

Quilts For Survivors



A Look Back At March

A look back at a great month



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UPCOMING EVENTS | MESSAGES FROM THE BOARD
STORIES FROM VOLUNTEERS | GENERAL INFO AND FAQ

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To request a Sponsorship Package
please email Vanessa@quiltsforsurvivors.ca


Purple Sponsorship




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Brown Sponsorship



Honourable Mention



From the Editor

Remember, registration for our **2nd Annual Sewing Retreat** is now open and there are limited spots available. **We are already over 50% sold out.**

You can click here to register:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/2nd-annual-sewing-retreat-tickets-695394021237>



Quilts For Survivors

Karen Brown
Guest Speaker
Just Get It Done Quilts
I'm a quilter, crafter, mother, wife, daughter, businesswoman but not necessarily in that order. I love to make things and like nothing better than checking things off the list.

Vanessa Genier
CEO & Founder
A time to **come together** as an international community to **sew, learn and be inspired**, and to **meet other volunteers and QFS's own Quilter with a heart of gold, Vanessa Genier.**
Visit the City with a heart of gold and learn how we **give back to Survivors.**
Come be a part in Truth and Reconciliation.

ALREADY 50% SOLD!

2nd ANNUAL ORANGE YOU GLAD WE'RE SEWING RETREAT

When?
> September 27 - 30, 2024


Where?
> Timmins Ontario - Northern College

How?
> Tickets on Sale Now! on Eventbrite


Price?
> \$225.00*
*Includes lunches, dinners, snacks and a traditional indigenous feast with traditional drumming, food and dancing.

www.quiltsforsurvivors.ca

For more information, please call us at 705-262-1853 or send us an email: admin@quiltsforsurvivors.ca



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



Hey there!

I'm excited to share with you our latest monthly newsletter, packed with lots of updates and new information for Quilters, Volunteers, and Survivors.

I am looking forward to a few events coming up for Quilts For Survivors, such as Quilt Canada 2024 and our Sewing Retreat!

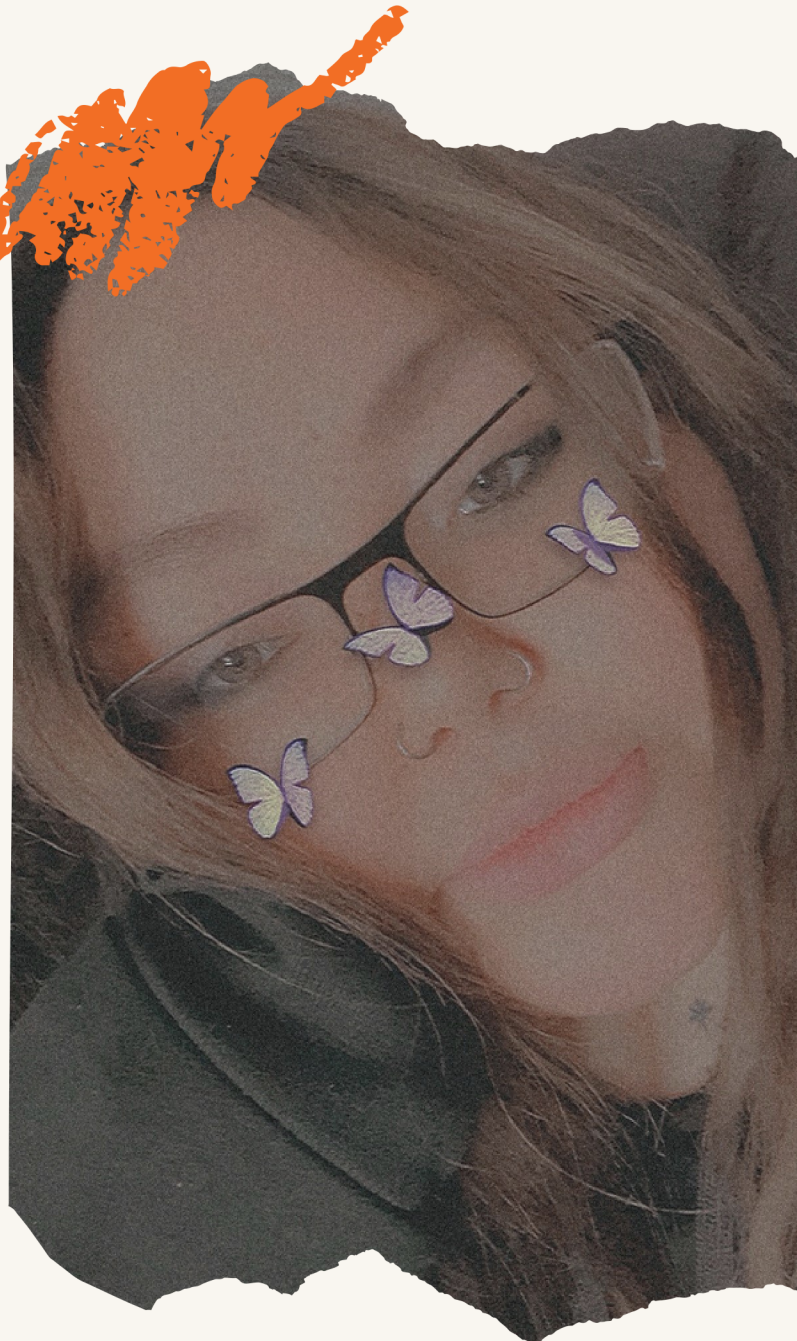
My favourite thing about spring is hearing the geese come back and being able to see the water on the rivers and lakes again. I encourage you all to go spend some time by the water in your area & I hope you all have a great April!

