

# Quilts For Survivors

You Are Entering a Safe Space

Everyone's rights here are respected, regardless of race, religion, gender identity, or sexual orientation.

VOLUME 3 .  
Quilts  
12 ISSUE  
For Survivors

## A Year of Growth and Gratitude

Quilts for Survivors Celebrates Milestones and Looks Ahead

STUDIO UPDATES |  
UPCOMING EVENTS | CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS |  
MAILING UPDATE | MESSAGES FROM THE BOARD |  
STORIES FROM VOLUNTEERS | GENERAL INFO AND FAQ |





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# Quilts For Survivors

58 Legion Drive  
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[www.quiltsforsurvivors.ca](http://www.quiltsforsurvivors.ca)

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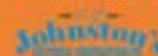
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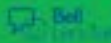


**Newmont**

GREENLAMP PROPERTIES



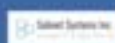
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Brown  
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Honourable  
Mention





# From the Editor

**Announcement:** We can not send out quilts due to the Canada Post Strike, **we will be shipping quilts out once the Canada Post strike is resolved.** We thank you for your patience and support during this time.

We are still asking you to confirm your address or update it by visiting our website [www.quiltsforsurvivors.ca](http://www.quiltsforsurvivors.ca)

Due to the high number of quilts returned, **we are no longer sending out quilts if you do not confirm your address** before shipping.

If you asked for a quilt, please **keep an eye on your inbox** for an email asking you to confirm your address with us.

We have also been calling and texting using our studio number 705-262-1853.

MIIGWECH (THANK YOU!)

We have also extended our due date for the volunteer quilt block due to the Canada Post Strike more information can be found on our website.

CANADA

POST



POSTES

CANADA

*Thanks so much for your continued support. We hope you enjoy reading this month's newsletter!*

Hello everyone!

As the holiday season approaches, I'm filled with joy and excitement, and I'm happy to share our latest monthly newsletter with all of you! This edition is packed with updates and new information for Quilters, Volunteers, and Survivors.

The past couple of months have been incredibly busy with school, work, youth council activities, and making sure I'm there for my family and my best friend. I'm especially excited to be making a quilt for my best friend this Christmas—it's such a special gift, and I can't wait to see their reaction.

With everything going on, it's a reminder of how important it is to be there for the people we care about, while also taking time to enjoy the little moments this season brings. As we all gear up for the holidays, I encourage you to find time for the things that bring you joy and peace.

We love hearing from you, so please feel free to share your thoughts and ideas with us. Your feedback helps shape future newsletters, and we always appreciate your suggestions!

Thank you for your continued support, and we hope you enjoy this month's newsletter. Don't forget to check out the website for the latest updates!

*Katherine Jeremiah*  
*they/them*

**EDITOR-IN-CHIEF**







# Message From Our CEO & Founder

By Vanessa Genier “Celebrating a Year of Growth, Gratitude, and  
Community”

Dear Friends and Supporters,

As we close out another incredible year, I want to take a moment to reflect on the journey we've shared and to express my heartfelt gratitude for your unwavering support.

This year has been extraordinary! Thanks to your generosity and dedication, we were able to send out over 26% more quilts in 2024 compared to 2023—a remarkable achievement that reflects the love and care our community embodies.

Moving into our new studio space has been a true blessing. The room to create, grow, and connect has opened countless opportunities, and we are so excited to continue this journey together. With workshops, activities, and events on the horizon, 2025 is shaping up to be an exciting chapter for Quilts for Survivors.

As we celebrate our accomplishments over the past year, I am reminded of the power of community. Together, we are making a difference, one quilt at a time.

From all of us at Quilts for Survivors, I wish you and your loved ones a joyous holiday season and a New Year filled with peace, happiness, and hope.

Here's to the beautiful things we've achieved and to the even greater possibilities ahead!

