



QUAKERS
Canadian Friends
Service Committee

Election Kit 2021



2021 Federal Election Kit Launched

An election has been called for September 20. Canadian Friends Service Committee has released a new kit to help you ask candidates informed questions about the issues we work on. You can read the kit at <https://quakerservice.ca/2021Election> or [download it in PDF](#) to make it easier to print and share.

Penal Abolition 2021

1981 Minute

... prisons are a destructive and expensive failure as a response to crime. We are, therefore, turning our efforts to reform prisons to efforts to replace them with non-punitive, life-affirming and reconciling responses.

\$2.5 Billion

The financial cost of the Canadian Prison System per year

"Prisons
perpetuate
trauma"

- Dr. Gabor Maté -

1981 Minute

The prison system is both a cause and a result of violence and social injustice. Throughout history, the majority of prisoners have been the powerless and the oppressed. We are increasingly clear that the **imprisonment of human beings**, like their enslavement, is inherently immoral and is as destructive to the cagers as the caged.



This infographic explains why we need to abolish prisons

CFSC developed an infographic for Prisoners' Justice Day (August 10th) explaining why Canada needs to abolish prisons. Have a look: <https://quakerservice.ca/AbolishPrisons>

The infographic is ideal for sharing on [Twitter](#) or [Facebook](#).

CFSC is particularly concerned that when parents are incarcerated, children's rights are often ignored. More than 100 organizations, including CFSC, have provided evidence to Canada about on-going children's rights issues.

In August the Canadian Coalition for the Rights of Children (CCRC), which includes CFSC and many other organizations, sent an [open letter](#) noting a pattern within the government of Canada of "blaming other jurisdictions instead of taking seriously the duties we all share to create conditions where children can realize their full potential..."



Welcoming our new Finance Assistant, Priscila!

CFSC is excited to welcome Priscila Recinos to our small staff team. Priscila studied Business at Mohawk College. She has many years of financial and office administration experience in government, for-profit, and nonprofit settings, including with the Elizabeth Fry Society of Southern Ontario. You can reach her at priscila@quakerservice.ca.

Priscila is taking over for Megan Shaw, who decided not to return to CFSC after her maternity leave. We wish Megan all the best in her future endeavours.

Arms production to peaceful green production!

We recognize that the end of Canadian arms exports to Saudi Arabia will **impact workers in the arms industry**. We urge the government to work with trade unions to develop a plan that **secures the livelihoods** of those who would be impacted. Such a plan would include providing government support for the **conversion of arms manufacturing facilities** from arms production to peaceful, green production.

#StopArmingSaudi #YemenCantWait





Canada: Stop arming Saudi Arabia

A new tool from the Canada-wide Peace and Justice Network (of which CFSC is a founding member) makes it easy for Canadians to email their Members of Parliament to ask that Canada 1) stop arming Saudi Arabia and 2) support factories to convert from deadly weapons production to peaceful green production so that jobs aren't lost:

<https://peaceandjusticenetwork.ca/emailyourmp/>

“

My attitudes changed. Be open to that happening to you.”

— Are We Done Fighting? workshop participant (from anonymous feedback survey)

**The next six-week-long
Are We Done Fighting? workshop
series begins
Tuesday, September 14th**

from 10:30am - 12pm Eastern

Learn more and register at quakerservice.ca/register



Popular workshop series starts again Sep 14

The tenth offering of our popular peace-skill-building workshop series Are We Done Fighting? begins on September 14. Sessions will be on Tuesdays from 10:30 am to noon Eastern over six consecutive weeks.

A few spaces remain. Please help us in spreading the word and inviting people who might be interested in this free interactive learning opportunity! More details and registration at <https://quakerservice.ca/register>

If this timing does not work for you but you would like to participate, we plan to offer the series again on Wednesday evenings. We need 10 more registrants before scheduling that. You can get on the waitlist for Wednesdays using the same link

<https://quakerservice.ca/register>