

2018 Minutes of the
Canadian Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends

Monday Morning, August 6, 2018

Georgian College, Barrie, Ontario on Anishnaabek Traditional Territory
Clerks: Beverly Shepard, Presiding Clerk, Elaine Bishop, Mentoring Clerk
Beverly Shepard presiding
Recording Clerks: John Samson Fellows, Dale Dewar

18.08.01 Opening Worship:

Presiding Clerk Beverly Shepard read from *Faith and Practice of Canadian Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (4.27)*:

Inspired by the Sunderland P. Gardner Lecture presented by Murray Thomson in 2006, Canadian Yearly Meeting in session approved the statement, "Toward a Culture of Peace," which includes these prophetic words.

As a Society, we have refused to condone or participate in war. As a result of our witness and that of other historic peace churches, the right of conscientious objection to war has become a right of all Canadian citizens...

Since the end of World War II, Canadians have made longlasting contributions toward building a global culture of peace. Canada helped to construct and put into place many agencies of the United Nations, including its major programmes for disarmament, development and human rights. Our country contributed to strengthening institutions of international law. And, until recently, Canadians led and participated in almost all of the united peacekeeping missions. Canada has also been a haven for immigrants and refugees.

To our dismay, we witness a change in our country's moral compass, one that points away from a culture of peace toward a culture of war...

The Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) calls on our government and fellow citizens to turn away from a culture of war toward a culture of peace.

We call on our government to redirect vision and resources into an ecologically sustainable planet Earth...

We are part of a great chain of people who care about the Earth. Let us work to protect and restore it again to health...

And in such ways we Friends will be faithful to our 350 year tradition. In the words of William Penn, seventeenth century Quaker, "Let us try, then, and see what love can do."

18.08.02 Welcome from Elder Jeff Monague. We were welcomed to territory covered by the Upper Canada Treaties by Anishnaabe Elder Jeff Monague, from Coldwater and of Christian Island. He spoke about the continued resilience and strength of the Anishnaabek people and shared some of the history of the land upon which we are meeting. He encouraged us to work together, as we are all connected to each other and to the earth, for justice and true reconciliation.

2018.08.03 Welcome from Georgian College. A representative from Georgian College warmly welcomed us to this meeting place. She noted that the College was established in 1967, and that, as well as Canadian students, they currently have international students from 60 other countries. She also invited us to visit their Indigenous Resource Centre and announced their annual Pow Wow.

2018.08.04 Land Acknowledgment: The Clerk acknowledged that our sessions are taking place on the traditional land of the Anishnaabek. Georgian College is dedicated to honouring indigenous history and culture, and is committed to moving forward with real reconciliation.

2018.08.05 The Clerk acknowledged ministry about Hiroshima Day and relayed a six point message to CYM given to Colin Stuart by Murray Thomson:

1. To survive, we must solve the twin problems of disarmament and the environment.
2. We have to be out front and involved, not just going with traditional and familiar Quaker positions.
3. We must act with others, especially with other organizations.
4. We should be prepared to pay a price. It may be great or may be small, but there will be a price.
5. Listen to our young people. We should be both critical and supportive.
6. First Nations are intimately related to both concerns in #1 above (disarmament and the environment).

2018.08.06 We acknowledged Monthly Meeting Delegates to Canadian Yearly Meeting:

Annapolis Monthly Meeting: Carol Bradley, Marilyn Manzer

Argenta Monthly Meeting: Celia Cheatley
 Calgary Monthly Meeting: Jacquie Bonner, Heidi Dick, Alina Freedman
 Coldstream Monthly Meeting: Carl & Marilyn Thomas, Pat Moauro
 Cowichan Valley Monthly Meeting: none
 Edmonton Monthly Meeting: Wesley Glebe
 Halifax Monthly Meeting: none
 Hamilton Monthly Meeting: Paul Dekar
 Interior BC Quakers: none
 Kitchener Area Monthly Meeting: Rachel McQuail, Robin Sanders
 New Brunswick Monthly Meeting: Ellen Helmuth
 Montreal Monthly Meeting: David Millar, David Summerhays
 Ottawa Monthly Meeting: Carol Dixon, Tasmin Rajotte, Judith Brown
 Pelham Executive Meeting: none
 Peterborough Monthly Meeting: Anne Trudell
 Prairie Monthly Meeting: Dale Dewar
 Saanich-Peninsula Monthly Meeting: none
 Saskatoon Monthly Meeting: none
 Thousand Island Monthly Meeting: none
 Toronto Monthly Meeting: Mark Ebden, Parker Glynn-Adey, Art Helmuth
 Winnipeg Monthly Meeting: Elaine Bishop, Charlotte Burch, John Samson
 Fellows, Zaley Warkentin
 Vancouver Island Monthly Meeting: Adrian Dolling, Lynne Phillips, Nori
 Sinclair
 Vancouver Monthly Meeting: Gail Horwood, Maxine Kaufman-Lacusta
 Yarmouth Monthly Meeting: Jane Zavitz-Bond
 Yonge Street Monthly Meeting: Jeff Little, Gini Smith

2018.08.07 We acknowledged guests from other Meetings, and received greetings:

- Anne Pomeroy, New Paltz Monthly Meeting, New York Yearly Meeting, brought greetings from New York Yearly Meeting and New England Yearly Meeting and Friends General Conference. She is serving as the visitor from FGC to CYM.
- Arthur Larrabee brought greetings from Philadelphia MM.
- Gloria Thompson, Representative of Friends World Committee for Consultation and New York Monthly Meeting, is expected on August 8th.

Visitors:

- Jeannette Fraser, Britain Yearly Meeting
- Hugh O'Farrell Walsh, Ireland Yearly Meeting

We extend the freedom of the meeting to our visitors and guests.

2018.08.08 Births, adoptions, marriages, deaths and new members:

Births and adoptions: Calla Vasary (Ottawa Monthly Meeting), Ruth Anna Zimri Stevenson (Interior British Columbia Monthly Meeting), Emanuele Clare Matas (Kitchener Area Monthly Meeting), Isabel Samantha Hildebrand, Henry Roy Findlater (Winnipeg Monthly Meeting), Graeme Little, Sebastian Webb (Younge Street Monthly Meeting).

Marriages: Carla Muschinske & Denis Wolfe, Ben Segal-Brown & Alexa Baird, Rebecca Wolsak & Mike Gifford (Ottawa Monthly Meeting); Allison Penner and Ian Findlater (Winnipeg Monthly Meeting); Richard Kamus and Phil Dermott (Younge Street Monthly Meeting).

Deaths: Sue Hill (Ottawa Monthly Meeting); Jim Prentice, Maisy Priestman, Alvera Witt (Vancouver Island Monthly Meeting); Betty Tillotson, Imma Askevold (Argenta Monthly Meeting); Tina Downham, Donald Frost, Angela Graham (Coldstream Monthly Meeting); Vivien Abbott (Cowichan Monthly Meeting); Mary Engelman (Edmonton Monthly Meeting); Valerie Osborne, Betty Peterson (Halifax Monthly Meeting); David Corbett, John Milton, Caroline Johnson, Jean Johnson (Hamilton Monthly Meeting); Phyllis Gray, Shirley Lewis (Interior British Columbia Monthly Meeting); Barbara Rahn (Kitchener Area Monthly Meeting); Madeleine Sherwood (Montreal Monthly Meeting); Edith Miller (New Brunswick Monthly Meeting); Patty Lembke (Prairie Monthly Meeting); Tony Richmond, Bert Ross (Younge Street Monthly Meeting); David Bogart (Yarmouth Monthly Meeting).

New Members: Zoltan Vasary, Manuela Popovici, Maricarmen Guevara (Ottawa Monthly Meeting); Rachel Yorly (Vancouver Monthly Meeting); Murray Strong, Brigitte Wellershausen-Shaw (Vancouver Island Monthly Meeting); Graeme Little, Jean Claridge (Younge Street Monthly Meeting); Pat Gere (Coldstream Monthly Meeting); Jocelyn Wood, Lana Robinson (Cowichan Valley Monthly Meeting); Susan Holtz, Cynthia Martin (Halifax Monthly Meeting); Michael Pedruski, Wendy Eberle-Sinatra, Sherry Honke, William Holmes (Montreal MM); Wruth Wood (Winnipeg Monthly Meeting); Jean Claridge (Younge Street Monthly Meeting); Louis C. Charland (Yarmouth Monthly Meeting).

Transfers: Barbara Everdene (from Vancouver Island to Vancouver Monthly Meeting).

2018.08.09 Virginia Dawson reported that the Central Executive Committee of Friends World Committee for Consultation will be meeting in Canada in 2019, possibly at Camp NeeKauNis.

2018.08.10 Greetings from affiliated Meetings: A letter from Friends World Committee for Consultation was read by the Clerk. LETTER APPENDED (Appendix 1)

2018.08.11 In the absence of a Naming Committee, Program Committee was given its task. We thank Kenna Manos for this service and approve the following names:

Correspondence Committee: Carol Bradley, Carol Dixon, Bev Jackson, Rosemary Meier.

Epistle Committee: Gini Smith, Carl Stieren, Rosemary Meier, Timothy Kitz, Sherryll Harris.

Gleanings: Marilyn Manzer, Chris Hitchcock, Marilyn Thomas, David Summerhays, Lilia Fick, Caroline Martindale.

Meeting Room Preparation: Virginia Dawson, Anne Mitchell, Carol Dixon, Celia Cheatley, Carl Thomas, David Raymond, Tom Edge, Catherine Sutherland.

Doorkeepers: Sheila Havard, Barbara Horvath, Rose Marie Cipryk, Grace Wolf, Cynthia Hastings, Janette Fraser, Parker Glynn-Adey.

Minute Review Committee: Carol Leigh Wehking, John Dixon, Ruth Urban Shipley.

Periodical Reporters Committee: Margaret Slavin, Manuela Popovici, Judith Brown.

2018.08.12 CYM in session received Representative Meeting Minutes, Committee Reports and reports of CYM delegates to other bodies.

2018.08.13 Beverly Shepard, Clerk of Continuing Meeting of Ministry and Counsel, introduced the members of Continuing Meeting of Ministry and Counsel, and each member spoke of the care that they will be giving to the Yearly Meeting this week:

Erika Koenig Sheridan: Memorial Meeting.

Jeff Dudiak: Experience of the Spirit in my Life.

Lesley Read: Memorial Meeting, Worship Study, responding to issues or concerns, especially harassment and abuse.

Charles Brown: Evening with Continuing Meeting of Ministry and Counsel, with Beverly Shepard.

Linda Foy: Coordinating Listeners.

We were reminded there are two opportunities to meet with Ministry and Counsel at CYM:

- Yearly Meeting Ministry and Counsel, made up of all members of Ministry and Counsels of Monthly Meetings, will be held on Tuesday evening.
- On Thursday evening, the theme for the CMMC evening will be “How to relate to and support those who have become estranged from our Meeting.”

2018.08.14 Formation of the Atlantic Half-Yearly Meeting. Ellen Helmuth spoke as incoming clerk of Atlantic Half-Yearly Meeting, and Celia Cheatly spoke on behalf of the committee of care for the formation of the Atlantic Half-Yearly Meeting. The letter confirming that Atlantic Friends wish to move forward is included in Representative Meeting Minutes of June 2017. We joyfully approve the formation of the Atlantic Half-Yearly Meeting.

