#### January 2023

#### Message from our CEO/Founder

Happy New Year!

As we start on a new year one thing for me is always the same my New Year's resolution. Every year I plan to do better than I did the year before. I believe that there is always room for growth and learning. I am always looking for ways to improve my skills whether



it be as a mom, a cook, or a quilter. I can always find ways to improve.

This year I am looking forward to seeing how QFS grows and improves on what we are doing. We are hosting our first sewing retreat and attending the quilt conference this year for a second time means we will be able to improve on our booth. Always room to improve. I am also looking forward to meeting the volunteers on the East Coast and having my daughter attend also.

I don't know all the Creator has plan for me, my family or QFS but I am enjoying this amazing journey. I also love that so many of you have joined us.

May 2023 be the year you try something new or improve a skill you already love. May it be a year that brings lots of love, laughter, and joy. May it be a year where you share your gifts with those around you. After all it was my gift of quilting that has brought us all together.

- Vanessa Genier, CEO & Founder



### Online Classes Second quilt

With fall just around the corner we will once again be having out Zoom quilting classes. We will be making a new quilt called "Churned All Day" by Laurie Flannery for Laurie Rose Designs.

Classes will be held every third Sunday of the month from September to June. The Fifth Class is January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023, from 2pm-4pm EST. To register please email vanessa@guiltsforsurvivors.ca



# Go check out Our Wishlist!!!

https://mywishlist.online/w/5pxebt/quiltss-wishlist

# **QFS Spreading comfort**

Out in the communities

## December 4<sup>th</sup> -7<sup>th</sup> –Presenting quilts in Bella Coola, BC



We were honored to be invited to attend the quilt presentation at Nuxalk first nation, it was a lovely ceremony where we presented every living survivor a quilt, we also had a feast and watched 6-8 Traditional dances. It was a remarkable and memorable event. It is our hope that other first nations will honour their survivors and pass on their stories for the next generations so that their truths become our truths.

#### December 10th – QFS Christmas party!

On December 10<sup>th</sup> we had a Quilts for Survivors Christmas party! We had refreshments, snacks and did a gift exchange.

We played games and talked and laughed the whole night. It was a great time.

#### December 18th - QFS class quilt blocks 7&8

The second zoom quilting class was a success, we've completed 7&8. If you haven't signed up yet you can by emailing <u>vanessa@quiltsforsurvivors.ca</u>







# Don't forget to check out our website!

<u>www.quiltsforsurvivors.ca</u>





Source: google images



**Upcoming Events:** 

January 5<sup>th</sup> – Presentation to slope to shore quilting guild from Wasaga Beach Ontario

January 13th -14th - binding marathon

January 16<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> – kat away at the quilting barn

January 18th – Presentation to mountain cabin Quilting Guild

Future events:

June 8th – 10th – Quilts Canada 2023- Halifax, Nova Scotia

June 24th, 2023- 2nd anniversary Gala

September 28<sup>th</sup> – October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023– QFS sewing retreat \*registration opening February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023\*

### Announcements

- Registration for the first annual sewing retreat, registration opens feb 1<sup>st</sup> 2023, registration limited.

- We Have opened a shop where you can purchase t shirts, hoodies, and stickers.

Visit our shop by clicking the link below! https://www.redbubble.com/people/Quilts4Survivor/shop?asc=u

### **Quilts Quilts and more Quilts**

In case you didn't hear we have now sent over **2,474** quilts. That is amazing. Thank you all, for now it is our hope that you will take some time once a week or even once a month to come in a work a few hours or spend the whole day with us at our studio. Visit <u>www.quiltsforsurvivors.ca</u> for full details.





#### Message from Grandmother Cheryl

Christmas is the time of year for celebrating the birth of Christ. The savior of the world.

My people never celebrated Christmas before colonialism. When Colonizers entered our lands they brought their customs, traditions and religions and it was their task to convert all savages into Christians. Well as you know they failed. Even though many of our people celebrate Christmas including my family, I find the meaning of Christmas is lost in the celebrations of today. It's all about gifts- what you give or what you get.

We stress out over things like presents, food, clothes and not a thought about the real meaning of Christmas, birth of Jesus.

So, I'm spending this time of the year being more mindful of our traditional teachings.

Kindness, wisdom, bravery, humility, truth, respect, honesty.

I believe this is the real meaning of Christmas and it has been our way since the

time immoral. So, my friends, I wish you all a merry Christmas and a happy winter solstice (December 22/22) where we remember and honour the gifts that our ancestors have given to us, celebrate our resilience and strengthen ourselves in our traditional teachings. A Time for feasting a quality time with our friends and family. Meegwetch

#### A message from Katherine

Hello, everyone!

If you have any comments or questions, please feel free to reach out to me at admin@quiltsforsurvivors.ca

My challenge for you this month is to set a goal of quilts you want to complete in 2023, my goal is 6 quilts, which will get 1 done start to finish every two months.

I had so much fun in BC, the mountains were beautiful, and I loved the quilt presentation and the amazing traditional dances we watched. I was honored with a beautiful cedar hat and shawl; I will treasure those forever.

Check out our linktree!

https://linktr.ee/Quiltsforsurvivors?fbclid=lwAR1Q7vMtbWTcflAjjT5MY4qr2JRRxoOLrVa-O0\_YXOeQYrVzmHKHwZFTrp8

Happy quilting – love kat 😂

# Support QFS by buying us a coffee!



# https://www.buymeacoffee.com/quiltssurvivors







