.

Elaine Bishop, a Quaker and long time peace activist (including having served as Coordinator of CFSC), makes North Point Douglas home, with an abiding commitment to urban peace building. She speaks of her neighbours with passion and affection, of their desire for meaningful relationships that are life affirming. She says she feels called to "live out an urban Peace Testimony" in very concrete ways.

Elaine is the Executive Director of the North Point Douglas Women's Centre, a community-based agency that exists "to create opportunities for women in North Point Douglas to develop their

potential and to engage fully as citizens in the neighbourhood and in the broader community". It creates its vision, "A safe, healthy, vibrant community for women and their families in North Point Douglas", through practical assistance like a drop-in centre for meeting basic needs, counseling, street-level youth outreach and a safety program that includes community gardening. Struggles for resources and other practical concerns season the day-to-day challenges of staff and participants.

Living out an urban Peace Testimony is difficult and stressful. Elaine does this with grace and compassion. She understands that violence and harm stem from social contexts. The Women's Centre is working to create opportunities to learn about surviving harm and resiliency, peace education, and community development to help neighbours lift one another up as they create a safe,



MEREDITH EGAN

Wilma Derksen (left) of Mennonite Central Committee's Victims Voice Program and Elaine Bishop (right) (Member of Winnipeg Allowed Meeting and Executive Director of North Point Douglas Women's Centre) with ceramic puzzle pieces that, when placed together, form a beautiful face. The puzzle was used to facilitate a conversation about how the harm following crime can shatter, and how with support and compassion, resilience can emerge to help a person 'figure out the puzzle' of their lives. CFSC's Quakers Fostering Justice program helped host the conversation held recently at NPDWC in Winnipeg.

compassionate and sustainable neighbourhood. CFSC's Quakers Fostering Justice program is honoured to support Elaine and the work at the Women's Centre through financial and practical assistance, including offering workshops.

Friends' World Consultation: The times, t

In March 2010, Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC) issued an invitation to Friends globally to participate in a worldwide Friends Consultation on Global Change. The Consultation focuses on "how God's love, justice, peace, and the integrity of creation can be made visible through Friends' responses to changes and challenges facing the world today."

The purpose of the Consultation is the discernment of how Friends are responding to global change (social, environmental, economic); the method is for Friends to meet in "clusters" to worship and to respond to the same six queries that focus on our experience and

our faith. For example, how are we affected by change? How does our faith sustain us? How are our lives contributing to the causes of positive and adverse changes in the world today? How might we discern what special message Friends have to offer to each other and to the world at large?

Virginia Dawson, one of Canadian Yearly Meeting's Representatives to FWCC, says, "Global change is one of the most important issues that the world is having to deal with. It does seem that a lot of the world is closing its eyes and denying it. If we can be more informed about the kind of change that is happening we have a better chance of responding in a positive way. What is

happening – climate change, economic and social change - has definite implications for the peace testimony, with the potential for violent conflict."

The impacts of 'global change' are reflected in the work that Canadian Friends Service Committee is doing around the world. For instance, resource extraction is a root cause of conflict and human rights abuses in DR Congo and with Indigenous Peoples in many countries. Together with KAIROS, we have been raising awareness of the many threats of climate change to the well-being of Creation.

The Consultation process will span two years and has four steps:

A new voice for restorative justice in Canada?

By Meredith Egan

Would there be value in having a national voice for restorative justice in Canada? What could that value be? Over 100 people gathered in Winnipeg on March 22-23 to answer these questions at the inaugural meeting of an organization currently called the Canadian Restorative Justice Consortium. For two days, we met and listened to one another's ideas and concerns regarding potential goals, structure and governance for such an organization and what 'membership' might look like. Meredith Egan, Program Coordinator of CFSC's Quakers Fostering Justice program, and Elaine Bishop, of Prairie Monthly Meeting, both participated.

The first documented legal case of restorative justice in Canada happened in 1974 (*The Elmira Story*¹). Restorative approaches focusing on healing harms, making restitution and holding individuals and communities accountable after a crime has been committed, of course have been used for thousands of years by peoples from all cultures. For over 35 years individuals, community agencies and NGOs in

Canada have been designing and implementing restorative programming in a multitude of diverse, creative and meaningful ways and with positive effects. Some operate only in response to legal charges. Others take referrals from a variety of sources – schools, bylaw enforcement, social services agencies, and self-referrals. Some work with youth, others with first-time offenders. Some programs focus on serious violent offence mediation after federal prison time has been served. All of the agencies or programs adapt to local needs, are self-regulated, self-defined and self-governed.

Two years ago, after many conversations and cups of tea, a group of practitioners, government officials and academics asked how to encourage the expansion of restorative justice throughout Canada. They consulted. They asked for input from coast to coast. The next step was to meet face-to-face.

The discussion was lively and respectful. There was clarity on a few points. A national organization would facilitate networking and sharing of resources and ideas. It would be accessible and include anyone who wanted to participate. A consensus

model of decision-making would best suit restorative justice ideals. Public education and communication with government may become primary roles as well. It would not, as some participants feared, regulate, certify or sanction programs, models or training. The Steering Committee that pulled the Winnipeg meeting together will prepare a report of the gathering and recruit others to help planning next stages. The Committee will bring their ideas to share at a Restorative Justice Week symposium to be held in November 2010. It will be interesting to see the evolution of this organization and to celebrate having been present at its beginning!

