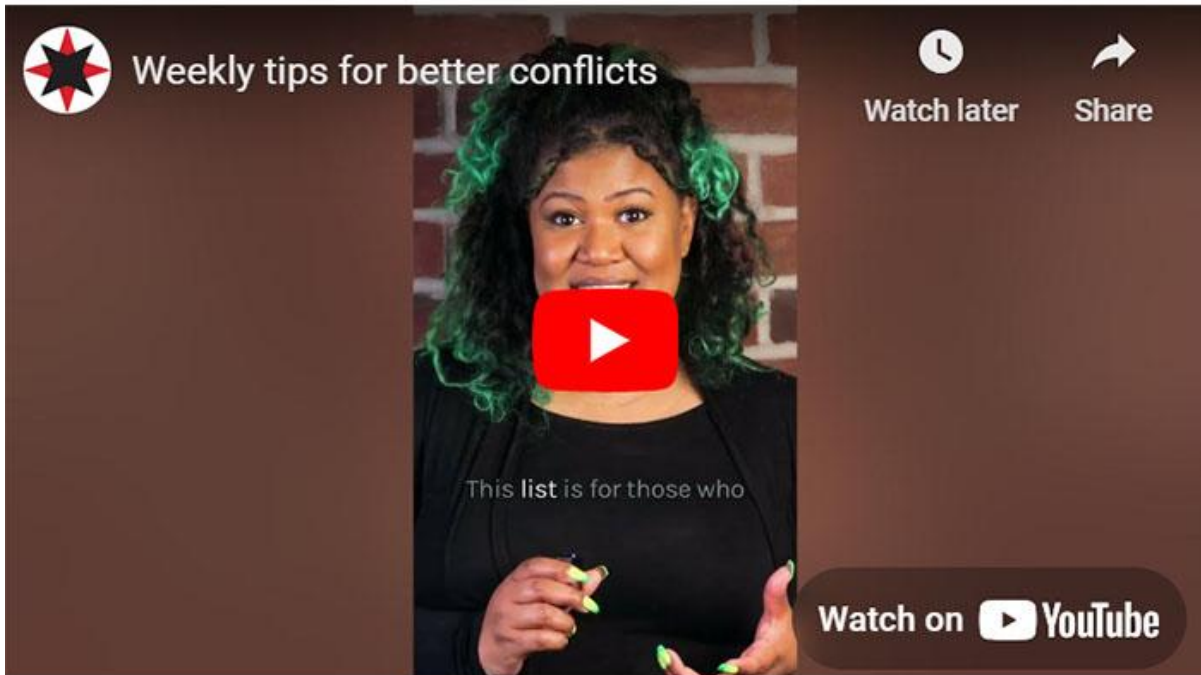




Canadian Friends Service Committee E-Newsletter



**Get your free tip each week and take
your conflict skills to the next level!**

We're excited to share a new video series that's been *years in the making*: [Weekly tips for better conflicts!](#)

Trouble with your neighbour? A difficult boss? A family member makes a cringey bigoted comment?

If you're hungry to really improve your skills for that tough conversation, this series is for you.

Each week we'll release one short tip to reflect on and experiment with.

The videos distill expert knowledge on what works in difficult conversations down to simple bite-sized (most videos are 1-2 minutes long) reminders. They'll help to bring out your best self in difficult moments.

You can watch, share, and comment on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [X](#), [TikTok](#) (new), or [YouTube](#).

Best of all, you can sign up at [QuakerService.ca/Tips](https://www.quakerservice.ca/Tips) for your weekly tip to be delivered directly to your email inbox!

This is a great opportunity to take a few moments each week to build your communication skills.

Join our monthly discussion group

Irina Ceric

Beyond Contempt: Injunctions, Land Defense, and the Criminalization of Indigenous Resistance

There is much that can be gleaned from the layers of our opponents. In a 2017 law journal article, four commercial litigators from one of Canada's largest law firms contended that because the "criminal justice system will generally not intervene to prohibit civil disobedience," injunctions have become the "new normal" (Williams et al. 2017: 256). Their conclusion is clearly both descriptive and prescriptive, as it is directed at their corporate clients: "an injunction has emerged as the only practical remedy available to protect proponents who may be impacted by civil disobedience" (256). These lawyers argued—and I have to agree, even if I do not see it as a welcome development—that recent jurisprudence suggests that any reservations that judges had about "whether civil injunctions are an appropriate means of resolving civil disobedience" appear to have largely dissipated. But whereas these lawyers spend the rest of the article explaining how to exploit the current state of the law from the perspective of resource extraction companies, I want to think about how to challenge the pervasive use of injunctions and contempt in struggles over resource extraction by Indigenous peoples, their allies, and environmental justice movements.