2018.08.15 We lay down the adhoc Atlantic Half-Yearly Meeting Clearness Committee with our great thanks. Warm expressions of gratitude were given to the clearness committee for their help with discernment.

2018.08.16 We ask Discipline Review Committee to revise *Organization and Procedure* to reflect the process developed in forming Atlantic Half Yearly Meeting.

2018.08.17 We accepted the Supplementary Clerk’s Report covering June 1 to July 31, 2018.

We approve that Nominating Committee will now name the Naming Committee at their April Meeting. We refer this to Discipline Review Committee.

We acknowledge the wonderful and transformational work of CYM Secretary Cameron Fraser.

2018.08.18 Elaine Bishop shared her exit reflections, which are a part of the supplementary Clerk’s Report:

August 3, 2018

Supplementary Clerks’ Report covering June 1-July 31, 2018

- Since June 1 Clerks' Committee has met three times.
- Clerks' Committee has worked on the following during this time:
 - Continuing to support the work of Personnel Committee as it addresses issues related to CYM as an employer and as a holder of contracts.
 - Preparing for Canadian Yearly Meeting-in-session. This has included discerning agenda items. In situations where more preparation is needed before an agenda item comes for Friends' discernment, working with the relevant committee to defer items to Representative Meeting in November. Currently this involves:
 - Discerning right relationships between CYM, CFSC and Kairos.
 - Discerning right relationships between CYM, CFSC and Project Ploughshares.
 - Follow-up with the Ad Hoc Committee on Liaison with Evangelical French-speaking Friends (ADCLEFF).
 - Working with the CYM Accountant, Lorraine Burke, and Jeff Dudiak, Edmonton MM who attended the most recent Friends United Meeting (FUM) Triennial, on the Agency Agreement between FUM and Canadian Yearly Meeting. Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) requires agency agreements to be in place before CYM can transfer funds outside of Canada. CRA also requires that CYM have a governance role with the organization such as FUM so that CYM can be responsible for ensuring that the funds are used for the purpose outlined in the Agency Agreement. Such agreements enable Canadian Friends and Meetings to support these projects through CYM to receive a charitable receipt and for CYM to be responsible for the transfer of the funds outside Canada. For the past some years CYM has contributed to two FUM projects: Ramallah Friends School in Ramallah, the Palestinian Territories, and Lugulu Hospital in Kenya. FUM no longer funds the Lugulu Hospital. Elaine Bishop asked if CYM could add to its Agency Agreement with FUM the Friends School in Belize. Adrian Bishop and Rosalie Dance, occasional attenders at Winnipeg MM, have just started a three year term of service with the Belize Friends School, which serves students who fail to pass the Belize exam that gives them access to high school. Adrian and Rosalie will be assisting by mentoring the teaching staff to improve teaching skills and improvements of the school buildings and grounds. After consultation with Nominating Committee which is bringing forward a proposed name for the General Board of FUM, Clerks Committee agreed to amend the FUM Agency Agreement to remove the Lugulu hospital and add the

Friends School in Belize. It also recognized the need to establish an agreed upon process for deciding on the projects that CYM supports through FUM.

- Supporting the work of the CYM Secretary including approving his involvement with the Young Friends risk analysis prior to their pre-CYM gathering.
- Proposing a new way of appointing the Naming Committee for CYM-in-Session. Naming Committee discerns the right people to serve on a variety of committees that function only at CYM-in-Session such as the Epistle Committee, correspondence committee and the doorkeepers. Appointing this committee formerly was the responsibility of the Spring Representative Meeting which was laid down in 2014. Program Committee has done the Naming Committee's work for the past two years given that no Naming Committee could be appointed. It is being proposed that CYM Nominating Committee take on the task of appointing the Naming Committee at its April meeting. This will require a change in Organization and Procedure to document this.
- Responding to the failure of Monthly Meetings and Worship Groups to receive a survey from Friends General Conference's (FGC) committee working on an institutional assessment of racism within FGC.
- Seeking solutions to some continuing problems with communications within CYM's quaker.ca email system.
- Starting to reflect on models of clerking CYM and Representative Meeting.

Beverly Shepard, Presiding Clerk and Elaine Bishop, Mentoring Clerk

Exit Reflections

Being Clerk of CYM over these past four years has been both an amazing honour and, at times, a burden! As I step out of this role I have shared some reflections with both Clerks' Committee and the CYM Secretary who have encouraged me to share them with CYM.

- There is a power within Quakerism, and thereby within Canadian Yearly Meeting, which at its deepest invites the world into relationships of peace, integrity, truth, simplicity and right relationship with others and with the Earth. This is a rare and precious gift in this time of the world.
- For Quakerism to be at its deepest it needs effective leadership that is grounded in those same testimonies of peace, truth, integrity, simplicity and right relationship—different expressions of leadership than in much of the world but still leadership. I am deeply thankful for all those in CYM who are

carrying roles of clerking, recording, staffing, representing CYM on outside bodies and serving on committees, those in CYM who are developing and expressing this transformative leadership.

- In the last few years CYM has made some decisions, sometimes quickly due to concerns about financial viability, which have had unplanned ramifications that still are being identified as needing solutions. How can we learn from this?
 - The decision to no longer print Documents in Advance and CYM minutes and, so far, to not institute an alternative indexed version has made it more difficult to track our decisions, especially when looking for longer term patterns in our discernment.
 - This also saw the loss of the printed directory. A revised directory developed in collaboration with CYM's privacy commissioner is far less effective due to sparse participation of members and attenders. A directory of almost 900 now is one of closer to 300. Friends—you are missed! Please contact the Office Administrator if you want to return to the CYM directory.
 - We continue to find tasks assigned to Spring Representative Meeting that no longer takes place, such as Naming Committee mentioned above.
- I continue to be deeply grateful to the changes I am seeing, and the lifting of the weight on the shoulders of the CYM Clerks, of the work of the CYM Secretary. Issues of which I had been aware but to which had been unable to respond given the weight of work on the clerks, are receiving attention. Staff time is supporting committee members and participants to be more effective, and hopefully to enjoy the work more. The reality of a western presence of CYM staff is an important expression of being a Canadian whole—something that I experience as a Westerner! The growing development of the three CYM office staff as a team that enables CYM as a whole is so encouraging. This has included both the Office Administrator and Accountant having increased hours and taking on more responsibility. This provides more potential for increased cross-committee collaboration. I find richer satisfaction clerking in this context as problems are being solved, not just identified. My hope is, with such changes, that more Friends may see a potential for including CYM clerking in their busy lives because the job has become more manageable. This may require, though, Friends to see way forward for maintaining a staff team that provides the support needed for effective functioning of the Yearly Meeting.

- I am deeply grateful to my Winnipeg Monthly Meeting Committee of Care, Charlotte Burch and Elizabeth MacAdam. The monthly times we have spent together have nourished me and shared some of the weight of the clerk's role! And benefitted my garden as our meeting cycle has integrated an annual trip to Sage Gardens, the only organic garden shop in Winnipeg which exists beyond the end of the bus routes!
- One of the continuing challenges I see for Friends is ways of engaging with conflict in creative ways. Quaker structures seem to reflect an unspoken assumption that things will always go well. Despite the rich wisdom of our testimonies, naming conflict, having the tools to analyze conflicts and addressing them remain hard!

Thank-you, Friends, for offering me this opportunity. Thank-you to all who have expressed your support and love during these past four years. God bless, and I look forward to seeing you next year in Winnipeg when I look forward to being part of the Local Arrangements Committee!

Elaine Bishop, Mentoring Clerk.

We encourage Committees and Clerks to share their thoughts about joys, sorrows and ways we could improve.

We express our profound gratitude to Elaine for her caring and dedicated and transformative service.

2018.08.19 Meeting closed with Worship.

Tuesday Morning, August 6, 2018

Georgian College, Barrie, Ontario on Anishnaabek Traditional Territory
 Clerks: Beverly Shepard, Presiding Clerk, Elaine Bishop, Mentoring Clerk
 Beverly Shepard presiding
 Recording Clerks: John Samson Fellows, Dale Dewar

2018.08.20 Opening Worship:

Clerk Beverly Shepard read the following quotation:

*Some who have had little experience of Yearly Meeting may wonder what the attraction of this gathering may be for those who love to attend. These are some of the opportunities as I see them: to practice following the leadings of the Spirit in a week-long intentional Quaker community; to learn from our mistakes and try again until we get it right; to tell our stories to a sympathetic audience; to concentrate on the work that we understand God wants us to do; to laugh and dance and sing in celebration of our shared faith and interrelatedness; and to take part in daily corporate worship. —Margaret Clayton Chapman, 1995, #3.85 in *Canadian Faith and Practice**

2018.08.21 Land Acknowledgement: The Clerk acknowledged that our sessions are taking place on the traditional land of the Anishnaabek.

2018.08.22 Publications and Communications: *Canadian Friend* editor Tim Kitz asked us to send writings about Canadian Yearly Meeting to editor@quaker.ca for the next issue of the *Canadian Friend*. The deadline is September 1. Tim would also appreciate any photos from CYM. Tim gave us a tutorial on how to use the business section of quaker.ca, which will be updated throughout CYM.

2018.08.23 Welcome to new visitors: We recognized newly-arrived visitors and friends.

2018.08.24 Advices & Queries Request by Peterborough Monthly Meeting: A request was made by Peterborough Monthly Meeting that CYM compose an Advice and/or Query regarding relationships with Indigenous Peoples.

Advices and Queries are one of three integral parts of our Discipline, along with *Faith and Practice* and *Organization and Procedure*. It is the only part we have not adapted to the Canadian context.

As we do not have a process for writing new advices or queries, we ask an ad hoc working group to explore the possibility of developing such a process and report the results of their discernment to Canadian Yearly Meeting at this Friday's Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business.

We name to the ad hoc working group the following Friends: Celia Cheatley, Judith Brown, Gini Smith (subject to consent), and Colin Stuart.

2018.08.25 Reporting and Cleanness for Program Committee: The report, as published in *Documents in Advance* and appended here (appendix 2), was presented by Nathalie Brunet. Program Committee poses the question of where Canadian Yearly Meeting should be held and whether we should continue our four-year cycle of sites across Canada. Nathalie explained that it is difficult to find locations for Yearly Meeting in Session that satisfy all conditions which Friends would like. Canadian Mennonite University (CMU) in Winnipeg, which we have used regularly, is a site that is conducive to Canadian Yearly Meeting spiritual values, permits a food co-op, allows camping and is located close to a green space. It is also close to the local airport, which facilitates transportation. Going to the same site every year makes arrangements easier.

The option of using the Winnipeg site each year was discussed. Out of this discussion emerged the following points:

- Because the location would not change, some people would always incur higher travel costs. The savings to Yearly Meeting might be used to subsidize these costs.
- The same local Meeting would be responsible for local arrangements each year. They would need extra support.
- Concerns were raised about distances and carbon footprint.

Yearly Meeting is already booked at Canadian Mennonite University in Winnipeg for 2019. Based on the discussion, we ask Program Committee to book with CMU for 2020, subject to availability. We will evaluate this experiment. We also ask Representative Meeting in November 2018 to discern whether a third year (2021) should be booked in Winnipeg.

