

# GLOBAL FRIDAY

September 25, 2009

Senate Chambers - 12:00 – 1:30

## Emilie Smith



### “GOLD LUST: Canada and Mining on Sacred Land in Guatemala”

At present, a mostly unacknowledged yet world-wide conceptual struggle for the understanding of what Earth *\*is\**, or what Earth is *\*for\**, is taking place. This struggle is essentially a theological issue, based on a conflict of deeply differing world-views. Emilie Smith will explore this struggle through the story of one community, San Bartolomeo Sipakapa, in the department of San Marcos, Guatemala, as they faced historical forces of domination and how Canada has taken the role of the most recent dominant oppressive power in the community. How does this geographical site manifest varying constructions of what *\*Earth\** is, and what human relationships to *\*Earth\** should be?



*Emilie Smith is an ordained priest in the Anglican Church of Canada (2004) and recently completed Master's in Theology at the Vancouver School of Theology based on her research and solidarity connections with the sacred theology of land in Guatemala.*

*Emilie is a founding member of the Guatemalan-Canadian women's group Nuestra Voz based in Vancouver. Emilie's published work includes "The Granddaughters of Ixmucané: Guatemalan Women Speak" (1991) and three children's books. "Viva Zapata" was published this week by Tradewinds.*