With warmest wishes,

Vanessa Genier M.S.M  
Founder and CEO  
Aka Quilter with a Heart of Gold



Pictured is Josee holding a Grinch Christmas ornament



# A Year of Growth and Gratitude: Quilts for Survivors Celebrates Milestones and Looks Ahead

By Katherine Jeremiah

Photography by Katherine Jeremiah

Over 2,000 Quilts Delivered in 2024,  
a New Home Established, and a Community  
of Generosity That Keeps Growing





# Quilts for Survivors: A Year of Growth, Gratitude, and Giving Back

As we reflect on the past year, we are filled with pride and gratitude for the incredible impact **Quilts for Survivors** has made in the lives of individuals affected by trauma. Thanks to the generosity of our community, dedicated volunteers, and donors, 2024 has been an extraordinary year of growth and positive change for our organization.

## Over 2,000 Quilts Sent Out

One of the most significant milestones we've reached this year is the delivery of over 2,000 quilts, that **brings our total to over 6,300 quilts sent out since 2021**. Each quilt represents not just a beautiful work of art, but also a symbol of hope, healing, and support for Survivors of trauma. Whether it's a natural disaster, personal tragedy, or other hardship, these quilts serve as a comforting reminder that no one has to face difficult times alone.

## A New Home for Quilts for Survivors

Another major development this year was our move into a new, larger space. The new facility allows us to better organize, store, and distribute the quilts we create, while also providing a welcoming environment for our volunteers to gather and work together. This space is vital to our ongoing mission and will allow us to continue expanding our outreach and support to even more survivors.

## An Outpouring of Generosity

We are truly humbled by the overwhelming generosity of our community. Thanks to countless donations of fabric, supplies, and financial contributions, we've been able to meet the growing demand for quilts. These donations, large and small, have been the foundation of our success and ensure that we can continue to provide warmth and comfort to those who need it most.

## Growing Volunteer Base

This year, we also welcomed many new volunteers into our **Quilts for Survivors** family. With each new pair of hands, we are able to create more quilts and reach more people. Whether it's helping with quilting, organizing, or spreading the word about our mission, volunteers have been an integral part of our growth. We are incredibly grateful for their time, energy, and passion.

As we move into the final weeks of the year, we're excited about what the future holds.

## Looking Ahead

We are excited for the opportunities that lie ahead in 2025. With a new space, an expanding team of volunteers, and a dedicated donor base, the coming year promises to be our best yet. Together, we can continue to make a real and lasting impact, one quilt at a time.

**With your continued support, we know we can keep making a difference in the lives of so many survivors. Thank you for being a part of our journey, and for helping us bring warmth, comfort, and hope to those who need it most.**



# QUILTS FOR SURVIVORS STUDIO SCHEDULE DECEMBER

2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	Admin	Open 10am-6pm	Open 10am-6pm Black Molding 10am-6pm	Open 10am-6pm	Closed	QFS Christmas Party
8	Admin	Open 10am-6pm	Open 10am-6pm Intro to Sewing 4-6pm	Open 10am-6pm Youth Night 4-6pm	Closed	Binding marathon 10am-6pm
15	Admin	Open 10am-6pm	Open 10am-6pm Quilt Social + winter solstice celebration 4-6pm	Closed	Closed	Closed
22	Closed	Closed	Closed Merry Christmas	Closed	Closed	Closed
29	Closed	Closed	Closed Happy New Year			

Admin- Studio closed for volunteers || \*must register || potluck lunch at binding marathon



58 Legion Dr  
South Porcupine  
ON P0N 1H0  
(705) 262-1853

Admin@quiltsforsurvivors.ca



## Studio Hours

Welcome! Our studio is a safe space for everyone to come in and sew! We offer classes, events, and workshops.

## Regular Hours

We are open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10 am to 6 pm.

## Christmas Hours

We are closed from December 19th 2024 - January 5th 2025.



# Studio Updates

By Katherine Jeremiah

Photography by Katherine Jeremiah





## Address

50 Legion Dr  
South Peninsula, ON  
CA

## Phone

709.466.4611

## Email

[Admin@quiltsolutions.ca](mailto:Admin@quiltsolutions.ca)

## Sewing Space

We're thrilled to share some exciting updates from our sewing studio! Over the past few weeks, we've been busy revamping our space to make it more inviting and functional for all our quilters and volunteers.