We thank the Committee for its work.

2018.08.26 Website Request Vancouver MM requested that the CYM website, which provides the list of Canadian Meetings for Worship, be listed with *Friends Journal*. We approve the suggestion and refer the matter to Education and Outreach.

2018.08.27 Meeting closed with Worship.

Wednesday Morning, August 8, 2018

Georgian College, Barrie, Ontario on Anishnaabek Traditional Territory
 Clerks: Beverly Shepard, Presiding Clerk, Elaine Bishop, Mentoring Clerk
 Elaine Bishop presiding
 Recording Clerks: John Samson Fellows, Dale Dewar

2018.08.28 Opening Worship

*Perhaps more wonderful still is the way beauty breaks through. It breaks through not only at a few highly organized points, it breaks through almost everywhere. Even the minutest things reveal it as well as do the sublimest things, like the stars. Whatever one sees through a microscope, a bit of mould for example, is charged with beauty. And yet beauty has no function, no utility. Its value is intrinsic, not extrinsic. It is its own excuse for being. It greases no wheels, it bakes no puddings. It is a gift of sheer grace, a gratuitous largesse. It must imply behind things a Spirit that enjoys beauty for its own sake and that floods the world everywhere with it. Wherever it can break through, it does break through, and our joy in it shows that we are in some sense kindred to the giver and revealer of it.—Rufus M. Jones, 1920, #136 *Christian Faith and Practice**

2018.08.29 Land Acknowledgement: The Clerk acknowledged that we are gathering and meeting on the traditional territory of the Anishnaabek people.

2018.08.30 Welcome to new visitors: We acknowledged newly-arrived Friends.

2018.08.31 Business arising from Canadian Yearly Meeting 2016 and Representative Meeting 2017:

2018.08.31.1 Carbon Audit and Carbon Coordinator update. Regarding CYM minute 16.08.47: this minute was discussed in the Quaker Environmental Action Network (QUAN) Special Interest Group, and the outstanding need for a carbon audit and appointment of a carbon coordinator was noted. A group of Friends has come forward indicating a willingness to do this work as a team. We ask Nominating Committee to consider this proposal and bring forward their discernment to Representative Meeting, 2018. We thank QEAN. Mark Burch of Winnipeg Monthly Meeting is ready to share the audit process used by Winnipeg MM.

2018.08.31.2 Discipline Review Committee: Discipline Review Committee presented its report (appendix 3) and the following items were brought forward for changes to *Organization and Procedure*:

- Section 6.10 Camp NeeKauNis—New Terms of Reference for First Reading. After comments from Friends, we ask Camp NeeKauNis Committee and Discipline Review Committee to bring a revised First Reading of Section 6.10 to Representative Meeting in November, 2018.
- Section 6.13 Contributions Committee—Second Reading of Section 6.13 was made. Changes were requested from the floor. The reading is sent back to Discipline Review Committee and other associated bodies to bring a revision back for Second Reading to CYM 2019.
- Section 6.20 Naming Committee. First Reading of Section 6.20 was approved.
- Second Reading of Section 6.21. Clarifications were requested from the floor to be made for Second Reading at Representative Meeting, 2018. Friends who suggested changes are asked to provide them in writing to Discipline Review Committee.

Regarding CYM minute 16.08.27: we ask Nominating Committee to discern Friends to work with a member of Discipline Review Committee to undertake a complete rewrite of *Organization and Procedure*. We understand that those asked to serve should be willing to commit for the time this task requires, rather than our regular three year rotation.

We express our deep gratitude to Discipline Review Committee, along with our technical support Jackie Bonner, who helped enormously with this presentation.

2018.08.32 Reporting and Clearness: Nominating Committee.

Nominating Committee notes challenges in filling roles because of loss of momentum due to the fallow year.

Friends shared many perspectives from the floor:

- Are there more effective ways by which Friends' gifts become known to their meetings and Nominating Committee?
- Is our current structure sustainable?
- Do we have the courage to stop to reflect upon the technological and social changes occurring outside of Quakerism and explore new ways of structuring our community?

We commend all of these ideas to Nominating Committee and thank them for their important work.

2018.08.33 Arthur Larrabee said goodbye and thanked CYM for the welcome and the opening of the meeting to his participation.

2018.08.34 Meeting closed with Worship.

Thursday Morning, August 9, 2018

Georgian College, Barrie, Ontario on Anishnaabek Traditional Territory
 Clerks: Beverly Shepard, Presiding Clerk, Elaine Bishop, Mentoring Clerk
 Beverly Shepard presiding
 Recording Clerks: John Samson Fellows, Dale Dewar

2018.08.35 Meeting opened with Worship.

...hear my voice, for it is the voice of all children who suffer and will suffer when people put their faith in weapons and war;

Hear my voice when I beg you to instill into the hearts of all human beings the wisdom of peace, the strength of justice, and the joy of fellowship;

Hear my voice, for I speak for the multitudes in every country and in every period of history who do not want war and are ready to walk the road of peace;

Hear my voice and grant insight and strength so that we may always respond to hatred with love, to injustice with total dedication to justice, to need with the sharing of self, to war with peace.

O God, hear my voice and grant unto the world your everlasting peace.

—*Appeal for Peace at Hiroshima*, Pope John Paul II, February 25, 1981, Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park.

2018.08.36 Land Acknowledgement: The Clerk acknowledged that we are gathering and meeting on the traditional territory of the Anishnaabek.

2018.08.37 Newly Arrived: We acknowledged newly arrived Friends.

2018.08.38 Nominating Committee Report. The Nominating Committee report was received and approved with thanks. Approved names and positions will be appended to these minutes. Concerns regarding Camp NeeKaunNis nominations were raised. After consultation among Nominating Committee, Continuing Meeting of Ministry and Counsel (CMMC), and the Clerks, it was determined that the Clerks' Committee, CMMC and Nominating Committee should continue working to resolve concerns, and bring forward names for Camp NeeKauNis Committee to Clerks' Committee in September.

Nathalie Brunet has kindly offered to serve as mentor to an incoming Program Committee Clerk. We are especially hopeful to fill this position.

The Clerk warmly welcomed Friends to their new positions, and expressed our gratitude to those whose terms are ending.

Many key positions remain unfilled, including the following:

Incoming Clerk
 Personnel Committee - 5 positions
 Education and Outreach Committee - 4 positions
 Contributions Committee - 2 positions

We ask all meetings and worship groups to seek possible Friends to fill these positions, and to send any names discerned to CYM Nominating Committee.

2018.08.39 Abolition of the Death Penalty. We received the following minute from the Special Interest Group on the Abolition of the Death Penalty:

Canadian Friends greet with gratitude and deep joy the news of alterations to the Roman Catholic catechism to clarify that the death penalty is completely unacceptable, and that the Roman Catholic Church will work “with determination for its abolition worldwide.”

We ask the Clerk of Yearly Meeting to write to the Pope on our behalf, communicating this Minute and expressing our gratitude that the pope and the Roman Catholic Church will be joining us and others in efforts toward worldwide abolition of the death penalty.

We thank the Special Interest Group for their attention and care, and ask them to send their draft letter to the CYM Clerks. We approved this minute, and ask the CYM Clerks to compose a letter to the Pope.

2018.08.40 Abolition of Nuclear Weapons. We received the following from the Special Interest Group on the receipt of the Nobel Peace Prize 2017, by the International Campaign on the Abolition of Nuclear Weapons (ICAN):

The Campaign originated in 2007. It was sponsored by the International Physicians for Prevention of Nuclear War, and quickly gathered members including the International Red Cross/Red Crescent Society. The International Association of Lawyers Against Nuclear Arms designed a comprehensive treaty, which was eventually presented to the United Nations in spring 2017. On July 7, 2017, 122 nations of the UN agreed to the treaty. To date, 59 countries have

signed and 16 nations have ratified it. When ratified by 50 countries, the treaty will automatically go into force.

Canadian Yearly Meeting became a partner organization in 2012 and shares in the honours conveyed by the Nobel Peace Prize. The name “Religious Society of Friends, Canada” is recorded upon the stone marker in Oslo, Norway as a member recipient.

All member recipients are to be congratulated. The International Campaign is still open to new membership, and individual meetings are encouraged to become members at www.icanw.org.

Elaine Bishop, Presiding Clerk

2018.08.41 Extended Worship for Young Friends (YFs) and Young Adult Friends (YAFs).

We gathered in extended worship for two hours to create space for deep listening to YFs and YAFs. Younger Friends sat in the middle of the room and older Friends surrounded and upheld them in the Light. YFs and YAFs shared some of the challenges and joys of being young people in the Religious Society of Friends.

We were invited to consider the query: “How can and how do Quakers welcome and nourish Young Friends and Young Adult Friends, recognizing them as valued community members?”

A Young Adult Friend read the Canadian Young Friends Yearly Meeting Discernment Report, which included recommendations for Canadian Yearly Meeting. This report is appended. We support the directions YFs and YAFs have identified for themselves. We ask YFs and YAFs, with the support of the CYM Secretary, to bring their questions and requests to Representative Meeting.

We were reminded that true welcome should be a constant and continually evolving practice in our community. Our young Friends should be cherished, like new shoots in a garden, but free to grow in ways we may not expect or anticipate. Older Friends need to trust in the form of the working of the spirit in the lives of younger Friends. We need to be careful not to isolate anyone, neither those who do nor those who do not thrive in our Quaker ecosystem.

There is no single way to welcome young people into our community. Friends might begin by listening, asking questions, and remembering answers.

We heard that younger Friends are sometimes discouraged by assumptions made by older Friends, and that discouraging comments may arise from a failure to listen. We were reminded that there are seasoned Quakers of all ages, including young people. We need to see gifts and leadings, not age.

Finally, YFs and YAFs asked us to cultivate joy in our lives and in our Meetings.

Young Friends and Young Adult Friends continued their discernment process during CYM. They decided to revive Canadian Young Friends Yearly Meeting and provisionally to replace the previous clerk structure with a team of Youth Representatives and a separate organizing committee for the next Youth Gathering. This, we hope, will provide a more sustainable leadership structure.

2018.08.42 Our extended worship brought to light other questions: How do we integrate into the lives of our meetings opportunities for deep listening, and the healing it may bring? Do we keep in mind the needs of the youngest in Friends' communities, and of the need to support them, along with their parents and caregivers?

2018.08.43 Meeting closed with Worship.

Friday Morning, August 10, 2018

Georgian College, Barrie, Ontario on Anishnaabek Traditional Territory

Clerks: Beverly Shepard, Elaine Bishop

Elaine Bishop presiding

Recording Clerks: John Samson Fellows, Dale Dewar

2018.08.44 Opening Worship.

In considering the character and basis of our testimony for peace we have felt strongly that its deepest foundation lies in the nature of God, and that its character must be inclusive of the whole of life. There is an urgent need for a fuller recognition that God's essential nature is love, that the Cross of Jesus represents the highest point in the revelation of the character of God, and that there is a seed of God in every man, that spiritual forces are mightiest, and that we must be prepared to rely upon them and to give expression to them in daily work and character as well as in what we call the great crises of life. We must set before us the highest ideal, that which ought to be, rather than that which is, believing that God is not alone the God of things as they are but the God of all things as they are meant to be.