We love hearing from you, so please feel welcome to share your thoughts and ideas with us. We always appreciate your feedback and suggestions for future issues.

Thanks so much for your continued support, and we hope you enjoy reading this month's newsletter!

Katherine Jeremiah

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF





Message From Our CEO & Founder

By Vanessa Genier

“On average, we are sending out almost 7 quilts a day!”

Spring is here! And with that comes a shift in our lives. Not only is the land, weather and sunlight changing but also so is our energy and attitude. Spring is an opportunity for cleanings, renewal and rebirth. It is a time to have a fresh start. This could be in our work, families or our hobbies. Spring is a reminder that our lives are changing and moving forward. There are many teachings with the medicine wheel that show us that like the seasons there are seasons and changes in our lives. As we watch Turtle Island change from the sleepiness of winter into bloom over the next few weeks let it remind us that everything happens in its time. You might have heard the saying “Indian time”. This is not to say that Indigenous people are slow or take their time. It refers to how we have always known when it was time to rest, hunt, harvest, celebrate and renew. We used the signs of the changing seasons, the moon etc. to know when it was time to move forward. It reminds us that good things are coming.



QFS has seen a lot of growth over the last few weeks. We have had many donations and are continually amazed at the generosity of individuals, groups and organizations. We are averaging sending out almost 7 quilts a day. This is huge. A long way from our original goal of 18 in total. We are very close to 5,000 quilts and will be there sometime this month. I want to thank every volunteer. The work you do is greatly appreciated. I want you to know that your work is valued, and that you are appreciated. We would not be where we are without all of you.



A special thank you to the hundreds of Survivors and their families that accept our humble quilts. Thank you for allowing us to honour your journey with a quilt. I have often said that I am here today because my Great Grandparents Dave and Emily Nolan survived Residential School. I never had the privilege of meeting them but I know that they are watching from the Spirit World and I am sure that it brings them joy. I do this to honour my ancestors and all our ancestors. Together we are strong and can accomplish so much, as we have seen with QFS.

Kitchi Meegwetch,

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

A Look Back At March

By Katherine Jeremiah
Photography by Baileigh N

A look back at a great
month



Quilts
For Sun

Look back at March 2024

Block Making - Block making was a fun time. We worked on a pattern that called for half-square triangles.

LHNL - We had a table at LNHL. We also sponsored Missanabie Maskwa. Josee and Wallace both played for Missanabie Maskwa! We are proud to be a supporter of our youth.

Youth Night - We had around 6/7 youth for our 3rd youth night, we made 9" strip blocks and had a great time!

Zoom Class - Zoom class went amazing, We are close to completing this class quilt

Binding Marathon - We had quite a few volunteers in for the binding marathon this month! We celebrated Kendrick's Birthday by having cupcakes! It was a great time with the volunteers and it was a lot of fun!



300 Quilts delivered to the studio!!

*photo description - Jo playing for Missanabie Maskwa
Photo Credits - Baileigh N*



QUILTS FOR SURVIVORS STUDIO SCHEDULE

2024

APRIL

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
31	1 Closed	2 open 10am-7pm	3 open 10am-7pm Block Making*	4 open 10am-7pm	5 admin	6
7	8 admin	9 open 10am-7pm How to use a panel* 11am - 2pm	10 open 10am-7pm	11 open 10am-7pm Intro to long arming* 5-8pm	12 admin	13
14	15 admin	16 open 10am-7pm	17 open 10am-7pm Advanced Long Arming Course*	18 open 10am-7pm Youth Night* Advanced Long Arming Course*	19 admin	20
21 Zoom Class* 2-4pm	22 admin	23 open 10am-7pm	24 open 10am-7pm	25 open 10am-7pm	26 admin	27 Binding marathon 11am-3pm
28	29 admin	30 open 10am-7pm	1	2	3	4

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



420 Government Rd S,
Timmins, ON P4R 1N4
(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. We are open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10 am to 7 pm.



