

Canadian Peace/Justice Committee - June 2024 Report

The Committee was formed in April 2007 to support congregations in pursuing peace. However, activities were hindered due to the Chair's focus on the Climate Change Team and the limited availability of volunteers. We feel it's time to reinvigorate our efforts and seek renewed participation. Actions this year include:

A. Continued our Climate Change Crisis Subcommittee

Our focus has been supporting the North American Climate Justice Team, which, since 2020, has hosted webinars featuring world-class scientists and experts on key topics.

B. Created Social Media Resources

We have created a Facebook Page and will continue to experiment with its possibilities. Thanks, Sariah and Betty! We also want to create podcasts and webcasts to expand our reach.

C. Maintained Our Current Projects and Our Peace/Justice Website

While not an emphasis this year we have continued support for such endeavours as:

- a. **Indigenous Relations:** Key resources include Barb Oldale's CWM 2017 Mission Conference address and Tracy Smith's contributions, updated to reflect discovery of unmarked graves.
- b. **Resources for Healthy Relations with our Muslim Community:** This focuses on a hopeful, nonviolent strategy to strengthen reasonable voices within our community, the Muslim community, and society. It includes opportunities for congregations to engage locally with Muslims and has been updated in response to recent events.
- c. **Buying Fair Trade** coffee where possible supporting "Abolish Poverty" initiative.
- d. **Expanding the church's Canadian Peace/Justice website.** We aim to include insights from a Truth and Reconciliation workshop. Our website is still in progress, so if you see an area where you'd like to contribute, we'd love to hear from you!

D. Phase II - Subcommittees

In 2014, we entered the second phase, forming subcommittees to address Canadian-specific issues, following counsel to challenge societal trends diminishing God's creation. For more on these topics, or to get involved, please contact a team member.

- Mental Health and Eliminating Stigma
- Justice: Restorative not Punitive
- Foreign Aid, no strings attached
- Inter-religious Relations
- Human Trafficking
- Eco. Concerns: Water, GMOs, etc.
- Child Poverty
- Others?

In appreciation and support,

The Canadian Peace / Justice Committee

Anna Jean Bradley	Canada East	Betty Williams	Canada West
Bryce Taylor	Canada East	Don McLeod	Canada West
Sariah Middleton	Canada East	Rod Downing	Canada West, Chair
Steve Northey	Canada East	rdowning94@shaw.ca	604-535-6550