—All Friends Conference, 1920, from *Christian Faith and Practice*, #605

2018.08.45 Land Acknowledgement: The Clerk acknowledged that we are gathering and meeting on the traditional territory of the Anishnaabek.

2018.08.46 Friends World Committee for Consultation Representative: We welcomed our Friend Gloria Thompson who is the Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC) representative to Canadian Yearly Meeting.

Gloria shared information about the programs of FWCC, bringing three to our attention:

1. Travelling Ministry among Friends, which encourages inter-visitation among all the traditions of Friends. Canadian Friends are encouraged to apply to be visitors and to receive visitors.
2. World Quaker Day, the first Sunday in October, is October 7 this year. The theme for 2018 is "Crossing cultures: sharing stories." Meetings and individuals are invited to post actions taken on that day on the website: <http://fwcc.world>

3. The 2019 Gathering of the Section of the Americas takes place March 21 through 24 in Kansas City, Missouri. Canadian Friends are encouraged to be well-represented especially by Young Adult Friends.

We thank Gloria Thompson for her ministry and ask that Friends hold the work of FWCC in their thoughts and prayers.

2018.08.47 Reporting and Cleanness: Education and Outreach Committee.

We approved the report, appended. (Appendix 4)

We are reminded that the mandate of Education and Outreach Committee is: facilitating lifelong religious education among Friends; making our Society known to seekers; being a resource for programming at Friends' gatherings; and encouraging and facilitating visitation and travelling in the ministry.

Education and Outreach shared their future plans and some of the challenges that they face.

Friends shared descriptions of how their monthly meetings and committees have worked on outreach and education in their broader communities. We encourage Friends to continue sharing their ideas about outreach and education with the Committee and in *The Canadian Friend*. We were reminded of other committees within CYM, such as Publications and Communications, and Archives, which also contribute valuable resources for outreach and education.

We were encouraged by the plans that the Committee shared and look forward to their work over the next five years. We warmly thank them for their work.

2018.08.48 Finance Committee: Finance Committee gave a brief report. The financial status of CYM is currently stable. The Committee requested approval to extend the position of CYM secretary for a fourth year. The clerk reported that Cameron Fraser, current CYM Secretary, is willing to extend his contract to fill this additional year to July 31, 2021. This was approved with delight.

Friends were reminded of the wonderful new brochure, *Leaving a Legacy*, created by Contributions Committee. We were asked to take copies back to our meetings and encourage Friends to consider CYM in their financial planning.

2018.08.49 Report from the Ad Hoc Committee on New Advices and Queries:

The Ad Hoc Committee appointed on Tuesday reported:

We recommend that new Advices and Queries be under the care of Discipline Review Committee and published in Organization and Procedure as an appendix following the current Advices and Queries.

We see this as the first step towards the day when we are moved to create our own set of Advices and Queries, drawing from the old and incorporating the new.

We approve this proposal.

Friends who have concerns about this process are invited to share their concerns with Discipline Review Committee for further discernment.

The Indigenous Peoples' Human Rights Program of CFSC has offered to take the lead and provide staff to season wording for a potential advice or query on our relationship with indigenous peoples. (See Tuesday's minute 2018.08.23.) We accept this offer with thanks.

2018.08.50 We received first draft of the 2018 CYM Epistle with thanks.

2018.08.51 Meeting closed with Worship

Saturday Morning, August 11, 2018

Georgian College, Barrie, Ontario on Anishnaabek Traditional Territory

Clerks: Beverly Shepard, Presiding Clerk, Elaine Bishop, Mentoring Clerk

Beverly Shepard presiding

Recording Clerks: John Samson Fellows, Dale Dewar

2018.08.52 Meeting opened with Worship:

Spirituality seems to me to be more woven into the daily fabric of a child's life than it is for many an adult. Without a clutter of life experiences to create barriers, to teach them to be cynical and full of doubt, children are free to respond with and to spirituality; they are open rather than closed down and cautious. They do not have the automatic filters, the screens, the suspicions and distrust which adults, through erosion of that speechless life of the spirit, often suffer.

There is a practical spirituality in little beings who accord all creation the same awe-filled respect. A three-year-old who values the life of an earthworm; a four-year-old who looks for the first time on a bloody crucifix and says through his

tears, "Why did God let that happen? Where was Joseph?"; a five-year-old girl who says, of our recently-widowed friend, "She has no one to say goodnight to;" these are people truly in touch with the spirit and how it works, in ways so mysterious that they are the meaning of life...

We treasure the freshness and open holiness of our children, who dance in the Light before the shadows draw over them, and who have the resilience to be drawn to the Light even when the darkness comes.

—Carol Leigh Wehking, 2004, Canadian Faith and Practice 5.2

2018.08.53 Land Acknowledgement The Clerk acknowledged that we are gathering and meeting on the traditional territory of the Anishnaabek.

2018.08.54 We are pleased to hear that David Cheatley has agreed to serve as incoming clerk of Program Committee.

2018.08.55 Consideration of the Special Interest Group report on “No Way to Treat a Child—Israel/Palestine” is laid over to Representative Meeting, November, 2018. This report will be appended to these minutes, (Appendix 5) sent out to Monthly Meetings, and posted on the website.

2018.08.56 We ask the Clerk to send a letter of greeting to the United Friends Churches in Canada (UFC), who will be gathering later this month in Quebec.

2018.08.57 Epistles from the Youth Program and from Young Friends were received with joy, and are appended here. (Appendix 6, Appendix 7)

2018.08.58 The Canadian Yearly Meeting State of Society Report for 2017 was received with thanks and is appended here. (Appendix 8)

2018.08.59 Gleanings were joyfully received at our Family Night, and are appended here. (Appendix 9)

2018.08.60 We expressed sincere and fulsome appreciation for everyone who made this week possible.

2018.08.61 We gratefully heard and approved the final reading of the Canadian Yearly Meeting 2018 Epistle, which will be sent out to our family of Friends here and around the world. (Appendix 10)

APPENDIX 1: Friends World Committee for Consultation Letter of Greeting



Friends World Committee for Consultation WORLD OFFICE

173 Euston Road, London NW1 2AX, UK
+44 (0)207 663 1199 • www.fwccworld.org • world@friendsworldoffice.org

Gretchen Castle • General Secretary • gretchenc@friendsworldoffice.org

To Canadian Yearly Meeting
July 2018

*May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you a spirit of unity among yourselves as you follow Christ Jesus.
... May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power
of the Holy Spirit.*
13 *Romans 15:5,*

Dear Friends,

We send you loving greetings from the Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC) World Office in London – and from across the world. We extend our best wishes for a full and gathered yearly meeting. We appreciate the yearly meeting’s continuing work of strengthening the Religious Society of Friends at all levels.

With gratitude for the many ways Friends come together, we cherish the fellowship, the sense of belonging, and the unity of Spirit we experience when two or more are gathered in his name. May you cherish the love in each other and the great joy of being a Quaker. We bask in God’s love and in the unity of the Quaker heart.

We have a broad spectrum of belief and practice across the world, just as we have different languages and cultures. Our diversity is our strength. We share the language of the heart. We share a love of God. We share a longing for the healing of all people and for the Earth. We share a broad and insistent vision for a peaceful world.

When I think about the God that consumes me, I am filled with joy. My whole body smiles. My husband thinks I am evangelical. I have grown up among programmed Friends and spent 30 years among unprogrammed Friends... and I do feel evangelical in that I want to share the **good news!** Quakers around the world are alive and well, feeling the power of the living God, and are changing the world by actively bringing God’s loving presence into illumination.

FWCC brings us together and gives us hope: FWCC joins our passion and strengthens the Quaker voice in the world. FWCC ensures that Friends are represented at the world level at the Quaker United Nations Offices, the World Council of Churches, and among global Christian Communion.

FWCC is working on several initiatives:

- Sustaining life on earth as a spiritual imperative, engaging yearly meetings and Young Adult Friends
- Opening dialogue on issues of injustice and privilege, exploring new ways of being together
- Building bridges across the theological spectrum
- Considering stewardship of our resources to support Quaker work
- Strengthening ministry and leadership through the Young Adult Friends Development Fund

With this greeting, I invite you to engage with FWCC through our website and Facebook. I invite you to give financially to FWCC through your Section. I invite you to support and pray for your Section Secretary. And most importantly, I invite you to engage with other Friends who share your passion for life and love.

FWCC is in the process of updating the book *Friends Around the World* to help Friends connect with yearly meetings and worship groups. We hope you are all planning for **World Quaker Day** October 7, 2018 with the theme: *Crossing Cultures, Sharing Stories*. We also post epistles we receive so that Friends might see how God is moving amongst us. Please send your epistle to database@friendsworldoffice.org.

As we enjoy unity within our diversity, we thank you for your faithful support of our work.

In loving Friendship,

Gretchen Castle

Gretchen Castle, General Secretary

APPENDIX 2: PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORT

Reporting and Clearness is the opportunity for a committee to look beyond its day-to-day functioning to reflect and receive guidance from CYM on whether the direction of its efforts is in line with Spirit's lead at this time. In the case of Program Committee, whose mandate is the very specific one of coordinating CYM in Session, this particular Reporting feels a little after the fact since CYM has already spent such a considerable time in recent years discerning what it needs from our annual gathering, most recently as part of the Simulation Exercise in which all monthly meetings were invited to participate. The basic structure of Yearly Meeting, including its frequency, duration, schedule, and the four-year rotation of locations, has been rigorously examined and challenged.

Decisions arising from this process were minuted at the fall Representative Meeting of November 2017: "We were reminded that Friends don't change current practice until we consciously come to unity on a change. So CYM in Session will continue to meet annually, and the four-year rotation of location will continue." (RM 17-11-15).

So Program Committee considers the matter settled for the time being: we stay the course. The present Report will therefore limit its scope to commenting on our internal functioning and challenges, and an account of the costs of this course.

On this current course, Program Committee is happy to report that we are working very well. We know well what we are aiming for; we each know our tasks; our collective knowledge is extensively recorded and well-organized. We have the exemplary support of our Office Administrator. We work lovingly and joyfully together, and we take satisfaction in the very tangible result of our work and the many connections throughout CYM that it allows us to make and nurture.

We are coming upon a challenge of continuity. Almost all our members are on their second term, and our clerk's second term ends at the rise of this Yearly Meeting. As of the time of writing this report, no name has been found to take on the role. We ask Friends to discern whether they might be led to this work which is joyful, well-resourced, much needed, and warmly appreciated by the CYM community.

The challenge of finding leadership for the Children and Youth Program is perennial. Over the years we have experimented with many different models for the oversight of this responsibility. Every year we struggle with finding enough Friends to provide leadership and care for all the groups. This year we are thankful to Kate Holden, Alice Preston, and Wes Weima who have offered their service as Coordinator (Kate) and Group Leaders (Alice and Wes). At the time

of writing this report, we are still searching for one more Friend to serve in this essential aspect of our Yearly Meeting community.

The challenge we experience in finding leadership is not ours alone, but the current condition of our Society as the Simulation Exercise also reflected. Without wishing to reopen the discussion, we would like to reiterate to the full body of CYM what we previously reported to Representative Meeting: our current four-year rotation of locations, which does have rich benefits, also comes at a significant cost of human energy.

