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Canadian Friends Service Committee **E-Newsletter**



CFSC members and staff in front of Toronto Friends House, 2019

Please donate now to support justice and peace

We couldn't achieve so many successes without incredible donors, partners, volunteers, and staff. All of this work is made possible by individuals who care about building a more just and peaceful world. Please be among them. [Make your 2019 donation today](#). All donations over \$10 made before

the end of the month will get a 2019 tax receipt.

BC unanimously adopts Indigenous peoples' human rights legislation

"Today, we have made history," noted Scott Fraser, Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation; Regional Chief Terry Teegee, BC Assembly of First Nations; Cheryl Casimer, First Nations Summit; Grand Chief Stewart Phillip, Union of BC Indian Chiefs; and Adam Olsen, MLA for Saanich North and the Islands and member of Tsartlip First Nation, in a joint statement.

"British Columbia is the first province in Canada to enshrine the human rights of Indigenous peoples in law. Bill 41, the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples act, passed unanimously on Tuesday, Nov. 26, 2019."

"The legislation establishes the [*United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*](#) as the foundational framework for reconciliation in B.C., as called for by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. The provincial government developed Bill 41 in collaboration with the First Nations Leadership Council, which was acting on the direction of First Nations leaders throughout the province."

CFSC has been championing the full implementation of the *UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* since its adoption in 2007. The unanimous passing of Bill 41 is excellent news and sets a precedent that we and our partners hope other provinces and the federal government will now follow. Read our joint statement released prior to the successful adoption of Bill 41 to learn more about its significance:

<https://quakerservice.ca/news/proposed-legislation-a-crucial-step-toward-reconciliation-in-bc>

Western Canada tour a success!

Thank you to everyone who came out to hear Peace Program Coordinator Matt Legge speak about a few of the findings and tips from CFSC's book [*Are We Done Fighting? Building Understanding in a World of Hate and Division*](#).

A special thank you to everyone who helped to organize events, billet Matt, and drive him to the different destinations on the tour: Keira, Mavis, Linda, Ion, Lana, Keith, Catherine, Imogene, Trevor, Tamara, Graeme, Lesley, Alison, Kathy, Ken, Robert, Barb, and the staff of New Society Publishers!

Read an article from The Omega about the talk Matt gave in

Kamloops: <http://truomega.ca/2019/11/27/kamloops-community-gathers-to-learn-how-to-bring-back-the-peace/>

Find out about upcoming talks in Orillia, Peterborough, Toronto and elsewhere via our new events calendar: <https://quakerservice.ca/events>

If you'd like to invite Matt to give a brief presentation of facilitate a longer workshop please feel free to be in touch.

Also a heads up that New Society Publishers is selling [Are We Done Fighting?](https://newsociety.com/Books/A/Are-We-Done-Fighting) for **50% off** until Dec 7 by using the coupon code **CHEER50** at checkout: <https://newsociety.com/Books/A/Are-We-Done-Fighting>. All proceeds CFSC gets from sales go directly to our peace and social justice work.



Quaker United Nations Summer School

CFSC is a long-time supporter of Quaker work at the United Nations in both New York and Geneva. People ages 20-26 of all faith backgrounds and nationalities will be gathering in July in Geneva for the Quaker United Nations Summer School.

The Summer School offers a group of 25 youth the chance to learn about Quaker work at the international level, and to witness the United Nations in action over the course of two weeks. The program is focused on Peace, Disarmament, Human Rights, Migration, Sustainable and Just Economic Systems, and Climate Change.

Participants will be able to observe UN sessions, meet and hear from civil society leaders, and engage in facilitated dialogue with like-minded peers. The deadline for applications is January 15, 2020. Application and reference forms are available at: <https://quno.org/quaker-united-nations->

[summer-school](#)

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