

Newsletter

Vol. 1 Issue 2

September 2022

Message from our CEO/Founder

With summer coming to an end and the children heading back to school as I sit here in my office reflecting on where we have come in a quick and short 13 months. For me this time of year is not a painful one. It does not bring sadness to me a mother sending my two youngest off to school. Wallace will be in Grade 2 and Josee will be in Senior Kindergarten.

This is a time to celebrate how far they have come and the growth they will have over this next school year. They will be able to come home each day and share their day with me and the family. They do not have to worry about being away from mom and dad. They can enjoy school in their own way. For decades this was not the case with our indigenous children school was not something that they looked forward to. These little ones of mine are not ashamed to be identified as indigenous children. They can be proud of their culture in and out of school. I am thankful that their school also provides traditional teachings and honors our past.

This was not always the way our ancestors attended school. In order to know where we are going, we need to understand where we have been where our ancestors have been. By remembering their past, we are honouring our future and the future of all Canadians. "It takes a community to raise a child. It takes a country to heal our nations." I believe that QFS is helping to heal our nations one quilt at a time. – V. Genier

Quilt presented to the Children of Shingwauk



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 Floannery for Laurie Rose Disigns.

Classes will be held every third Sunday of the month from September to June. The first Class is September 18, 2022, from 2pm-4pm EST. To register please email vanessa@quiltsforsurvivors.ca



QFS Spreading comfort

Out in the communities

This past month QFS has been to Sault St. Marie to attend the Shingwauk gathering. Where we presented a wall hanging. We also were proud to be a part of the Walk of Sorrow gathering here in Timmins to welcome Patricia Ballantyne and her group stopped by on their way to Ottawa and the East coast. It was an honour to speak with her again and to offer quilts to survivors who also attend the activities in the park that day. Over 20 quilts/table runners were given out that day.

We also had a booth at the Missanabie Cree business day. In Missanabie ON. It is always special when we can share about this organization on my traditional lands. I was able to share this organization with the other businesses there. The response was very positive.

My interview with Karn Brown was uploaded to YouTube this past month. That one interview has brought over 300 new members. Thank you, Karen, for taking the time to speak with me. Here is the link.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k7qTSUQz7IA>

Upcoming Events:

September 18th – QFS Class Quilt Blocks 1 & 2 (see website for more information)

September 17 & 18 – Northern College Pow Wow (come help at the QFS booth)

September 30 – Blanket Ceremony Toronto Ontario



Quilts, Quilts, and more Quilts

In case you didn't hear we have now sent over 1,900 quilts. That is over 100 times more quilts than my original goal. WOW! Thank you all for more now it is our hope that you will take time once a week or even once a month to come in a work a few hours or spend the whole day with us. See attached Calander for full details.