



# Canadian Friends Service Committee

## E-Newsletter



*Karen Ridd presenting at Western Half Yearly Meeting*

**Transformative justice presentations**

Transformative Justice Program Coordinator Karen Ridd, with student and collaborator Lindsay Hunt, presented CFSC's soon-to-be released "Cui Bono" report at the Critical Perspectives Conference on Transforming Justice at the University of Victoria. This report explores the question of who is benefitting financially from the Canadian carceral system. The presentation was very well-received by conference participants; look for a publication launch in the fall!

Karen gave presentations about CFSC's transformative justice work to Cowichan Valley Quakers, to Victoria Monthly Meeting, and to Calgary Monthly Meeting. Additionally, on Saturday evening Karen and CFSC Associate Sarah Chandler presented at the Western Half Yearly Meeting. Karen very much enjoyed meeting Western Friends and is especially grateful to Ro Fife (CFSC Board Chair), Alina Freedman (Calgary Monthly Meeting) and the organizers of WHYM for their help in making this trip work so well!

In addition to giving the Saturday evening presentation at WHYM, Karen and CFSC Board Members Lillian Henegar led a well-attended session on [Guaranteed Liveable Basic Income](#) with a keen and well-informed group of Friends.

In the middle of all this travelling and presenting, Karen found time to record a presentation on Restorative and Transformative Justice for the Governing Board of the Canadian Council of Churches.

While in Alberta, Karen took the opportunity to learn more about Indigenous-led justice-making. She attended the [Calgary Indigenous Court](#), the [Siksika Restorative Justice Court](#), and met with representation from the [Indigenous Justice Centre of Alberta](#).

More photos of Karen's presentations are on our [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#).

# Election Kit

## 2025

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QUAKERS  
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### Advocacy after the election

The end of April saw an extremely close federal election. On May 12th, a [new Cabinet](#) was chosen made up of 29 members, and the establishment of 10 [secretaries of state](#), who were selected to provide support and policy expertise on specific areas.

On May 21st, Prime Minister Mark Carney released one [mandate letter](#) for all of Cabinet (a change from the previous government that released mandate letters for each Minister). The mandate letter articulates the priorities of the government and is a useful document to reference in your advocacy efforts (for tips on how to meet with your Member of Parliament see [this short handout](#)).

Finally, Parliament's 45th session was opened on May 27th by the Speech from the Throne, another venue for the government to articulate its priorities. The Speech needs to be accepted into Parliament where MPs will debate it for five sitting days and then vote on June 4th. With a minority government, the Liberals need at least 3 votes from other parties for the speech, or any tabled legislation, to pass. This is where we at CFSC we continue to urge respectful and constructive dialogue to stem the tide of affective polarization that characterized the previous Parliament.

# Guaranteed Liveable Basic Income

## Online presentation at Canadian Yearly Meeting

On June 15th, Sandra Wiens and John Samson Fellows will present at the CFSC night at [Canadian Yearly Meeting in session](#) (the once-yearly gathering of Quakers in Canada, happening online this year).

They will be taking a justice and Guaranteed Liveable Basic Income (GLBI) approach to the presentation; discussing a Quaker perspective on this topic, sharing lived experience of incarceration stories, and making the link to how a GLBI can disrupt the poverty-to-prison pipeline and inch us closer to equitable policies that can have true benefits for all people in Canada.





*Jeremy Vander Hoek and Rachel Singleton-Polster in the plenary at UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues*