The South Atlantic Quarterly 113.4, April 2020
doi:10.1215/00332947-827729 © 2020 Duke University Press



November 7, 7 pm Eastern

We'll chat about *Beyond Contempt: Injunctions, Land Defense and the Criminalization of Indigenous Resistance*. Register at:
<https://QuakerService.ca/DiscussionGroup>



QUAKERS
Canadian Friends
Service Committee

Join the November discussion group on injunctions, land defence, and the criminalization of Indigenous resistance

Our monthly discussion group got off to a great start in October. Missed the first one? No problem. Whether you attended the first discussion or not, you're warmly invited to join the discussion on Nov 7 at 7 pm Eastern.

We'll be chatting about [this article](#) (PDF) on injunctions, land defence, and the criminalization of Indigenous resistance.

Register for the Zoom link at <https://QuakerService.ca/DiscussionGroup>



PAROLE AND ITS ROLE IN REHABILITATION AND COMMUNITY SAFETY

Sentencing rarely repairs harm

Sometimes people behave in harmful ways. When people are found guilty of criminally harmful behaviour, a sentence is imposed. In principle, the objective of sentencing in Canada is to:

- Deter further harm and separate the person found guilty from society, where necessary;
- Provide reparations and promote responsibility for harm done;
- Denounce unlawful conduct; and
- Assist in rehabilitation of the person found guilty.

In reality, sentencing rarely repairs the harm caused to the persons or communities affected, and accountability to families and communities is taken away. Meanwhile, the focus on punishment commits most of the justice system's resources to legal processing, incarceration and prisons, rather than healing and rehabilitation.

Despite these problems, one of the more promising parts of the current justice system is parole.

What is parole?

Parole is a graduated, supervised return to the community of an incarcerated person before the expiration of their sentence. The purpose of parole is to support community safety and the rehabilitation and reintegration of incarcerated persons into society.

Parole comes in two forms. In day parole, the person abides by a curfew and specific conditions, and resides in a federally approved halfway house in the community. With full parole, while there is no daily curfew, they must abide by specific conditions, report regularly, and live in an approved residence of choice.

How does parole work?

The parole process begins with escorted passes from prison to attend, for example, religious services or support groups. These escorted absences then progress to unescorted passes, followed by limited release to a halfway house with ongoing supervision and support. Many do not ask for passes, or are turned down, and their first experience is day parole. Many day parole requests are also turned down.

Reintegration plans are created with input from prison staff, Indigenous Elders (if needed), families, volunteers, parole officers, psychologists, halfway houses, community support agencies, and the individual. Individuals work toward full parole, where they are able to live in the community with supervision, support and monitoring.

How does parole keep us safe?

Most incarcerated persons become our neighbours and friends after serving their time. Evidence shows that people leaving prison have a better chance of success if they receive supervision, opportunities, training, and support within the community. Without parole, they would be released on their Warrant Expiry Date without any supervision or community supports making them far more likely to reoffend.

Ideally, parole provides treatment with dignity, continued assessment of risk, encouragement toward a law-abiding lifestyle, assistance in returning to community life, and access to programs that will help with re-entry into society.

In 2014-2015, the Parole Board of Canada reported that 99.1% of federal day parole and 97.3% of federal full parole supervision periods were completed without reoffending.¹

¹ Parole Board of Canada. 2016. *Performance Monitoring Report 2014-2015*. <https://www.canada.ca/content/dam/canada/parole-board/migration/003/009/093/003009-3000-2015-en.pdf>

Featured resource: Parole and its role in rehabilitation and community safety

Available [as a PDF](#) or double-sided sheet (contact our office for free copies!), this handout explains why parole helps to keep communities safer.

There are many more great handouts and other educational resources [on our website](#).