Quilts For Survivors
SPONSOR OUR MONTHLY YOUTH NIGHTS

By Sponsoring Our Monthly Youth Nights you will:

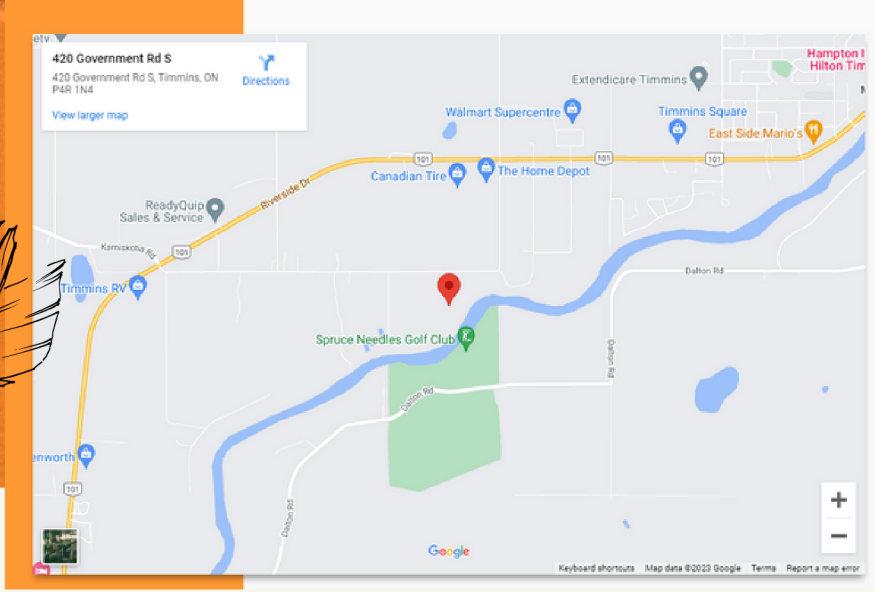
- Get free advertising for you or your business
- Be supporting local Timmins youth

For a Sponsorship Package please email:
admin@quiltsforsurvivors.ca



Studio Updates

By Katherine Jeremiah
Photography by Katherine Jeremiah and
Vanessa Genier



Address

420 Government Road S
Timmins, Ontario
CA

Phone

705.262.1853

Email

Admin@quiltsforsurvivors.ca

Sewing Space

We have been making good use of the sewing space! We have had someone in it every day that we are open!

Fabric Room

“Our fabric room is so well organized, it makes picking out fabrics so much fun!!

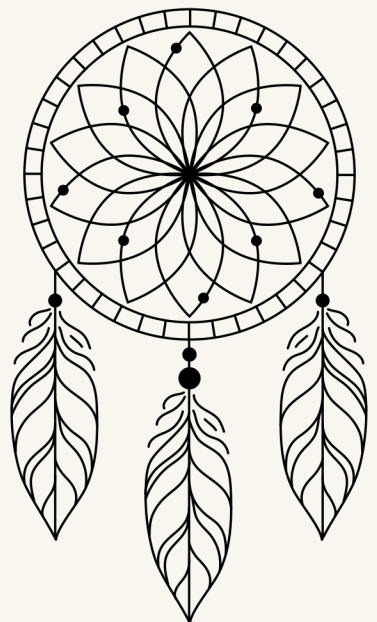
Workshops

We are always trying to get new Quilters and Volunteers in the Studio. We have been looking at offering new workshops and themed nights for Volunteers to come in and learn. We have four events now for people to join and attend every month.

The more people we can teach the better, so that we can continue this healing work for Survivors and ourselves.



“We are always trying to get new volunteers in the studio”





Stories From Survivors & Volunteers

Stories from Survivors
and Volunteers

By Hazel K

This is the letter Hazel originally sent to Vanessa in August of 2021. Hazel has since sent us many sheets of labels to add to our quilts. We will be forever thankful that she chose to help Survivors in this way.