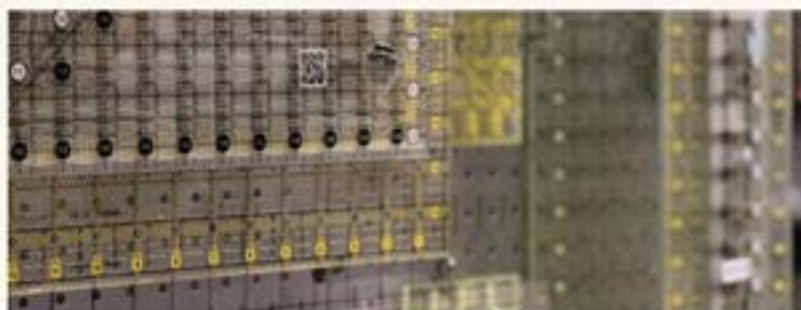
## Workshops

Keep an eye out for upcoming workshops and open sewing days, where you can explore new techniques and connect with fellow creatives. We're excited to see what you'll create in our refreshed studio!



## Fabric Room

We've also organized a vibrant fabric library, making it easier for everyone to access the materials they need for their projects.



## Our Studio Space







# Stories From Survivors & Volunteers



## ***Sharing Your Story: A Voice for Healing and Hope***

At **Quilts for Survivors**, we believe that every story matters. Whether it's a story of personal triumph, healing, or the challenges faced along the way, your journey is important. We want to hear from you. Your experiences are not only meaningful but also powerful in helping others feel seen, understood, and supported.

As we continue to grow and support Survivors of trauma, we recognize that telling your story can be an important part of the healing process. It's a way to honour your resilience, reflect on your journey, and connect with others who may be walking a similar path. Whether you've received a quilt from us or are a valued part of our extended community, **your voice matters, and we are here to listen.**

We invite you to share your story with us—whether it's through submitting a written piece for our monthly newsletter or exploring other ways to contribute. By sharing, you can help inspire others who may be going through their own struggles. Your story can be a beacon of hope, offering comfort and encouragement to those who need it most.

To submit your story, please visit our website at [www.quiltsforsurvivors.ca](http://www.quiltsforsurvivors.ca) and head to the **Survivor Stories** section. There you will find easy steps to share your journey, and you will see that we are committed to providing a safe, supportive space for your voice to be heard.

We understand that sharing your story can sometimes be difficult, and we want to assure you that all submissions are treated with the utmost respect and confidentiality. This is your space to express yourself, in your own words, on your own terms.

To our volunteers, your stories are just as valuable. Whether it's your personal motivation for getting involved or an experience you've had while working with our community, your story helps us understand the heart behind this movement. Your voice, too, is a vital part of the larger narrative we are building at **Quilts for Survivors**.

We are here to listen, support, and celebrate you. Your story is a vital thread in the fabric of our community, and together, we can continue to weave a tapestry of hope, healing, and shared strength.

Thank you for being part of this journey. We can't wait to hear your story.

To have your story featured here please email [admin@quiltsforsurvivors.ca](mailto:admin@quiltsforsurvivors.ca)  
Feel free to include a picture with your story as well.



# Upcoming Events

By Katherine Jeremiah  
*Decembers Events and Workshops*

## Block Making - 6th

Learn the essentials of quilting in this hands-on class! You will create your first quilt block while mastering cutting, sewing, and seam alignment techniques. Perfect for beginners, this class will boost your confidence and get you started on your quilting journey.

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## Christmas Party - 7th

Join us for a festive Christmas party honouring our amazing volunteers, staff, and supporters! Enjoy food, fun, and holiday cheer as we celebrate your contributions and another successful year.

