



Canadian Friends Service Committee E-Newsletter

We asked Quakers
across Canada what
they're doing to support
reconciliation.

Here's what we heard!

QuakerService.ca/ReconciliationReports



Reconciliation Reports share how Quakers are taking action locally

At their annual gathering in 2016, Canadian Quakers came to a collective decision to take six actions in support of Indigenous peoples' human rights and reconciliation with Indigenous peoples. One of these actions was for local Quaker Meetings and Worship Groups to report back to Canadian Friends Service Committee on the reconciliation work they do each year.

This annual reporting process was disrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic. We're pleased to share two reports now (both in PDF):

Read the [2019-2020 reconciliation report](#) from Friends.

Read the [2021-2022 reconciliation report](#) from Friends.

Watch a short video for Quakers seeking to make land acknowledgments (this video was inspired by what we heard from Quaker Meetings who reported to us):





CFSC's General Secretary Jenn Preston wore her American Friends Service Committee keffiyeh to our office to remind you that you can still donate to support relief work in Gaza being implemented by AFSC. Visit <https://QuakerService.ca/Gaza>



New statements and actions in support of justice and peace in Gaza

CFSC continues to speak up and take action for just peace in Israel/Palestine. Most recently this has included:

1. Working with seven other Quaker agencies to develop a shared [Quaker vision for peace](#), now signed by many Quaker Meetings from different countries. (Quaker groups can add their name using the link at the bottom.)
2. Joining many civil society groups to [call on Canada to implement an arms embargo on Israel](#) in keeping with the United Nations Human Rights Council's call on states to immediately "cease the sale, transfer and diversion of arms, munitions and other military equipment to Israel."

3. Joining a huge list of legal experts and others urging Canada to [unequivocally support and cooperate with the International Criminal Court](#) as it has issued arrest warrants for two Israeli and three Hamas officials suspected of committing extensive war crimes and crimes against humanity.

4. Helping to promote a Gaza ceasefire pilgrimage, which many Friends across the country took part in. Our Associate Clerk Ro Fife [wrote about and shared some photos from Friends' participation](#). More pictures are available on our [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#). CFSC's Sandra Wiens joined church leaders in meetings with Members of Parliament when the pilgrimage arrived in Ottawa.

#WelcomeToCanada



Migrants deserve a better welcome than a jail cell while paperwork is sorted out

85 groups, including CFSC, are calling on Canada to stop using federal prisons for immigrant detention. As Alberta's public safety minister, Mike Ellis, stated in January 2023, "People who come to Canada for a fresh start and a new life deserve a better welcome than a jail cell while paperwork is sorted out."

Yet the federal government's Budget 2024 plans to expand immigration

detention into federal prisons. Read [the open letter](#). If so led, [take action via Amnesty International Canada's website](#).



Hassan Diab



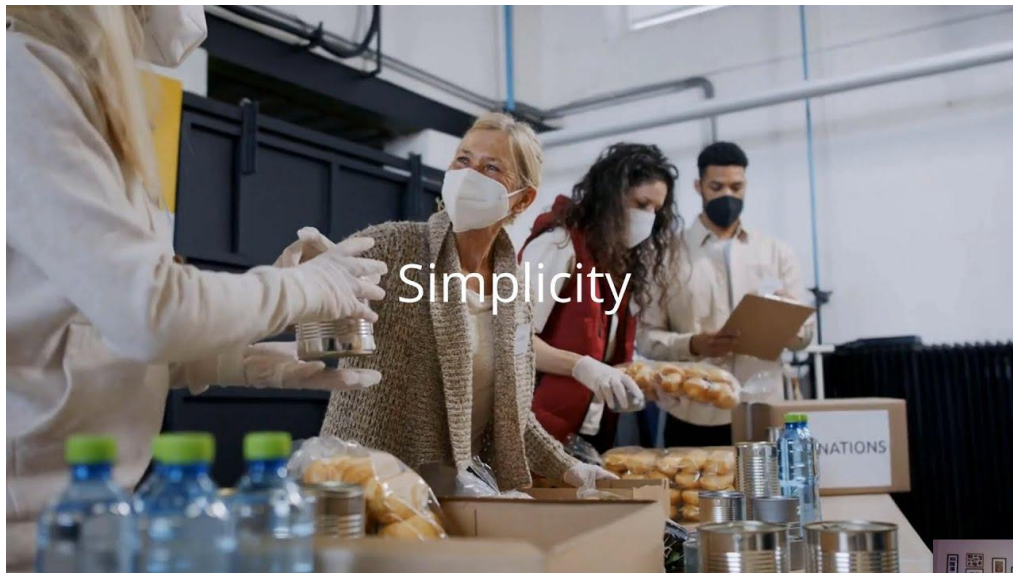
Petition to support Hassan Diab closes on June 10

- Dr. Hassan Diab (70), a Canadian citizen, was wrongfully extradited to France on 14 November 2014, in a case described by extradition Judge Maranger as “weak” and in which “the prospects of conviction in the context of a fair trial seem unlikely”;
- Dr. Diab was detained in a Paris prison for over three years, largely in solitary confinement, while France attempted to manufacture a case against him. He was never formally charged or tried throughout that time;
- Two senior and respected anti-terrorist investigating judges concluded, on 12 January 2018, that there was no evidence to justify a trial and ordered Dr. Diab’s immediate release. He returned to Canada and was

- reunited with his family in Ottawa on 14 January 2018;
- An appeal by the French prosecutor resulted in a summary and partisan trial in April 2023. Dr. Diab was convicted in absentia and sentenced to life imprisonment, principally on the basis of hearsay 'evidence' and secret, anonymous intelligence. Strong alibi and other exculpatory evidence was excluded from consideration by the court; and
 - Prime Minister Justin Trudeau made it clear in June 2018 that "what happened to Hassan Diab should never have happened" and said that an ordeal like Hassan's should never happen again.

We, the undersigned, **citizens or residents of Canada**, call upon the **Government of Canada** to formally declare that Canada will neither accept nor agree to any second request from the French Government for the extradition of Dr. Hassan Diab in connection with the 1980 Paris attack.

[Sign this petition](#) (deadline to sign is June 10). See CFSC's [past statements on Hassan's case](#).



Featured resource: What is Canadian Friends Service Committee? (In 3 minutes)

This video is only three minutes. It explains Canadian Friends Service Committee, the peace and social justice agency of Quakers in Canada. Why not share it with someone who you think would be interested in our work? <https://youtube.com/watch?v=eqGa-R8DK-l>