Dear Vanessa

It was truly heartbreaking to hear about the 215 children's graves found in B.C., and more across the country. And to learn that my ancestors had done such a horrible disgraceful act. It has been on my mind every day since.

A couple of weeks back, I saw you and your quest to make quilts for survivors on the news. I really wanted to take part and do something. I am not one who can sew very well, but I still really wanted to do something.

I am not on Facebook, but I am able to see your public postings and videos of the fantastic blocks and quilts that people have made and sent you on the Quilts for Survivors website. It is so amazing of all the heartfelt contributions you have received.

Through your video postings, I have learned that you are Cree and are from the Eagle Clan. And that is where I noticed your mother hand writes (with a sharpie) some labels for the quilts. Tada, light bulb went off!!!

I'm a 65 year old gal who likes to do graphics. So, during the past few weeks, I decided to put my creative talents to work and made something different for you.

After some research, I have learned that Eagle feather symbolizes respect, honour, strength, courage and wisdom. And a feather from this magnificent bird is treasured as a badge of honour.

So, I have created a design and then had a local screen printer make them up for me.

Ø The Eagle feather represents your clan, to signify to be strong in order to overcome challenges;

Ø The center stem represents the center of our being, center of our creation;

Ø And inscribed "Quilts for Survivors 2021".

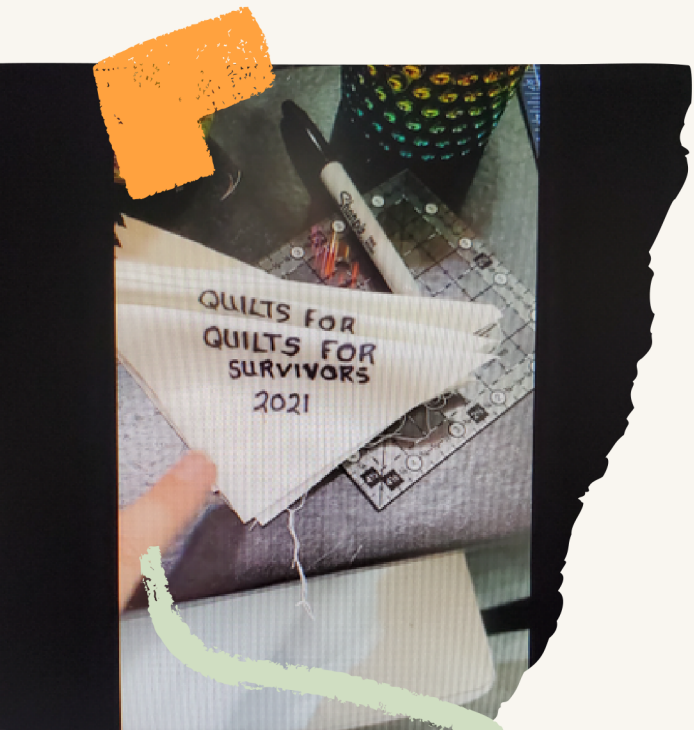
It has taken me a few weeks to get this together for you. I hope you like it!

So, enclosed, you will find 260 logos that can be individually cut out and sewn to your quilts. If you wish, some can be cut into blocks.

You are truly an inspirational person, and we need more people like you in our world.

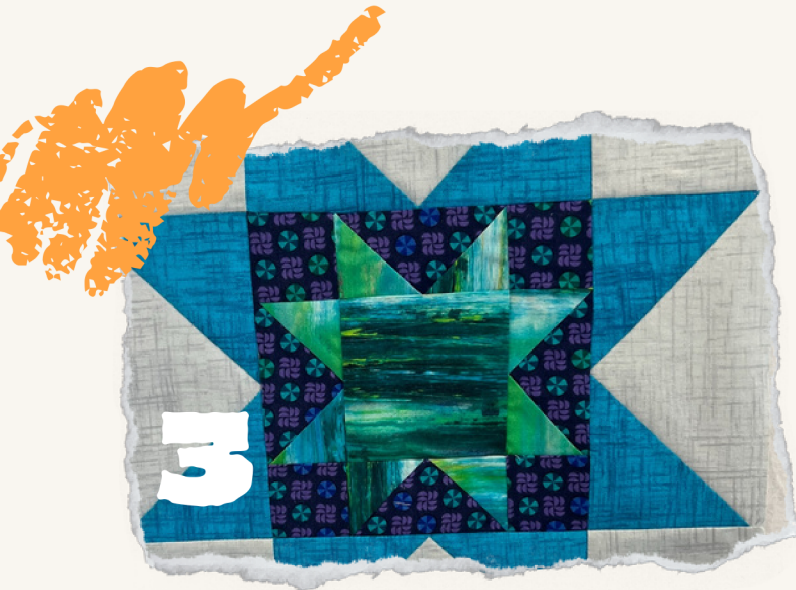
I am honoured to be a part of this mission. Happiness and love to you and your family.

