



Canadian Friends Service Committee

E-Newsletter



Mazrak camp, north-west Yemen, is home to thousands of Yemenis displaced by war. Photo: CC-BY IRIN Photos



Calling on Canada to be peaceful

For more than a decade Friends in many countries were among the countless people working for a new way to regulate the shady international arms trade. In an historic moment, Canada finally acceded to the new international Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) in 2019.

On the one-year anniversary of this important occasion, Canadian civil society groups joined in expressing dismay that Canada, in flagrant disregard for the purpose of the ATT, continues to sell arms to one of the worst human rights violators in the world: Saudi Arabia.

A panel of UN experts recently [said](#) that Canada is fueling the brutal war in Yemen, where a Saudi-led coalition appears to have committed war crimes:

<https://quakerservice.ca/StopArmingSaudi>

CFSC also joined in calling on Canada to [help rid the world of nuclear weapons](#).

We are also supporting a campaign asking that Canada not spend \$19 billion dollars on new fighter jets (a figure that does not include the cost to run or maintain them or harms to the environment) and instead invest in a green and just recovery from COVID-19. You can take part in this campaign by [writing a letter here](#) if led.



The vote to adopt the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, September 13, 2007. Photo: Stefan Disko



Anniversary of the global adoption of the *UN Declaration*

On the 13th anniversary of the adoption of the *UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*, CFSC was part of a joint statement explaining the *Declaration* and calling for its urgent implementation in Canada.

The statement shares that the *Declaration* does not create new rights. It affirms the pre-existing, inherent human rights of Indigenous peoples, which constitute the “minimum standards for the survival, dignity and well-being of the Indigenous peoples” globally. Implementation of the *Declaration*’s minimum standards within Canada is long overdue. Read the full statement to learn more: <https://quakerservice.ca/UNDeclaration13>



Welcome Dalya and Stacy!

It isn't an easy time to start a new job while staff all have to work remotely due to COVID-19, but we're thrilled to announce that CFSC has two new members of our small staff team to fill the positions of CFSC Administrator and Finance Assistant!

Our new Administrator, Dalya Eidda (left) was born and raised in Ramallah, Palestine, and attended the Ramallah Friends Schools from kindergarten until graduation, except for her sophomore year of high school when she was an exchange student at the Westtown School in Pennsylvania.

In 2012, Dalya moved to Toronto to attend the University of Toronto, where she received an Honours Bachelor of Arts with a combined specialist in history and political science and a minor in women and gender studies. Dalya has been around Quakerism her whole life and has a deep admiration for Quaker values and the service projects that CFSC is committed to. Outside of work, Dalya spends her time practicing yoga, reading, cycling, and organizing for social justice. Dalya is taking over the staff duties formerly performed by Tasmin Rajotte. She can be reached at dalya@quakerservice.ca

Stacy Halloran (right) was born and raised in Eastern Ontario, and attended Queen's University. Her career has included stints at the Ontario Ministry of Health, and Glenn Gould Studio at the CBC. She has been a volunteer director, stage manager, theatre technician, and producer since joining the Alumnae Theatre (established by women in 1918 in response to social injustice) in the mid-nineties. For fun, when not doing theatre, Stacy knits. Stacy is serving as CFSC Finance Assistant while Megan Shaw is on maternity leave. She can be reached at stacy@quakerservice.ca

International Day of PEACE



Over 170 groups ask UN member states to recommit to peace

On September 21 (International Peace Day) over 170 organizations delivered a letter to every country's mission at the United Nations. The message was this: peace is under threat. The letter calls for integrating peace considerations into responses to COVID-19, prioritizing inclusion in analysis and action, making space for building peace, and reaffirming multilateralism and international norms to safeguard the most vulnerable: <https://quakerservice.ca/PeaceDay2020>