The recurrent search for new sites when previous ones no longer serve our needs takes up a significant portion of our Office Administrator's time. Even when we are returning to a previously used site, the four-year rotation places a considerable tax on our collective working memory, especially the clerk's. Four years is a long time between returns, and given the terms of service for committee members it is likely that whoever is clerking PC that year has never clerked in that same location before. PC and Local Arrangement memories are fading, and we are always reinventing the wheel for each site.

Planning and facilitating a Yearly Meeting gathering is a complex job with many details to remember. Even with our careful documentation as guide and with the benefit of several years' experience, the current clerk still finds that pieces of knowledge get forgotten and tasks neglected. For someone new to take on clerking such a complex collection of tasks is difficult. One way we can make it easier for Friends to serve on and clerk committees is to lighten and simplify committees' tasks. Holding YM in a consistent location could be one way to do this for Program Committee.

The cost of complexity is not just a matter of the convenience of committee members, but means that the energy that is committed to these tasks is not available elsewhere in the larger body. The experience of the fallow year has shown us that released from the tasks of preparing for YM, several PC members have taken on other ways of serving CYM, our local meetings, other Quaker bodies, or our communities beyond Friends. Our Office Administrator had been released to serve other CYM committees during 2017, strengthening other parts of the CYM body.

There is great richness for CYM in holding YM in different locations. A moveable YM makes it easier for Friends in different parts of the country to attend, and builds unity as we visit each other in different regions. But the cost in human energy also needs reckoning, and has repercussion throughout the body.

Nathalie Brunet, Program Committee clerk

APPENDIX 3: Discipline Review Committee Report to CYM-in-Session, 8 August 2018

The Discipline Review Committee (DRC) prepared a report for the CYM Representative Meeting held in November 2017 but it was not included in the meeting agenda due to an oversight on the part of the Committee.

We now bring forward the following items:

Section 6.10 Camp NeeKauNis Committee – new terms of reference for First Reading.

Section 6.13 Contributions Committee – for Second Reading.

Section 6.20 Naming Committee – for First Reading (including decision in minute 2018.08.17)

Section 6.21 Program Committee – for Second Reading

Regarding CYM minute 16.08.27 – Rewriting of *Organization and Procedure*: we reiterate our recommendation (from the DRC Report to the June 2017 Representative Meeting) that a subcommittee be formed to carry out the rewrite. This subcommittee should consist of one member from the existing DRC and (two) additional Friends named by CYM Nominating Committee. We look forward to receiving these names so we can move forward with this task.

The tasks currently under consideration by DRC are (a) a new section on Conflict Resolution, and (b) a definition or explanation of the term “minute of record.”

Committees are encouraged to update their individual sections in *Organization and Procedure*, and to review and update the “Procedures Manual” section of their website. We note that there is some variation in the way these pages are set up.

Submitted 7 August 2018 at Canadian Yearly Meeting in Barrie, Ontario
Ruth Pincoe, Dawne Smith, and Carol Leigh Wehking

6.10 Camp NeeKauNis Committee: New Terms of Reference for First Reading, CYM 2018

Source: Terms of Reference of the Camp NeeKauNis Committee from Organization and Procedure of Canadian Yearly Meeting 2002. Revised by Discipline Review Committee, April 2017; amended by Camp NeeKauNis Committee May 2017. Camp NeeKauNis Committee drafted the original of this section. DRC worked with them to produce this as a finished piece. It is now brought forward for First Reading.

6.10 Camp NeeKauNis Committee [current introductory text with markup shown] Strikethrough indicates text removed. Underline indicates added.

Camp NeeKauNis is located in historic Huronia, that part of Ontario ~~which was the home of the Huron (Ouendat) and, later, Ojibway First Nations.~~ The name NeeKauNis comes from the Ojibway language and roughly translates to “meeting place of friends” or “all my people gathered.” ~~The land on was acquired by Toronto Meeting in 1930 and the main building completed in 1932. In 1962 Camp NeeKauNis came under the care of Canadian Yearly Meeting and it is now administered by the Camp NeeKauNis Committee.~~ that was the traditional territory of the Huron (Wendat) and, later, the Anishinaabeg, First Nations. The land was acquired by Toronto Meeting through a purchase in 1930 and the main building was completed in 1932. Around this time, Fred Haslam met with Anishinaabeg elders on Christian Island to ask about an appropriate name for the camp. NeeKauNis is Ojibwe for “my many friends or family.” The camp has used it to mean “Meeting Place of Friends.” In 1962 Camp NeeKauNis came under the care of Canadian Yearly Meeting and it is now administered by the Camp NeeKauNis Committee.

6.10 Camp NeeKauNis Committee [proposed revision]

Camp NeeKauNis is located in historic Huronia, the part of Ontario that was the traditional territory of the Huron (Wendat) and, later, the Anishinaabeg, First Nations. The land was acquired by Toronto Meeting through a purchase in 1930 and the main building was completed in 1932. Around this time, Fred Haslam met with Anishinaabeg elders on Christian Island to ask about an appropriate name for the camp. NeeKauNis is Ojibwe for “my many friends or family.” The camp has used it to mean “Meeting Place of Friends.” In 1962 Camp NeeKauNis came under the care of Canadian Yearly Meeting and it is now administered by the Camp NeeKauNis Committee.

The terms of reference of the Camp NeeKauNis Committee are:

1. To nurture the spiritual life of all attenders through its programs and the various activities undertaken.
2. To arrange needed program as are advisable and desirable, and find the necessary personnel to make these programs effective and influential.
3. To be conscious of the interpretative influence of Camp NeeKauNis for those who are not members of the Religious Society of Friends.
- 4: To co-operate with Canadian Yearly Meeting and other Quaker bodies when NeeKauNis facilities are needed in carrying out their mutual endeavours.

5. To work with the Canadian Yearly Meeting committees that have shared responsibilities and policies, including Finance, Personnel Policy, and Education and Outreach.
6. To work with Canadian Yearly Meeting Trustees on common concerns including negotiating insurance, preparing annual risk assessments, and advising on policies and procedures (for example, “Safe Nurture of Vulnerable Persons in our Care.”)
7. To maintain the physical facilities in a state of good repair and to develop facilities as need arises.
8. To be aware, in all of its activities, of the Committee’s responsibilities to the natural environment.
9. To adhere to relevant provincial regulations regarding the running of a residential camp.

6.13 Contributions Committee: Second Reading, CYM August 2018

SOURCE (Representative Meeting, minute 2016.11.27) Contributions Committee Friends approved asking Discipline Review Committee to work with Contributions Committee to bring forward a new section in Organization and Procedure articulating the responsibility of individuals to support CYM financially. This text was approved for First Reading at Representative Meeting in June 2017. It text is now brought forward for Second Reading.

Contributions from individuals are both necessary and in right order for our Society.

Contributions Committee is responsible for developing and implementing strategies to request financial support from members and attenders. The Committee's role, in conjunction with Finance Committee, is to establish procedures and approaches that will place and maintain CYM on solid financial footing.

Contributions Committee will meet and conduct business primarily by telephone or other electronic means. The Committee's mandate is to:

- Help Friends recognize how their contributions support and strengthen links throughout CYM to create a stronger sense of community and family;
- Ensure donation practices that are convenient and respectful of the needs of members and their varying abilities to contribute;
- Propose, implement, and publicize new strategies for making approaches for donations, maintaining relevance as technology and membership change;
- Work with the CYM Clerks and other Friends serving Canadian Yearly Meeting to develop fund-raising strategies and produce supporting educational materials;
- Ensure that contributors are appropriately thanked on a regular basis;
- Report to Representative and Yearly Meeting as required.

6.20 Naming Committee: First Reading, CYM August 2018

DRC was asked to identify the correct tasks for Naming Committee. This text is brought forward for First Reading, incorporating the change regarding the committee appointment was approved at CYM-in-session on 6 August 2018.]

Many Friends contribute to the richness and orderly procedure of Yearly Meeting in session by performing a wide variety of necessary tasks. Appointing individuals responsible for most of these tasks is done in advance by Program Committee or by other designated groups. A Naming Committee brings forward names for certain appointments to be made from among those present at Yearly Meeting. Such appointments include an individual to serve on Agenda Committee, one or more Reading Clerks, an Epistle Committee, a Minute Review Committee, and a Gleanings Committee; several Friends are also appointed to prepare greetings to be sent to absent Friends and to prepare reports to Quaker periodicals. Descriptions of the work of these committees are kept up to date by the Yearly Meeting office.

Information from both the CYM office and Program Committee is needed in order to propose suitable appointments for the tasks that need to be done. Naming Committee is appointed by ~~Representative Meeting~~ Nominating Committee at its spring meeting, and will contact the Yearly Meeting office regarding the job descriptions for these positions and the numbers of Friends needed. The office will provide a list of Friends registered for Yearly Meeting. Naming Committee will also contact Program Committee to make sure that there is no duplication of efforts and there are no gaps in planning. In seeking individuals prepared to serve, the Committee strives to include Young Friends and first time attenders.

Naming Committee presents its report during the first session of Yearly Meeting; Friends may add other names to the list, and approval is given for all Friends asked to serve. Naming Committee will provide the first-named in each committee with the relevant job description. These Friends will arrange a meeting with their newly formed committees as soon as possible so that they can become familiar with the task at hand, and develop a plan of action. Frequently the first item on the Committees' agenda will be to choose a task coordinator.

6.21 Program Committee: Second Reading Representative Meeting, June 2017

SOURCE: Canadian Yearly Meeting in Session, minute 2016.08.27: DRC was asked to work with the Committee to revise the description of their work, and to move the description to to Standing Committees of CYM.

FIRST READING: Approved at Representative Meeting in June 2017 (minute 2017.06.16)

6.21 Program Committee [proposed revision]

Program Committee has two major functions: to serve as a planning and oversight committee for the annual sessions of Canadian Yearly Meeting, and to act as a coordinating body for the different groups who have responsibility for the various aspects of the Yearly Meeting sessions. The committee responds to direction from Canadian Yearly Meeting and Representative Meeting.

Program Committee planning and oversight responsibilities include site selection and liaison with the site administrators, local arrangements, publicity, scheduling of daily events, and financial oversight in collaboration with the Office Administrator. Planning as much as three years in advance is required for tasks such as selection of the site (with consideration of the needs of campers and the food co-op), the Children and Youth Program, and arrangements for the Sunderland P. Gardner lecture and Bible/Quaker Studies. All these tasks will be approached while taking into account the evaluations of previous Yearly Meeting programs.

Program Committee collaborates with Continuing Meeting of Ministry and Counsel (responsible for worship and the spiritual nurture of the Yearly Meeting), Agenda Committee (responsible for planning business sessions), and the Yearly Meeting office. Program Committee also works with Publications and Communications Committee to facilitate communications with Friends before and during Yearly Meeting, and the publication of the Sunderland P. Gardner lecture and Bible/Quaker studies through electronic and print media.

