Canadian Friends Service Committee
E-Newsletter

RECOGNIZING THE
LIFE FORCES THAT
SUSTAIN US

BRENDA GUNN

What does sustainability mean to you? Advice for living our responsibilities

What does sustainability mean to you? Advice for living our responsibilities is a series of inspiring short videos produced by Katsi'tsakwas Ellen Gabriel for the Coalition for the Human Rights of Indigenous Peoples (of which CFSC is an active member).

The videos feature Indigenous experts answering questions and telling stories to explain their understandings of sustainability. For many speakers, what sustainability

means to them is closely linked to Indigenous practices and to human rights.

Pick a short video that interests you and [have a look](#)!

Battery powered tea light spell out 1.5 C at candlelight vigil in Toronto, 2021.

Join in candlelight vigils for the climate crisis

Between Nov 6-18, world leaders will gather at the COP27 conference to consider their plans to address the climate crisis. Canada has yet to reduce national emissions. Our government continues to approve and subsidize new fossil fuel infrastructure.
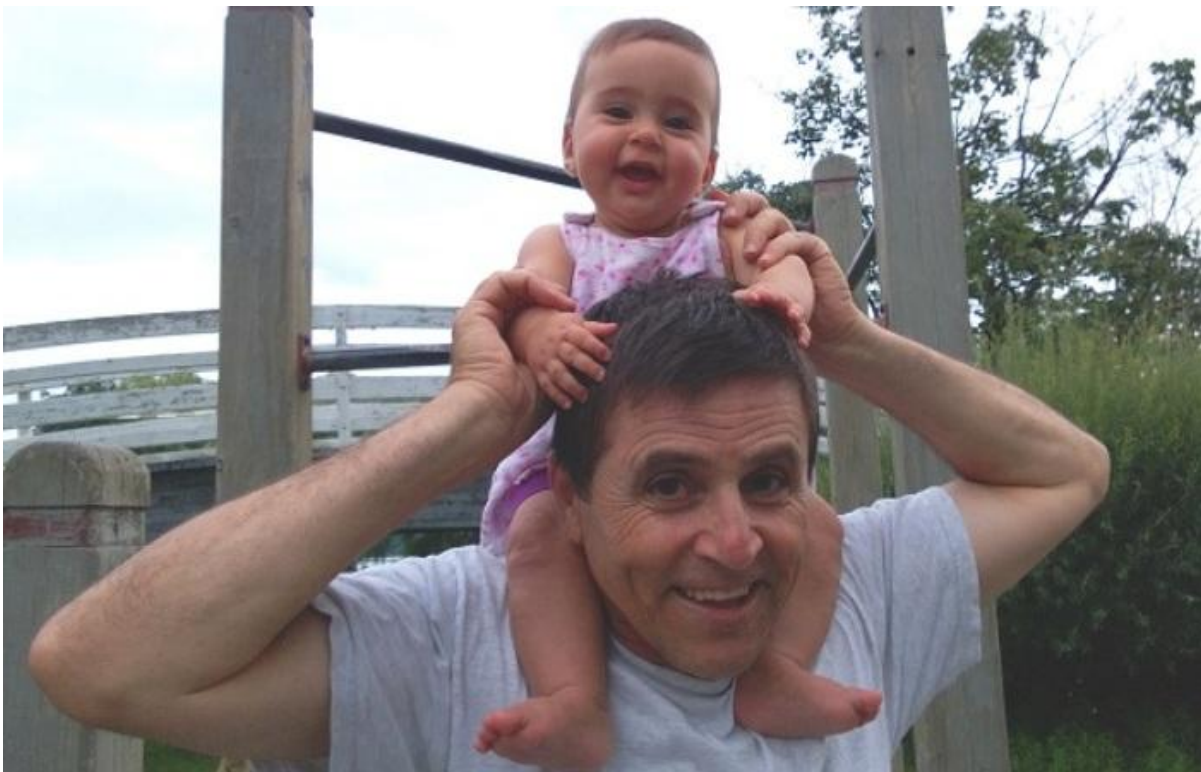
In recognition of the need for change, members of ClimateFast and For the Love of Creation invite groups across Canada to host candlelight vigils in their own communities on the weekend of November 11-13. This will be a time to reflect and share our love for

our planet, our concern for ourselves and our fellow human beings at risk from climate change, and our hopes for truly transformative action to happen at COP and through each other.

This invitation coincides with and complements the call for a Global Day of Action on November 12. Candlelight vigils are already being planned in several places. You are invited to be part of this!

People are encouraged to use their local events to highlight local climate-related issues that are important to them, as well as international issues such as support for a Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty, an initiative that Toronto and Montreal Quaker Meetings have endorsed.

If you or your group is interested in hosting a vigil, please contact Lyn Adamson lyn.adamson9@gmail.com to add your event details to the national list. Check here for the list.

Hassan Diab

CFSC again raises deep concerns over treatment of Hassan Diab

There are multiple pieces of evidence suggesting that Hassan Diab was not responsible

for the crime he's been accused of committing more than 40 years ago. Yet Canada extradited him to France anyway, where he was incarcerated in deplorable conditions for more than three years. He was then cleared by French investigative judges of the accusations against him. He was released to return to Canada.

In 2018 Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said, "For Hassan Diab, we have to recognize first of all that what happened to him never should have happened[…] and make sure that it never happens again."

Yet Hassan's ordeal is still not over. Incredibly, apparently without new evidence, France has set an April 2023 date to try Hassan, more than five years after his return to Canada. CFSC has once again spoken out in support of Hassan. See our open letter.

Please consider writing your own letter and signing and sharing this petition.

Canadian Friends visit Samson Cree Nation and later commit to take action with deep reconciliation and decolonization efforts, 2016.

Quaker queries to boost your insight and clarity about reconciliation

Quakers have a tradition of using queries to provoke spiritual reflection. These are usually simple questions used to stay grounded and to gain deeper insights. Queries promote work on oneself. They can help a person to keep expressing their positive values during their day to day life.

In 2018 CFSC was designated to take the lead in drafting queries on our relationship with Indigenous peoples. Quaker Meetings are encouraged to use the draft Queries on Relationship with Indigenous Peoples. Any non-Indigenous person, whether Quaker or not, may find these queries helpful in prompting reflection on their knowledge and actions for reconciliation. Read the queries.