

Canadian Yearly Meeting Education & Outreach Committee

Announces an Online Course Fall 2015

“Introduction to Quakers and Friends’ Ways”

Facilitator: Eric Kristensen, Vancouver Monthly Meeting

Friends across Canada are invited to participate in an online course that will begin in October (the course was previously offered this past winter and in 2012). The six week course will begin early October and conclude in late November 2015, with no class during the period October 22-November 2. If needed, two different sessions may be offered to accommodate participants from different regions of the country.

“Introduction to Quakers and Friends’ Ways” will address the early history of Friends, the history of Friends in Canada, the experiential nature of Quaker faith, the role of the Meeting in Quaker life, Quaker testimonies and their origin, and how our Quaker community nurtures how we live, work, worship, and transact business.

Participants will receive readings in advance for each of the six weekly sessions and connect via online video conference and/or telephone. Each session will last two hours. The full course descriptions, readings and resource materials are available on the CYM web site here:

<http://quaker.ca/resources/education/>

The course will include worship, active exercises, reflections from readings and the application to one’s own life of what is learned.

Online polls for scheduling the time and day for each course will be sent to all interested participants to determine the best time for the greatest number. In order to ensure that these courses are a positive and engaging experience, the number of participants in each course will be limited to ten. If there is sufficient interest, the course will be offered again in the winter.

How to Sign Up

The course is free of charge and open to members and attenders of meetings and worship groups in Canada. To indicate your interest in taking this course, please send the following information to onlinecourse@quaker.ca preferably by Sunday, October 4. (Later applications will be considered if there is space).

Please include the following information in your e-mail:

1. Name
2. City, Town or Location and Province
3. Email address
4. Telephone number
5. Time Zone (NT, AT, ET, CT, MT or PT)
6. Meeting or Worship Group

7. What days and times are you most available to participate in a two hour course (weekends included)?

If you wish to inquire by telephone, please send an email to the above address, including your telephone number and the best time to reach you (please include your time zone).

The facilitator, Eric Kristensen, is retired from a career in university teaching development. He is currently clerk of Vancouver Friends Meeting. Previously, he was a member of North Shore Friends Meeting in Beverly Farms, Massachusetts (New England Yearly Meeting) and has been a member of the Society since joining Friends Meeting at Cambridge (Massachusetts) in 1978. He has served on the boards of the American Friends Service Committee, Friends General Conference, and Moses Brown School (Providence, Rhode Island). He has also served on many committees in those organisations as well as clerk for New England Yearly Meeting's Permanent Board and Friends for Lesbian and Gay Concerns (now FLGBTQC). He holds the M.Div. from Harvard Divinity School and an M.A. in Musicology from Harvard University as well as a B.A from Columbia University.