The seven nominated members of Program Committee are appointed with regard for appropriate geographical representation in order to facilitate liaison with the local arrangements committees close to the sites chosen for the Yearly Meeting gatherings. One of the seven positions on Program Committee is allocated to a Friend responsible for coordinating the Children and Youth Program. The Clerk(s) of Yearly Meeting and the Office Administrator sit on the Program Committee ex officio, in addition to the nominated committee members. Continuing Meeting of Ministry and Counsel and Canadian Young Friends Yearly Meeting each appoint a representative to ensure effective collaboration.

APPENDIX 4: Report from the Education and Outreach Committee

Greetings Friends,

The last year has been busy for our committee. A large portion of our work has been internally focused as we have strived to make our committee sustainable with the people and energy we have. Recently we have reviewed our mandate, communication model, and role descriptions. We have also had fruitful discussions about what our personal strengths are and how to apply them in our committee work. Meanwhile, ongoing work relating to the online courses, visitation and the administration of grants and loans has continued.

Below are the highlights of our activity over the last 12 months.

Clerking

As the end of the June Representative Meeting 2017, the term of our presiding clerk came to an end and our incoming clerk took on the role of CYM Secretary.

Although he was not officially on the committee, for several months after becoming CYM Secretary. Cameron Fraser performed most of the duties of the Education and Outreach Clerk. Understanding that this was not sustainable, during our October 2017 meeting we agreed to establish a clerking committee consisting of three committee members. At that time no one member was willing to perform all the clerking duties.

Over time this model was difficult to maintain. For Representative Meeting in November, I (Wesley Glebe) agreed to write a report and represent the committee. In doing that, I had to become familiar with all the committee's work. After Representative Meeting it seemed natural for me to work with the secretary to establish the agenda of the next committee meeting which led me to clerking that meeting.

As I started taking on more responsibilities, it became increasingly obvious that I was acting as a traditional clerk. I was named committee clerk at our spring meeting. Over time I have become more comfortable with the role, however I continue to be supported by CYM secretary who has a conversation with me every few weeks to offer help and keep me on track for which I am very grateful.

With a very engaged committee and an extremely competent Recording Clerk and Treasurer we have been able to keep the key work of the committee afloat. However I am concerned for the long term future of this committee. My second term, and the second term of the recording clerk, are both set to expire after CYM 2019. That is also the time at which funding for the CYM Secretary position ends. Hopefully we will find ways forward over the next year.

Grants and Loans

One of the most important tasks of our committee is the administration of Grants and Loans for Friends who are participating in a Quaker events or pursuing a Quaker-related learning opportunities.

Over the past year we have given about \$7,000 away as grants to Canadian Friends. \$2,000 of this went to support Friends attending the FGC Gathering in Niagara Falls NY. We also supported Friends attending the 2018 FGC Gathering, Britain Yearly Meeting, the Wider Gathering of Conservative

Friends, and the Pendle Hill conference titled Truth and Healing: Quakers Seeking Right Relationships with Indigenous Peoples.

We also supported leadings. One friend used a grant to help them go on a pilgrimage in England. Another needed help with training costs to follow a leading for palliative care. We also supported Young Friends who gathered in Ottawa during Representative Meeting to discuss their plans for the next year.

Through the Samuel Rogers Memorial Trust (SRMT) we were able to spend about \$3,500 to fund a pre-FGC retreat in 2017. This year we received \$8,500 from the SRMT to fund a Pre CYM Youth retreat and youth programming at CYM. We are able to provide up to \$800 per family member to attend CYM in session.

Through the 2017 Pendle Hill Scholarship, we helped a Friend travel to Pendle Hill for a sojourn in the Fall of 2017. We did not receive any applications for the Pendle Hill Scholarship in 2018. Friends who are interested in traveling to Pendle Hill are encouraged to learn more about this scholarship.

We did not receive any applications for the Dorothy Muma Memorial Bursary this year. This bursary can provide up to \$500 to an “...*Ontario Friends or other Canadian Yearly Meeting (friends) who wishes to pursue a project or leading in Ontario..*” this leading “...*may include writing, teaching, music and art-making, farming, mediation, education, and healing.*”

A surprising challenge we have as a committee is spending all of the money we budget. This year we carried forward \$40,000 in the Quaker Renewal Fund which is money donated specifically for Quaker Education. We seek to be more effective in letting Friends know about the opportunities available to them.

We did make a change this year in how we process grant applications in response to a recurring issue regarding the timing of applications. Often, we receive time sensitive applications which require a response before the next E&O meeting. This has led to situations where applications had to be discerned through e-mail. This is not ideal and if one committee member is away or not answering their e-mail it becomes impossible.

In response we have created a sub-committee of three people tasked specifically with considering and approving grant applications. This sub-committee discerns applications as they come in and reports to the entire committee during each meeting.

E-Courses

Another important aspect of our committee is the management of e-courses. We are currently offer two e-courses on a regular basis.

An Introduction to Quakers and Friends' Ways is our longest running and most popular e-course. The purpose of this course is to help newcomers learn about “...*the history of Friends in Canada, Quaker testimonies and their origin, and how our Quaker community nurtures how we live, work, worship, and transact business.*” Over the past year 4 sessions of this course were offered with 27 people participating. This included both long term Friends and newcomers.

Surprisingly, we received several inquiries about this course from people who had never been to a Quaker meeting but were interested in taking this course as their first introduction. After considerable discussion between the committee and course facilitators, we decided to contact these inquirers individually and ask them to attend at least one meeting for worship in-person before taking the e-course. We also let them know where their nearest meeting is and passed along the contact information. In a couple cases the nearest meeting was over five hours away. However, these individuals indicated that at some point they would be in a city or town with a Quaker Meeting and would attend when they had an opportunity. These connections did provide an unexpected opportunity for outreach.

Our second course is the Faith and Practice study course which was offered for the first time in the fall of 2017 and again in the Winter of 2018. A total of 16 Friends participated in the two sessions. This course was adapted from an in-person course developed by Vancouver Island Monthly Meeting and is intended for Friends who have some experience with Friends' ways and want to explore our Faith and Practice more deeply.

All of the courses received positive feedback. There is particular enthusiasm for how the courses create connections amongst Canadian Friends. Many of the participants expressed an intention to continue the connections into the future.

Last fall we were able to contract with Arwen Brenneman as a back-up facilitator to David Summerhays. This allowed us to run three course sessions over the winter whereas before we were never able run more than two simultaneously.

At our last committee meeting we agreed to advertise a contract opportunity for an online course administrator. Course administration (drafting advertisements, setting up a registration system, monitoring registrations, contacting registrants, scheduling courses and the distributing and summarizing the evaluations) is a large amount of work and it is also time sensitive. In the past this work was done by either E and O committee members or the course facilitator on a volunteer basis. In both cases it ended up being more work then they could sustain long term.

For the past two terms this work was mostly done by the CYM Secretary. He has greatly improved the administration of these courses. However, this is taking time away from other important work he could be doing. We are currently working on a job description and hope to have someone in place in time for the Fall course offerings.

Visitation

The Visitation Program has been very successful in connecting our national community over the past five years. Thanks to the work of a wonderful coordinator the program is largely self-sustaining. Recently the coordinator went through the list of visitors established in 2013 to ensure that those listed are still willing and able to be visitors.

Although a few visitations were organized this year, overall the usage of the program has been dropping. The visitation coordinator has proposed revamping the program by highlighting 6 or 7 visitors from the spreadsheet of about 40 visitors and profiling them on our website. Each profile will contain a picture of the Friend and a couple paragraphs of information about what skills and wisdom that Friend could share during a visit. Work on this project is ongoing.

The visitation coordinator also reviews the business meeting minutes of several Monthly Meetings that send their minutes to her. She uses this information to occasionally suggest potential visitors and to observe emerging educational needs amongst Canadian Friends. She has started to share this information (in a summarized format) with the Education and Outreach Committee. We are currently in the process of figuring out how we can use it. Contact the Education and Outreach Committee (e-and-o-clerk@quaker.ca). if you would like to share your meeting's minutes with the Visitation Coordinator

Outreach

One of the mandates of our committee is outreach. It has been an ongoing struggle for our committee to understand what Canadian Quakers expect from our committee in regards to this outcome. After a number of discussion it has become clear that neither Canadian Quakers nor the E&O committee are of one mind on how to best do outreach. Still, we have stumbled forward in some ways.

Generally we believe that outreach is most effectively done locally. At CYM 2018 we will jointly host a Special Interest Group with the Publications and Communications Committee. This will be an opportunity for those who are committed to outreach to get together and share ideas and resources. We are hopeful that this conversation will leave Friends with new tools and a new confidence to reach out to seekers in their local community.

Although it was not due to the work of our committee, we were overjoyed on June 1, 2018 to hear British Friend Paul Parker interviewed about Quaker practices for 35 minutes on CBC's national radio show "Tapestries". From anecdotal evidence it seems that this interview has resulted in an increase in the number of newcomers coming to meetings across the country.

Also as noted above our online courses have provided an unexpected opportunity to contact seekers.

Finding new committee members

Finding Friends willing and able to serve on our committee is the most pressing and difficult task we have in front of us. At the end of CYM 2018 we will have three vacancies on the committee and we have not received any inquiries from Friends interested in serving.

Many Friends have expressed a concern as to how we will keep Quakerism in Canada both vibrant and grounded in future decades. The Education and Outreach committee has a huge role to play in addressing that concern. However we are limited, not by a lack of opportunities and vision, but by the lack of time, energy and skill sets at our disposal.

If you have read this report all the way to the end, then perhaps you have a interest in the work we do. Perhaps, you would be interested serving on our committee? It would be an opportunity to establish stronger connections with the national Quaker community and make a real impact on the future of our faith in Canada.

We are working to make service on this committee less burdensome by introducing fallow periods during the summer and over Christmas. We are trying as much a possible to create roles for committee members that match their strength, abilities and personal circumstances and seeking to have more of the administrative work done by contractors and subcommittees.

If you are interested in serving, or know someone who might be, please contact Education and Outreach (e-and-o-clerk@quaker.ca) or the nominating committee (heididick@shaw.ca).

In Friendship,

Wesley Glebe
Clerk, Education and Outreach Committee

APPENDIX 5: Report from the SIG on the No Way to Treat a Child Campaign

We remind Friends and all meetings of the No Way to Treat a Child Campaign, endorsed by both AFSC and CFSC. We are concerned that about 700 children a year in Palestine are being illegally detained in violation of international law. These children are separated from their parents, routinely beaten, and forced to sign false confessions in a language they do not know. As well, we are concerned that Canadian municipal police and military personnel participate in exchanges with Israel of training and techniques for civilian control.

We are concerned that the mistreatment of Palestinian children may be facilitated in part by Canadian training. We call upon meetings and individual Friends to meet with their MPs to request the end of such exchanges.

APPENDIX 6: Canadian Young Friends Yearly Meeting Discernment Session Report

Young Friends and Young Adult Friends (YFs and YAFs) gathered for a two night Pre-Canadian Yearly Meeting Retreat at Camp NeeKauNis, and held a threshing session to discuss the work of the Regional Contacts over the past year, and how Young Friends were led to continue forward. We considered the query, “What do we get here that we don't get anywhere else?” We met again Tuesday night for six hours of discernment, with three elders present to hold space for us.