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## Youth Night - 12th

Calling all youth ages 16-29! Join us for a fun and interactive evening where you will learn sewing skills, create something unique, and gain volunteer hours for school. Enjoy a delicious dinner while connecting with new friends and exploring your creativity. To Register please email [admin@quiltsforsurvivors.ca](mailto:admin@quiltsforsurvivors.ca)

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## Binding Marathon - 14th

Join us for a day of fun, food, and teamwork at our Binding Marathon and Potluck! Bring your energy and appetite as we work together to finish binding projects while sharing delicious dishes and great company. Whether you're a seasoned pro or a beginner, there's a place for everyone to contribute and connect.

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## Intro To Sewing - 16th

Join us at our Intro to Sewing Workshop from 11 am - 1 pm at our studio, perfect for beginners or those who need to freshen up their skills. We teach basic stitches, how to use the machine, and make a cool block in the process. To Register please email [admin@quiltsforsurvivors.ca](mailto:admin@quiltsforsurvivors.ca)

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## Drum Social - 18th

Join us for a heartwarming evening of cultural connection and community! Experience the rhythms of traditional hand drumming, storytelling, and songs as we gather to celebrate the season. Enjoy food, fellowship, and winter festivities in a welcoming atmosphere that honors tradition and togetherness.

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# Updates

by Katherine Jeremiah



## Donations



Donations can be made by EMT to:  
[Vanessa@quiltsforsurvivors.ca](mailto:Vanessa@quiltsforsurvivors.ca)  
or through our Linktree

## Survey



Our Survey On Colonization &  
Indigenous Land: Effects and  
Conservation can be filled out here  
<https://forms.office.com/r/QnUan79EBv>

## Volunteering

We hope that you will take some time  
once a week or even once a month to  
come in and work a few hours or spend  
the whole day with us at our studio. See  
page 9 for full details.

## Linktree

Check out our Linktree!  
It has all our links such as our website,  
Buy me a coffee, Our Wishlist ETC.  
<https://linktr.ee/Quiltsforsurvivors>

## Quilt Canada Binding



We are asking for a 2.5-inch binding joined  
on the diagonal.

If you cannot attend please email  
[admin@quiltsforsurvivors.ca](mailto:admin@quiltsforsurvivors.ca) for the mailing address  
**Shipping begins in April 2025**



## Wishlist

Purchasing items off our Wishlist helps  
us get things we need for the new  
Studio or things that would help make  
things easier for us in the Studio.  
Thank you!

To purchase something from our Wishlist, please visit:  
<https://mywishlist.online/w/5pxebt/quiltss-wishlist>

## Quilts Quilts and More Quilts

In case you didn't hear **we have now sent over 6,300 quilts.**  
That's amazing! Thank you everyone for your continued support!



# General Info & FAQs



## Volunteer Quilt Top?

You can find the pattern on our website [www.quiltsforsurvivors.ca](http://www.quiltsforsurvivors.ca), We ask that you only send us **ONE block per volunteer**. Please make sure it includes your name, city/town, and how long you have been a volunteer.

Please mail to:

Quilts for Survivors 58 Legion Drive, South Porcupine, ON P0N 1H0

## What kind of fabric is used?

100% cotton quilting fabric

## What size of blocks are needed?

16.5 inches square

## Are there any restrictions on the blocks?

Our Fabric Restrictions are posted on our website. No Religious fabric, School related fabric, Travel related fabric, Graphic illustrations or images, or Gang related fabrics.

You can always check with us by emailing: [admin@quiltsforsurvivors.ca](mailto:admin@quiltsforsurvivors.ca)

## Can I donate something other than a block or a quilt?

Yes! We are accepting monetary donations, supplies, and more. Please visit our Wishlist, see page 15 for the link and more information.

## Can we donate tops or completed quilts?

Yes, tops should be 48" x 64" or lap size.

Completed quilts can be any size.

Please mail to:

Quilts for Survivors

58 Legion Dr., South Porcupine, ON P0N 1H0

## To ship directly to a Survivor please

**email: [admin@quiltsforsurvivors.ca](mailto:admin@quiltsforsurvivors.ca)**

- Include a picture of the finished quilt & card (if you're sending one)
- Advise if you need a label or digital file from us
- Confirm you can ship within 2-3 business days of receipt of the address we provide

Once all of the requirements are met you will receive an address from us.