Respectfully,
Hazel Kenny



Upcoming Events

By Katherine Jeremiah
April's Events and Workshops



Block Making

In this Workshop, we will focus on making a start block with stars. To **join the Workshop** please email admin@quiltsforsurvivors.ca

How to use a panel

We will be making a quilt top using a panel. To **sign up for this Workshop** please email admin@quiltsforsurvivors.ca



Intro To Longarming

In this Workshop, we will be teaching you the basics on the longarm. To **join the Workshop** please email admin@quiltsforsurvivors.ca





Youth Night

Youth Nights are for ages 16-29. We will be working on some different projects all geared towards beginners and those new to sewing. We offer pizza with our Youth Nights. Our last Youth Night was sponsored By Cheryl M, thank you Cheryl! We are looking for a sponsor for this month! Please contact us at: admin@quiltsforsurvivors.ca if you would like to Sponsor a Youth Night.

Zoom Class Quilt

We will be making a new quilt called "The Bliss Quilt Along" by Fig Tree Quilts.

Classes will be held every third Sunday of the month from September to June. The Eighth Class is April 21st from 2 pm-4 pm EST. To register please fill out the form <https://forms.gle/tSoAiSdpmtpCidyq8>



Intro to Sewing

We will teach you how to sew on a domestic machine, straight lines, a strip block to start, thread a machine, fill a bobbin and sew a straight stitch. Please note, that this Workshop currently has spots open!

Binding Marathon

Binding Marathons take place on a Saturday from 11 am - 3 pm. Binding is the finishing on a quilt. It always feels great when we can finish quilts to be mailed out to their forever home. Binding Marathons are a fun time filled with stories, laughter and good food.



Updates

by Katherine Jeremiah



Donations



Donations can be made by EMT to:
Vanessa@quiltsforsurvivors.ca
or through our Linktree

Linktree*

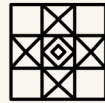
Check out our Linktree!
It has all our links such as our website,
Buy me a coffee, Our Wishlist ETC.
<https://linktr.ee/Quiltsforsurvivors>

Survey



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

Quilt Canada Blocks



We are asking for 12.5-inch blocks at our
Quilt Canada booth in Edmonton, Alberta.
We have a goal of 1,000 blocks.
If you cannot attend please email
admin@quiltsforsurvivors.ca for the mailing address

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.



Wishlist

Purchasing items off our Wishlist helps
us get things we need for the 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 **4,802** 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, 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

420 Government Rd S, Timmins, ON P4R 1N4

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

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

420 Government Rd S, Timmins, ON P4R 1N4

To ship directly to a Survivor please email: 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

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WWW.QUILTSFORSURVIVORS.CA

Catch the freshest News
Updated frequently
Read anytime, anywhere

Messages From Our Board

Board Member Clara W

Greetings All

Happy Spring. Did everyone have their fill of Easter joy and goodies?

Vanessa continues to receive recognition for her work; the most recent that we are very excited about is the Governor General's award. CONGRATULATIONS Vanessa and very very well deserved.

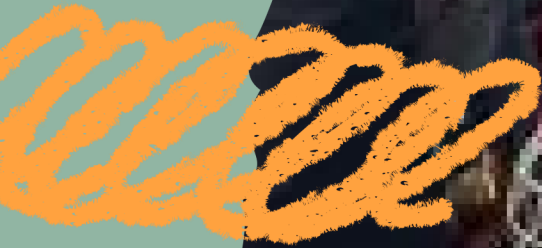
A huge thank you to Mennonite Central Committee for their recent donation of **1,000 lbs of quilts**. How many quilts is that? The generous donation cuts on the waiting time for a quilt. The challenge now is finding the funds to ship the quilts as quickly as possible.

The **2nd Annual Sewing Retreat** is almost SOLD OUT. Amazingly, this event has tripled in size in one year which could not happen without the support and dedication of QFS friends across Turtle Island. Kathryn has done an awesome job on the promotion of the event. Invite your friend's friends and let's continue to grow the friends of Quilts for Survivors.

Enjoy spring. The change in season always brings new energy.

Meegwetch





Congratulations To all The Missanabie Maskwa Players at LNHL 2024! Quilts For Survivors is a proud sponsor!!