Meredith Egan is the Program Coordinator of the Quakers Fostering Justice Program Committee of CFSC. She is a member of Vancouver Monthly Meeting. On May 29th, she will be visiting Vancouver Island Monthly Meeting to offer the workshop "What Matters in the Aftermath of Crime?" at the Fern Street Meeting House (1831 Fern Street, Victoria, BC) at 2 pm (everyone welcome).

1. See *From Scoundrel to Scholar – The Russ Kelly Story*, written by Russ Kelly (a personal account of this case). Available from Russ Kelly Publishing, 2006: rdkelly@sympatico.ca

They are a changin' – what canst thou say?

1. Local and Regional Cluster Gatherings, 2010 and 2011
2. Cluster Deepening, late 2010 to 2011
3. World Consultation, late 2011
4. Friends World Conference, Kenya, mid-2012

Responses from Local and Regional Clusters will be sent to FWCC. A Listening Committee will then enter a discernment and dialogue process of deepening and integrating the Cluster outcomes. This Committee will discern the essential messages of each Cluster and integrate the common threads and themes. These will be compiled as a document for the World Consultation (it may be posted for further response in an "open space"

forum on the FWCC website).

Representatives of Clusters will be selected to attend the Consultation, along with Friends-at-large and an FWCC team. Representatives of Clusters will be invited on a Section basis to ensure that all Friends' traditions and regions are represented, as not every Cluster can be represented. Friends-at-large will be composed of specialist Friends, including theologians and Friends who are experts in areas of scholarship connected with this concern. The FWCC Team will consist of the FWCC Global Change Steering Committee which enables this process and a

support team including translators.

The purpose of the World Consultation will be to discern, if possible, what Friends voice worldwide on global change may be and, if possible, to arrive at unity on a document to submit to the Friends World Conference in Kenya in 2012.

To get involved, including establishing and running a Cluster, contact Samuel Mahaffy, FWCC Global Change Coordinator, at <samuel@fwccglobalchange.org> (mail: FWCC.173 Euston Road. London NW1 2AX. UK) or visit the website: <www.fwccglobalchange.org>.

(This article was drawn from resources available on the FWCC Global Change website).

INTERVIEW

Continued from page 1

The situation in Israel/Palestine and Canada's role is very distressing to many of us. How do you maintain hope in these circumstances?

I know. It is something like watching a train wreck, isn't it? You can't take your eyes off it. And there are so many layers. I have found it best to observe the phenomenon and then to ask questions. The right questions can cut through to the truth.

With regard to hope, I trust that, if I focus on doing the right thing, the outcome will follow.

For the present, though, you have to figure out what you can do, without expectations. You can't control outcomes, but you can control your own actions. Your reward is in the activity.

What is in the future for Zatoun?

Our next project is opening a centre called Beit Zatoun¹ (512 Markham St, Toronto). Until now Zatoun has been mostly virtual, and for some time I have felt that we need to have a visible presence in the community. Beit Zatoun can give us that. Operated jointly by Project Hope and Zatoun, it is a storefront for Zatoun projects, an administrative centre, and most significantly, it is an artistic and cultural space for things Palestine, Middle East and Peace. It is a

1. "Beit" means house in both Arabic and Hebrew.

LUBICON

Continued from page 3

under domestic and international law. The statement also calls on both the federal and provincial governments to ensure that until such a resolution is reached, urgent measures must be taken to prevent further erosion of the rights of the Lubicon and reduce hardship and suffering among the Lubicon people. No resource development activities should be permitted anywhere in the disputed land except with the free, prior and informed consent of the Lubicon people, in accordance with international human rights standards. The full text of the statement is

community centre based on consciousness and activism - very exciting!

Finally, Robert, what more can we do to support Palestinians?

Inform yourself - go to independent news sources on the Internet. Share your knowledge with family and friends. Speak up when you hear ignorant statements about Islam or Palestinians. Buy Palestinian products when you can to support the economy. Sponsor a small organization in Palestine or link up with a group that does. Go on an olive harvest tour in the West Bank, or help support a summer exchange with students. Continue to talk to politicians—local, municipal, or federal.

And, if you are in the Toronto area, join us at Beit Zatoun! Visit us at <www.beitzatoun.org> - all our events are listed.

Judy Gilbert is a member of Toronto Meeting and on the Board of CFSC; she serves on the Quaker Peace and Sustainable Communities program committee. Anyone can become a promoter of Zatoun products - visit <www.zatoun.com>. The International Middle East Media Center news service <www.imemc.org>, a CFSC project, is a valuable source for information about Israel-Palestine.

available at <<http://www.tinyurl.com/2a6xvpm>>.

We will continue to work to be a compassionate force for good for those who have been harmed by crime, encouraging their meaningful participation and supporting their needs.