For more information please visit [www.quiltsforsurvivors.ca](http://www.quiltsforsurvivors.ca)





*Quilts*  
*For Survivors*



## Do you know a survivor?

Please contact us to submit your request for yourself or another Survivor by phone, email or via our website.



**705-262-1853**

**admin@quiltsforsurvivors.ca**

**www.quiltsforsurvivors.ca**

**Quilts For Survivors started in 2021 with the vision of seeing all living Survivors with a quilt. Quilts For Survivors honours the journeys of Residential School Survivors, Day School Survivors, 60's Scoop Survivors and anyone who has gone through the foster care system.**

**CONTACT US:  
705-262-1853**

**admin@quiltsforsurvivors.ca  
WWW.QUILTSFORSURVIVORS.CA**

# Messages From Our Board

## Board Member Clara W

Good day ALL

It has been a very BUSY and AWESOME year. We have celebrated numerous milestones and achievements; we also had some down moments but with great staff and volunteers those were very few and did not last long. Some highlights for me this year include the celebration of reaching the 5,000th quilt, Vanessa receiving the Governor General Award, moving the sewing studio to a larger space and QFS hosting a very successful 2nd Annual Sewing Retreat. One huge problem we are faced with right now and which we have no control over is the postal strike. We may not be able to mail any quilts out but they are still being made. Let's all pray that the strike ends soon.

The month of December is the wishing season. What are your wishes? As many people are aware, we do not receive regular funding and rely heavily on sponsorships and donations which we are very thankful for. My wish for QFS is to eventually receive funding to cover the staff's wages on a full-time basis. But in the meantime; if our friends and their friends can spread the word to visit Quilts for Survivors' website and read on "Ways to Contribute", spread the word about our GoFundMe page OR you can contact the staff if there are other ways you would like to contribute.

As we prepare for the festive season prayers to family and friends who will be experiencing their first Christmas without their loved ones. I lost my father in February and my nephew in May; Christmas will sure be different and difficult this year but we will remember and honour their memories in a very special way.

What will the new year bring us? For sure another busy and AWESOME year!!! Thanks very much to GREAT staff and volunteers!!

We have three longarms that will be roaring and spitting out quilts in threefold; we have about 500 tops that need to be quilted. Another busy event that will go into full swing planning after the holidays is the next Sewing Retreat which will include a Gala night with special guest Phyllis Webstad. The Board will also be working with Vanessa to develop a ten year plan that we will share once complete.

Thank you to the staff for their continued hard work and volunteers for their time, contributions and donations. Quilts for Survivors would not have accomplished what has been done to date without great people and supports.

I would like to wish the staff, volunteers and the rest of the Board a VERY Merry Christmas and the best to all in the NEW Year.

PEACE, LOVE and LAUGHTER. Meegwetch

## Board Member Theresa(Terri) N

Hello everyone,

Here is my Christmas wish!

My wish is to ship a quilt! It costs \$30 to ship one quilt. Any donations towards this beautiful cause would be greatly appreciated.

Happy holidays everyone 🍷🌲

Terri

## Board Member Cheryl M

## Board Member Leslie G

### A Holiday Message from the Board

As we wrap up 2024, we want to express our heartfelt gratitude to all of our incredible volunteers for your dedication and support throughout the year. Your hard work and commitment have made a real difference, and we couldn't have achieved so much without you. As we look forward to 2025, our Christmas wish is to receive help with shipping, retain our amazing staff, and to continue growing together as an organization. Wishing you and your loved ones a joyful holiday season and a New Year filled with peace, happiness, and success. Thank you for being such an important part of our journey!



# Follow Quilts For Survivors

**NEVER MISS A THING!**

Stay up to date!



**Check us  
out online**

**WWW.QUILTSFORSURVIVORS.CA**

Catch the freshest News  
Updated frequently  
Read anytime, anywhere



**@Quiltsforsurvivors**

Phone number (705) 262-1853



QFS Donations

Quilts for Survivors  
website

Buy me a coffee

Request a Quilt