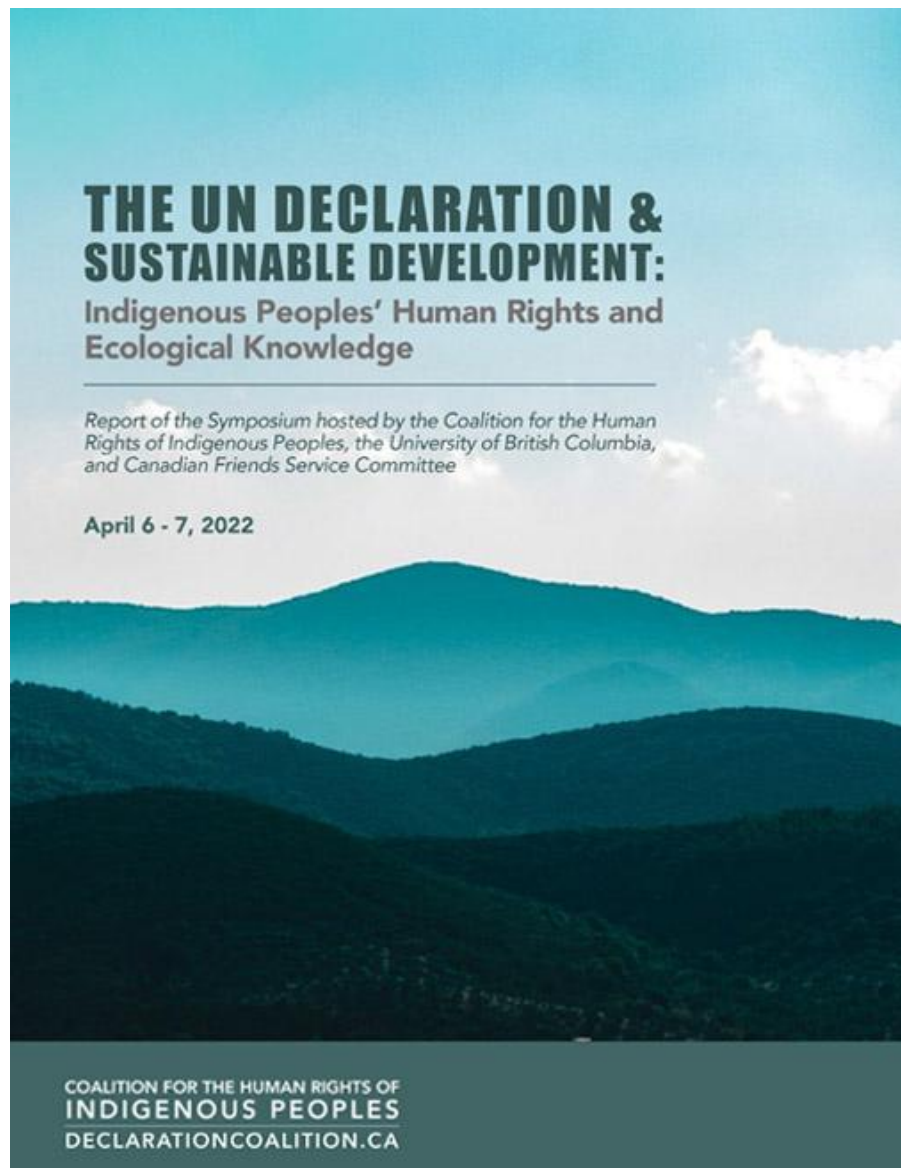
## **Statements from the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues**

CFSC was in New York again this year for the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. Once again, the Forum provided an amazing space to connect with partners from around the world!

Indigenous peacebuilding was a major focus this year. CFSC co-sponsored two side events, hosted a quiet diplomacy dinner at Quaker House NY, and supported an intervention on this topic. At one of the side events our partner Kenneth Deer shared how his nation, the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, is governed by the Great Law of Peace. We joined our voices with Kenneth and other partners to emphasize to states that Indigenous peace traditions are essential to addressing global conflicts. This is especially true in the many situations where conflict impacts Indigenous Peoples directly.

We also focused on implementation of the *UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*. One of the interventions we supported highlighted the need for states to create Indigenous-led monitoring mechanisms that can track implementation. The Forum remains an important place for sustained advocacy on this topic and to show solidarity

with the global Indigenous Peoples' human rights movement. You can read joint statements we were a part of [here](#) and [here](#).



## **Featured resource: The UN Declaration and Sustainable Development (2022)**

This [detailed summary](#) of a symposium that CFSC helped to organize explores sustainable development, Indigenous Peoples' human rights, and ecological knowledge. This is only one of the many informative resources available [on our website](#).