Jennifer Preston is the Program Coordinator for the Quaker Aboriginal Affairs Committee of CFSC and a member of Hamilton Monthly Meeting. In addition to all the formal meetings, she enjoyed accompanying Daphne, Dawn and Leticia shopping in Manhattan.

PLANNED GIVING



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For more information, or to receive our *Planned Giving Kit*, contact Jennifer or Jane Orion at 416-920-5213, or <cfsc-office@quaker.ca>

Right relationship: Giving voice to the commons

By Carol Dixon

The 2009 Nobel Prize for Economic Governance was awarded to Elinor Ostrom for her long-time work on the commons and collective governance. In the midst of the recent financial crisis, this award was recognition of her important contribution in demonstrating how many communities have sustainably governed and preserved vulnerable resources without relying on private property or government intervention. This honour was also an affirmation of the decision that the Quaker International Affairs Programme (QIAP) made in 2007 to refocus our work within the context of the commons.

Following this decision, QIAP undertook an extensive scoping process to learn more about the varieties of commons that exist, their governance and to build relationships with those involved in commons issues. In a nutshell, we learned that commons issues were about complex relationships and that there is no blueprint to guide the way to successful governance. We came to understand that “a commons approach would pay more attention to context and a myriad of inter-connections (e.g. relationships between environmental conditions, local communities, power imbalances) and deliberative processes.” We came to see the commons approach as profoundly holistic and as a way to open up new ways of seeing, understanding, and thinking in considering and addressing complex problems.

Figuring out what the commons is was challenging, as there are a range of understandings, definitions and terms. Terms such as ‘a common pool resource’, ‘a public good’, ‘a customary system’, ‘a publicly owned asset’, ‘a commons’ and ‘a private good’ are not always clearly understood or agreed upon and may be used interchangeably and inconsistently. For QIAP, a general sense emerged that the term ‘commons’ was used to define “a



Members of the Quaker International Affairs Program Committee and Canadian and international participants in last summer’s exploratory seminar on the commons gather around the weaving that we created over the weekend as a visual expression of our exploration of the meaning and importance of commons to communities globally.

JANET ROSS

resource shared by a group where the resource is vulnerable to being captured (enclosure) and liable to overuse or other problems that cannot be overcome without collective management and protection in order to sustain it.”

Based on the information gathered, the QIAP Committee discerned that the focus of the new work on the commons would be “giving voice to the commons” by “supporting people who are reclaiming, securing, strengthening and protecting the commons.” QIAP is in the midst of developing and implementing a number of activities in this new area of work such as information resources, dialogues, and a portable loom that will be used as an educational tool about the commons. Over the past several months, at their request, QIAP has also been working with representatives of Indigenous organizations and civil society organizations in Canada and other parts of the world on issues related to current negotiations for an international regime on ‘Access and Benefit-sharing’ of genetic resources at the UN Convention on Biological

Diversity. These negotiations are at a critical turning point and the international regime has many implications for many commons, the recognition of Indigenous peoples and their rights, traditional knowledge, and biodiversity.

Recent economic instability has led to the loss of a number of philanthropic funding agencies that might have been a good match for the work of QIAP. Financial instability, combined with the transition period to the new work on the commons, has meant that QIAP’s finances are very uncertain and we continue to secure new funding.

QIAP is accountable to Canadian Yearly Meeting through Canadian Friends Service Committee. If you are able to include QIAP in your charitable giving, information about QIAP and how to financially support it can be found at QIAP’s website <www.qiap.ca> or by calling (613) 231-7311.

Carol Dixon is the Clerk of the QIAP Committee, a member of Ottawa Monthly Meeting and has served as Clerk of CFSC.

FRIENDS ON THE MOVE

Lynne Phillips (Vancouver Island MM), **Monica Walters-Field** (Toronto MM) and CFSC staff **Jennifer**

Preston attended the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues in New York April 19-30. Working with CFSC partners from around the world, they monitored the sessions as well as hosted side events and meet with government representatives.

Upon her return to Bududa, eastern Uganda in January, **Barbara Wybar** (CFSC volunteer) was delighted to learn the results of the Children of Peace students who took the primary school leaving exam: 9 of the 13 candidates passed, a rate equal to the

national average, in spite of the disadvantaged background of these children. The Children of Peace is a program to accompany orphans who are placed in local foster homes.

Dale Dewar (CFSC volunteer, Prairie MM) is back from a "Care to Care" visit to Kurdistan province of Iraq, also with encouraging results. The newly appointed Minister of Health has agreed to support three more visits of the "Care to Care" obstetrical training team. While there, Dale and her team gave a shortened "taster" course to 20 general practitioners and 8 obstetricians in Duhok. Two local

doctors, who had attended previous training sessions, assisted. This CFSC partnership project receives the financial support of CIDA and the Saskatchewan Council for International Cooperation.

Meredith Egan (CFSC staff) will attend the second gathering on Victims' Pastoral Care, hosted by the Church Council on Justice and Corrections, in Montreal in May. This project encourages churches to acknowledge the victims of crime in their midst, and rise to meet their pastoral needs. For more information on public events (May 11th), check <www.cccj.ca>.



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