



Canadian Friends Service Committee E-Newsletter

THROUGH THE BARS: MAKING CONNECTIONS



Event video: How to correspond with people in jails

We're pleased to share this video of a virtual event held by Canadian Friends Service Committee (the national peace and social justice agency of Quakers in Canada) and WriteOn! (an all volunteer group that supports people in prisons and jails through correspondence).

The hour-long video was recorded in December 2022 and features two presentations. The speakers explain the history of correspondence with people in prisons and jails, why

correspondence matters both for those inside jails and those on the outside, and how you can get involved. [Have a look.](#)

P.S. You can [follow us on YouTube](#) to be the first to know when we release great peace and social justice videos.



Katsi'tsakwas Ellen Gabriel at Doc NYC film festival.

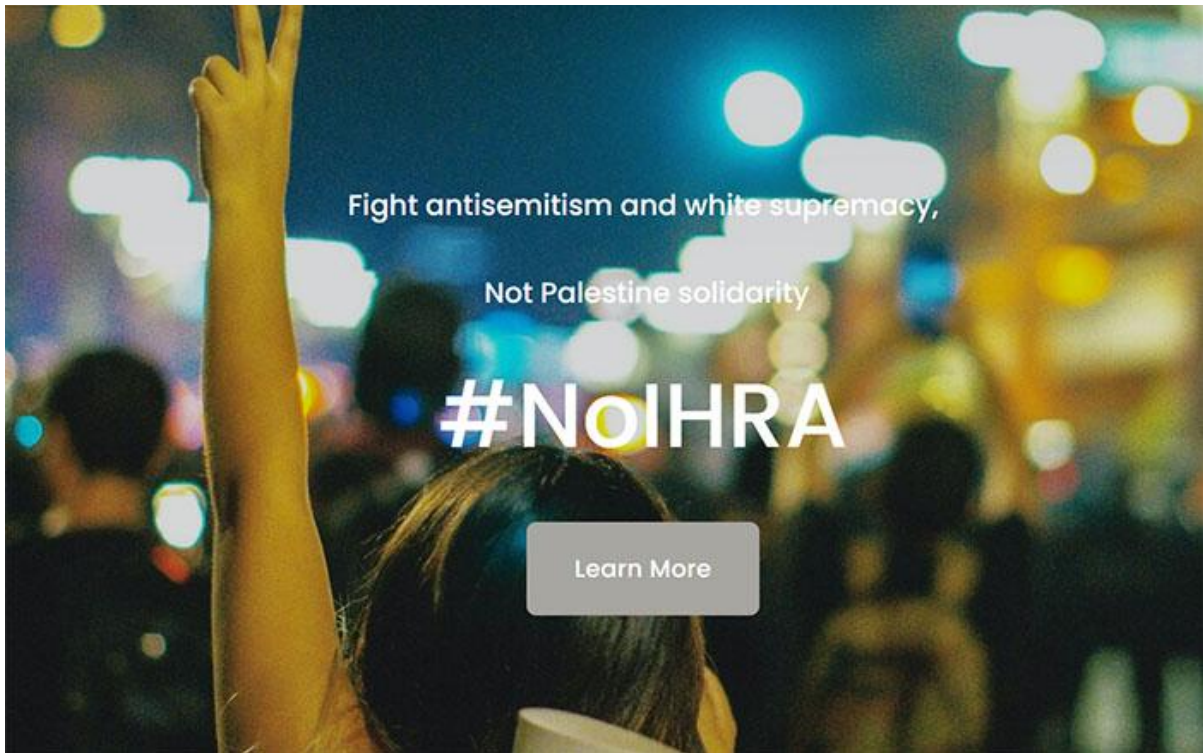


Katsi'tsakwas Ellen Gabriel winning film awards

Amazing news from one of our long-time partners, Katsi'tsakwas Ellen Gabriel: Her documentary, *Kanàtenhs: When the Pine Needles Fall*, has achieved several major awards!

The honours include being Selected at the American Indian Film Festival 2022, an Honorable Mention at the Tokyo Film Awards 2022, and an award winner at the LA Independent Women Film Awards 2022, the Melbourne Independent Film Festival 2022, and the Sydney Indie Short Film Festival 2023!

CFSC has been a proud supporter of Ellen's film festival travel through our [Reconciliation Fund](#). This isn't the first time we've [written about Ellen's filmmaking](#) and we can't wait to see what she does next!



We joined over 30 groups in opposing the use of this flawed definition of antisemitism

As organizations and individuals committed to both anti-racism and freedom of expression—amongst us recipients of Canadian Heritage grants—we are deeply concerned by recent statements indicating the department’s possible use of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance Working Definition of Antisemitism (IHRA WDA) for the purposes of attestation and vetting of Canadian Heritage applicants/grantees, as well as training of departmental officers.

We understand that these measures have been proposed in response to a series of troubling tweets posted by a contractor to an organization that received funds from Canadian Heritage. However, we believe that the possible application of the IHRA WDA in response to this incident risks casting a chill within Canadian civil society that will negatively impact the anti-racism work of Palestinian, Arab, Muslim, Jewish, racialized, feminist, 2SLGBTQ+, labour, human rights, academic, arts and civil liberties organizations.

[Keep reading this joint letter.](#)



***Psychology Today* post: Want to move on after a painful fight? Try a ritual**

In his newest piece for [Psychology Today](#), CFSC's Matt Legge looks at the power of rituals in conflict transformation. [Read the post.](#)

Want to deepen your skills to address destructive conflicts? Our popular workshop series *Are We Done Fighting?* is scheduled to begin again on Feb. 22. [Learn more and register for free.](#)