After a two-year Canadian Young Friends Yearly Meeting (CYFYM) hiatus, we feel a budding sense of new energy. Like a flower slowly emerging from the earth in the spring, we need time and a cooperative climate to grow. We feel clear that we should not overburden ourselves in ways that may stunt this fresh growth. We must not place rocks on top of the emerging shoots we hope will blossom.

As such, we have approved a structure that we feel will help us nurture this budding energy, to focus on fellowship and nurturing our spiritual community. We are aware that this means careful discernment as to what we take on, and that we will likely be asking members of the CYM community to hear “no,” at least as often as “yes,” if they approach us with requests for collaboration or input. We welcome ongoing questions and communication.

The structure we have approved is a committee of CYFYM representatives for 2018-2019 which focuses on facilitating fellowship and nourishing Spirit, and that can provide some ongoing structure between gatherings. We plan to discern whether this structure will continue to serve our needs at CYM 2019. We recognize that we are in a time of fostering new growth; our structures must support rather than impede us, and may grow or shrink with us as we discern ways forward in coming years.

We also felt a strong leading to gather again for a pre-CYM retreat in 2019, and have named a committee to organize it.

The following outlines the responsibilities of these CYFYM Representatives.

CYFYM Representatives – Roles and Responsibilities

1. Publicizing and encouraging Young Friends (YFs, generally 13-19) and Young Adult Friends (YAFs, generally 19-35) to attend gatherings and other Quaker events and opportunities. This includes raising awareness of how to access funding or other supports.
2. Celebrating and supporting, although not necessarily organizing, regional activities and fellowship; cultivating connection, excitement, and momentum.
3. Collectively act in a role similar to that of the CYM Clerks' Committee, in being able to respond to events, opportunities, etc. that arise between annual gatherings. The Representatives may wish to consult with the community of YF/YAFs mid-year (e.g. by electronic survey, videocall, etc.) for significant decisions. The Representatives are asked to report on their activities at annual gatherings.
4. Provide input to Canadian Yearly Meeting by:
 1. Maintaining connection to the CYM Secretary
 2. Ensuring at least one Representative is present at Representative Meeting (November 23-24, 2018 in Victoria, BC)

3. When capacity allows, provide input to CYM bodies and Friends serving CYM when they request input from YF/YAFs. (While we welcome questions, there may be times when Representatives do not have capacity to respond, particularly in more complex requests. We ask all CYM bodies and Friends to respect and nurture our capacity to focus on the core of nurturing our spiritual community, and not to become over-busy in ways that may detract from that nurturing.)
5. Maintain contact lists for YF/YAFs across Canada (drawing on support from CYM staff and committees as available and helpful).
6. Receive and respond to correspondence from outside bodies (e.g. other Yearly Meetings, groups of YF/YAFs around the world, etc).
7. Name a session clerk for CYFYM in Session (held during CYM in Session).

It is currently anticipated that Representatives will need to commit to a minimum of 5-10 hours per month to this service and to a 1-hour phone call or videoconference each month. Additionally, at least one face-to-face meeting will be required during the year.

We approved the following Friends to serve as CYFYM Representatives for 2018-2019:

- Zaley Warkentin (Winnipeg MM)
- Wesley Weima (Thousand Islands MM)
- Alex Wickenheiser (Edmonton MM)

Representatives are encouraged to identify additional YF/YAFs to act as contact people, particularly in regions where the approved Representatives have fewer connections. We have already identified the following Friends as potential contact people: David Summerhays (Montreal MM), Rebecca Wolf Gage (Vancouver Island MM), Daniel von Schulmann (Vancouver Island MM), Rosie Coutts (Toronto MM / Manitoulin WG). We continue to hope that Friends will suggest names of potential contact people in the Atlantic provinces, where YF/YAFs gathered this week have fewer current connections. We hope that the creation of Atlantic Half-Yearly Meeting may bear fruit in the form of more engagement of Young Friends and Young Adult Friends in the region.

Pre-CYM YF/YAF Gathering 2019

We have identified an organizing committee of Jackie Bonner (Calgary MM), Zaley Warkentin (Winnipeg MM), Evelyn Russell (Toronto MM), Harmony Morris (Lethbridge WG / Calgary MM), and Greg Allan (Winnipeg MM; STC) to arrange a three-day gathering for YFs and YAFs prior to CYM in Winnipeg, 2019. Megan Shaw (Toronto MM) is also able to assist for the month of July 2019. The organizers will work with Program Committee to foster a smooth and welcoming transition between Pre-CYM YF/YAF Gathering and CYM. We ask that if the organizers require assistance beyond the capacity of the CYM Secretary, that they ask CYM Education & Outreach Committee and the CYM Secretary to work with them to hire paid capacity to assist in carrying forward that work. We suggest that any such paid capacity be supported by, and report to, the CYM Secretary, with significant collaboration and direction from the Pre-CYM Gathering organizing committee.

Ministry of Starting Small

In seeking not to over-burden ourselves, we discerned excitement for fostering and celebrating small acts of fellowship and nurturing our spiritual community. We want to share the joy of times when two or more Young Friends / Young Adult Friends are gathered together – be that for worship sharing, board

games, camping trips, potlucks, or visitation when our lives take us on the road. We celebrate the deeply gathered Spirit that comes when we nurture fellowship. We know that these small activities help us welcome Spirit into our midst.

Funding and Support

We ask that CYM support Young Friends and Young Adult Friends in 2018 through existing, approved Education & Outreach funds. We also ask that support be given through future additional funds, so that:

- 1) There is travel funding available to support the attendance of CYFYM Representative(s) at Representative Meeting 2018 and to have one face-to-face meeting of the three CYFYM Representative(s);
- 2) There is funding to host and organize a pre-CYM 2019 YF/YAF Gathering in Winnipeg and travel funding to assist YF/YAFs to attend;
- 3) If discerned necessary by the organizing committee, in consultation with the CYM Secretary, that there is funding for additional paid capacity to assist with logistics and coordination for the pre-CYM YF/YAF Gathering.

We ask that the CYM Secretary be tasked with working with the CYFYM Representatives and the Pre-CYM YF/YAF Gathering Committee to access and apply for necessary funds.

APPENDIX 7: Teen Program Epistle

Done (Teen program epistle)

Greetings, done.

Hey wait! You missed the epistle!

~~It's~~ It's not that important.

Well, we started the week not knowing each others' names, and through taking part in CYM and CYFYM businesses, coming up with and respecting community norms, friendly Bible reading, games like Dixit, Ninja, Volleyball, and a puzzle we have no chance of solving, we became a community.

Oh, right! Then there was the pre-gathering, and Wednesday at Camp NeekauNis. We were really glad to be so close to camp, but we did not find the campus very conducive to teen program. These included how physically distant teen program was from the rest of CYM, the lack of accommodation for dietary needs and the absence of intergenerational hangout space.

We also recognized the challenges posed by the site to the greater CYM community, especially those with mobility challenges. We hope that CYM 2019 will be just as Fun and better suited to the needs of the whole community.

(pause)

DONE!

APPENDIX 8: Canadian Yearly Meeting State of Society Report 2017

Meeting for Worship remains the core activity and sustaining spiritual centre of local Meetings of the Canadian Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends. Friends meet in the deep, regenerative silence, attending to “the still, small voice,” and in that space find inspiration, rest, and fellowship, seeking unity across a broad range of religious beliefs. Appreciation for the sense of community engendered in our Meetings for Worship is broadly felt. The word “home” appeared more than once in descriptions of Friends’ experience of Meeting for Worship. Nevertheless, Meetings often (though not universally) struggle with the need to encourage more or enhanced vocal ministry, with accessibility issues around distance and weather, and with broken relationships within the Meeting. A common practice central to community building, and for which friends express appreciation, is post-Meeting times for tea and discussion and sharing. Others build worship sharing into the very structure of their Meetings, or attempt to enhance the quality of communal worship by introducing queries for reflection. One Worship Group collaborates regularly for worship with other local faith communities.

Most of our Meetings are small, and often find it difficult to garner sufficient numbers and energy to maintain the Meeting, let alone engaging in all of the projects to which Friends are drawn and called. A few Meetings meet for worship less often than weekly, something which is particularly true of Worship Groups, some of which struggle to remain functioning. Nevertheless, some midweek Meetings continue to thrive. Some Monthly Meetings and Worship Groups are celebrating new and exciting places in which to worship, while others struggle with instabilities in this regard. One Meeting is experimenting with different times for meeting for worship. Another seeks a deeper worship experience through better connection with the natural world.

Friends continue to express concern over aging Meetings, and the loss of members and attenders, though several Meetings are experiencing a modest but exciting influx of new people. Friends are grateful for youth and children who attend, but not all meetings have been able to establish first day school programs to accommodate and encourage children in the Meeting. Quite a few Memorial Meetings were held across the country this year to celebrate the lives, and to mourn the loss, of dear and weighty Friends.

In addition to maintaining a presence on the web, sustaining or forming outreach committees, and following up with inquirers, efforts at outreach were often undertaken by means of the participation of Friends in community events and involvement in social concerns. Some Meetings held special events to introduce Quakerism to their broader communities, or welcomed guests to public lectures, or held special meetings at locations that would encourage guests to attend, or purchased copies of *Faith and Practice* for new attenders. Allowing outside groups use of the meeting-house was another way in which Friends introduced themselves to their communities. One Meeting prepared their own pamphlet for newcomers.

Many Meetings committed time and resources to providing educational opportunities for members and attenders. Quaker study sessions were undertaken by several Meetings, in addition to information sessions on social justice issues. Sometimes retreats, workshops, or Half-Yearly-Meetings were devoted (at least to some substantial degree) to educational purposes. Members and attenders benefitted from on-line educational opportunities. Book clubs enriched the spiritual life of several Meetings. Resources available in meeting-house libraries continue to be an important part of our Meetings’ educational and outreach efforts.

Meeting for meals, often pot-lucks or brown bag lunches, is another way in which our Meetings attempt to grow in fellowship. Singing, or sharing outdoor experiences, were also mentioned as ways in which our lives together are enriched. Many Meetings have established regularly scheduled, educational opportunities around Quaker or Quaker-concern-related materials in an attempt to enhance and deepen our spiritual lives as individuals and as a Society. Several Meetings laboured to be particularly attentive to elderly members and attenders, and others for whom attending meetings is difficult, staying in touch by phone, visiting, and arranging meetings at their abodes. Some Meetings found that their communities were fortified by the establishment of committees of care for members and attenders who were struggling.

While the administrative tasks of Meetings remain important to who we are, a lack of energy and human resources can make carrying them out burdensome. Some Meetings attempt to alleviate this, and bring more lightness and joy to these responsibilities, by loosening and lessening committee structures, and some of our traditional practices (for example, showing less concern, for the purposes of business, to the distinction between members and attenders).

In the fallow year for Canadian Yearly Meeting in session, many Friends took opportunities to participate in and strengthen Quaker bodies beyond their own Meetings. Half-Yearly Meetings were given especial attention, and significant effort was put toward establishing a Half-Yearly Meeting in Atlantic Canada. Several Friends took the opportunity to attend the Friends General Conference gathering in New York state last summer, or the Ben Lomond Quaker Center in California. Other Friends attended Britain Yearly Meeting in Coventry, UK. Many Meetings mentioned participation by members of their local Meetings on CYM committees.

