



# Canadian Friends Service Committee

## E-Newsletter



An image of the devastation in the Gaza Strip, October, 2023. Al Araby/Wikimedia Commons CC-BY 3.0

### **CFSC joins multiple calls for ceasefire and humanitarian protections**

We continue to be appalled by the carnage we're witnessing in Gaza. CFSC has joined in a statement with our [sister Quaker agencies](#), with [labour, faith, Arab, Jewish, and civil society organizations](#), and in a forthcoming interfaith statement with Muslim, Jewish, and Christian groups.

The situation is urgent. Experts within the United Nations have [warned](#) that due to the rising "...military action in Gaza and escalation of arrests and killing in the West Bank, there is also a risk of genocide against the Palestine people."

In addition to raising our voices, we're finalizing a new agreement to partner with our sister Quaker service agency American Friends Service Committee. AFSC has staff on the ground in Gaza.

This partnership will allow you to donate to provide urgent humanitarian relief to people impacted by the devastating war. The aid will be delivered directly by AFSC. Your donation to people in Gaza will receive a tax receipt from us. If you can, please give now: <https://QuakerService.ca/Gaza>

Your support is critically needed both in the form of donations and in the form of contacting your elected officials to call for a [ceasefire and humanitarian aid to be permitted to reach Gaza](#).



*Friends Colin Stuart, Fran Schiller, and Eric Schiller outside Ottawa courthouse following Hassan Diab hearing, 2011. We are dismayed that Hassan Diab is facing the possibility of an unjust extradition to France yet again.*

## **Calling for refusal of second extradition of Hassan Diab**

Over the years, Canadian Friends Service Committee has [closely followed](#) Hassan Diab's [case](#), and is dismayed over the recent news that the Court of Cassation in France is seeking a secondary extradition after declaring him guilty, despite exculpatory evidence. In 2018, Hassan Diab was released from prison after the case was dismissed due to "consistent evidence of innocence."

CFSC is calling on the Canadian government to not accept a second request for Hassan Diab's extradition. He should live a peaceful life with his family, friends, and

community here in Canada. We're also calling for follow through on recommendations to reform Canada's *Extradition Act* to protect the human rights and welfare of Canadian citizens. [Read the full statement.](#)



*Don Alexander (left) at an event to support conscientious objectors to the Iraq war, 2006.*

## **Celebrating the Spirit in the life of Don Alexander**

At the end of October we learned of the death of our dear Friend Don Alexander. Don was an integral part of Canadian Friends Service Committee. He was active in CFSC's Indigenous rights work, joining staff member Jennifer Preston at the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. He served as our Treasurer and was active in fundraising. And he was a strong supporter of those who resisted war and killing, both during the Vietnam war and later when former US soldiers deployed to Iraq came to Canada for reasons of conscience. Don always brought energy and enthusiasm to service on CFSC. We celebrate his life and legacy of peace and justice work.