Friends continue to ground their concerns for social justice and peace in their identity and practice as Quakers, often while expressing grave concerns about the wider world. While larger Meetings were often more capable of attending to such concerns as a community, smaller Meetings tend to see themselves as providing spiritual support for members and attenders as they individually (or in the context of outside groups) pursue issues related to their particular passions and callings. This year, attention to aboriginal issues perhaps exceeded that paid to any other issue among Canadian Friends. Meetings are attentive to the recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, and are capitalizing on this opportunity to participate in this important call to healing and justice in our land. In addition to sustained interest in and commitment to traditional Quaker concerns around peace, prisons, the Alternatives to Violence Program, women's and racial equality, Meetings and Friends across the country were also variously involved with reflecting on the meaning of Canada's 150th birthday celebrations, environmental concerns, LGBTQ issues, homelessness, diversity, refugees, Israel–Palestine relations, healthcare, inter-church and inter-faith projects, aid to children, and Friends Schools worldwide.

Meetings deliberated in this fallow-year for CYM on the structure of Canadian Yearly Meeting itself, and broadly affirmed our commitment to remaining a single, unified, nation-wide Yearly Meeting.

APPENDIX 9: Gleanings CYM 2018

Team 1. Rebecca, Chris

Team 2. Harmony, Marilyn M

Team 3. Lilia, Marilyn T, Caroline

TEAM 1. First presentation:

Rebecca runs on first calling: Hey Mom, what are Quaker bloopers called again? (*Mother answers from audience:* Gleanings.)

Chris: A gleaning grabs you somewhere between your funny bone and your light centre in your abdomen.

Rebecca: There's burning in my legs, and Spirit burning in my soul.

Chris: from the Daily Quacker on Wednesday: Camp was providing supper for FREE, payable on site.

Rebecca: I am here because people have listened.

Chris: From the memorial meeting... quoting Vivian Abbott: I love triple bookings – that's two things I don't have to do.

Rebecca: A lot of work moves at the speed of trust.

Chris: Sign over Carl Jung's door read "Summoned or not, God will be present."

Rebecca: A number of us are in our fifth quarter of life.

Chris: quoting Marianne Williamson: You can let the force that holds planets in place and causes flowers to grow run your life, or you can try to do it yourself.

TEAM 1. Fourth presentation:

Rebecca: It's never too late to have a happy childhood.

Chris: There is a difference between being elderly and being an elder.

Rebecca: It doesn't matter where you start. The starting matters.

Chris: The Journey is a lot more rewarding when we travel with others.

Rebecca: Young Friends' definition of 'first named' is 'first cat herder'

Chris: We were told of: "A well-intended, courteous, piece of colonial decision-making by people who were trying to do right, but did wrong, due to a lack of self-awareness of what they were doing."

Rebecca: You are to manage life. Life is not to manage you.

Chris: Clerk to many Friends wishing to speak: Try to be as concise as possible. Simplicity is one of our testimonies.

Team 1. Rebecca, Chris **Team 2. Harmony, Marilyn M** Team 3. Lilia, Marilyn T, Caroline

Team 2. Second presentation.

Harmony: Quaker holding the mic: “You’re not supposed to stand out, but I love your rainbow-coloured hair.”

Marilyn: Margaret Fell said: It’s a silly poor gospel that does not allow people to wear bright colours.

Harmony: Our task is not to seek for love, but to find the barriers we have built against love.

Marilyn: Our task is not to seek for God, but to find the barriers we have built against God.

Harmony: Dear me, something just went through my mind without leaving a footprint.

Marilyn: While Friends are silently waving their hands in the air at the formation of a new Half-Yearly Meeting, the Clerk said: This is really a joyous occasion so we should step it up a bit!

Harmony: Being needy is my strength.

Marilyn: Attitudes guide a lot more than we want to think.

Harmony: Elevating device license. Maybe Quakers need that.

Marilyn: I’m not asking you to raise the roof, but it is helpful if the Clerks’ table can hear when you approve a minute.

TEAM 2. Fifth presentation:

Harmony: A very young Friend points to a train car in a book and says “Fire!” Every train car he sees is “Fire.” When the young Friend reading the book to him points at a real fire in the book he says “no fire!”

Marilyn M: Clerk: Hold those hot comments on nominations.

Harmony: To see that of God in everyone does not mean seeing everyone as identical.

Marilyn M: We need more than names -- we need PEOPLE for these positions!

Harmony: Those who are flexible shall not get bent out of shape.

Marilyn M: Indigenous people do not want our fixing or our help. These are disrespectful. Indigenous people are not broken or weak.

Harmony: There is no place of comfort in reconciliation work.

Marilyn M: For reconciliation: We have to stop ministering to populations and participate with them.

Harmony: Description of a 10 minute break: “make a choice, pee or tea”.

Marilyn M: Speaking against a skills registry: I don’t want to see all the psychologists and psychiatrists on M&C and I don’t want all the economists on finance committee.

Team 1. Rebecca, Chris

Team 2. Harmony, Marilyn M

Team 3. Lilia, Marilyn T, Caroline

Team 3. Third Presentation

Caroline: How do you keep all those acronyms in your brain and why?

Lilia: I don’t know, they’re just in there, like Brittany Spears lyrics.

Marilyn T: Living in the present welcomes life on its own terms without judgment there is room for spirit.

Caroline: Hope is not losing sight of the good things in life, even when they are not visible.

Lilia: YFs added a new verse: “Gonna lay down all acronyms, down by the river side.”

Marilyn T: Many of us wait to be invited. Small invitations to service can be a relief and may open a road.

Caroline: The peace testimony is not against war it is FOR all those things that bring about peace.

Lilia: It’s not that I’m encouraging you to be late ... it’s just that I forgive you immediately.

Marilyn T: Discipline Review Committee is not required to scramble or compromise their health.

Caroline: We’re not finished thanking Elaine – she still has a few days left.

Lilia: Murray Sinclair, chair of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission has said many quotable things. Seriously, he could go into bumper stickers.

Marilyn T: We have all watched a baby take its first steps and fall down. We do not respond by saying “you failed” but by saying “hooray”. We need to say “hooray” for Quaker steps.

Caroline: Most monumental work in the world happens in baby steps.

Lilia: Clerk: If you don't receive something that you don't know we've sent, please let us know.

Marilyn T: The Dalai Lama said – you can have 3 things in this lifetime; possessions, friends, and peace of mind. For me, peace of mind is most important.

TEAM 3. Sixth presentation:

Caroline: Why do Young Friends avoid leaving the room during Meetings for Worship for Business?

Lilia: That's how you get nominated.

Marilyn T: Quakers get a lot of credit for work done by others of us.

Caroline: You've been nomin-told.

Lilia: Can I put aside some portion of my present life to take on new service?

Marilyn T: White liberal guilt gets in the way. Don't go there.

Caroline: Peace is a minority view.

Lilia: Quakers need a Committee for Joy It is serious business.

Marilyn T: Quaker intellectual and ethical infrastructure is our most valuable property. Based on this we can build beautiful human buildings.

Caroline: I believe that one of the ways to foster religious education is to instigate arguments.

Lilia: It's wonderful when Friends don't use membership as a tool of exclusion.

Marilyn T: Activism starts and ends with prayer and gratitude....leading to beautiful joy. Otherwise it is disconnected and depleting.

APPENDIX 10: Epistle from Canadian Yearly Meeting 2018

The Quaker understanding of Truth is a complex one... Friends have not traditionally believed that truth is relative, or that it changes over time or from one person to another: Rather, we have believed in continuing revelation: that God continues to reveal Truth (with a capital T) to each person individually, without intermediary. This leads to many different interpretations of Truth or different personal truths, if you will. However, although Friends believe that no one person can know the entire Truth, that does not mean that we don't believe absolute Truth exists. The Truth we are all seeking, though it may be expressed and lived in many ways, is universal Truth.
 — 1.28 from the CYM Faith & Practice

To Friends everywhere,

Loving greetings from Canadian Yearly Meeting (CYM). More than one hundred and fifty Quakers gathered over eight days, from August 4-11, 2018, in Barrie, Ontario. This was the 184th annual gathering of Quakers in Canada, our 62nd as a united Yearly Meeting, and our first after a fallow year in 2017. We acknowledge with gratitude that our Yearly Meeting took place on the traditional territory of the Anishnaabek, Haudenosaunee, and Wyandot.

We were welcomed to this territory by Anishnaabe elder Jeff Monague, and our Quaker Study, led by Canadian Friends Service Committee's Jennifer Preston, was on the theme of "Faith, Reconciliation, and Relationships with Indigenous Peoples." Jennifer invited several Friends to share their experiences with reconciliation. She also brought to bear her considerable experience working on the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples on an international level, and for reconciliation nationally.

Prior to the official start of Canadian Yearly Meeting, a number of Friends enjoyed a pre-Gathering retreat on "Sharing our Spiritual Journey" led by Ellen Helmuth of New Brunswick Monthly Meeting. Friends were invited to reflect on the mentors and testimonies that had formed them, and to share and write stories of their spiritual journeys.

Over thirty Young Friends and Young Adult Friends (ages 13-35) also gathered before CYM at Camp NeeKauNis, a Quaker camp which has been operating for over seven decades. They spent time playing, swimming, singing, getting to know each other, and discerning how best to support our Young Friends/Young Adult Friends community, given that Canadian Young Friends Yearly Meeting has been on hiatus as an official body since 2016.

Young Friends and Young Adult Friends (YFs and YAFs) continued their discernment process during CYM. They decided to revive Canadian Young Friends Yearly Meeting and provisionally to replace the previous clerk structure with a team of Youth Representatives and a separate organizing committee for the next Youth Gathering. This, we hope, will provide a more sustainable leadership structure.

After this revival was reported to CYM Thursday morning, there was an extended period of worship during our Meeting for Business. Young Friends and Young Adult Friends were held in the Light while they used a worship-sharing format to respond to the following query: "How can and do Quakers across Canada welcome and nourish Young Friends and Young Adult Friends, recognizing them as valued community members?" It was a powerful opportunity to hold and listen to YFs/YAFs as they shared joys and challenges about being integrated into the broader Quaker community. Older Friends were encouraged to keep listening to YFs/YAFs in support of their growth and blossoming.

A highlight of this year's programming was Arthur Larrabee's Sunderland P. Gardner lecture on "Making Room for Spirit." Arthur, a visitor from Central Philadelphia Monthly Meeting, drew on spiritual insights from various religious traditions, as well as personal (often humorous) anecdotes, to explain how we might remove barriers to Spirit in our lives by dissolving attachment, practicing patience, 'dying' into fear, and embracing paradox.

With two years having elapsed since we last gathered, the list of Friends who have died since our last Yearly Meeting was very long. The Memorial Meeting was beautiful and moving, and we are truly grateful for the grace of God evident in the lives of these Friends.

During our business sessions, we celebrated the formation of Atlantic Half Yearly Meeting, moved forward in defining a process for creating Advices

and Queries specific to the Canadian context, and asked the Clerk of CYM to write a letter to the Pope commending him for adding his support to the many voices demanding abolition of the death penalty.

We learned that Canadian Yearly Meeting shares in the honours conveyed by the 2017 Nobel Peace Prize, having become a partner organization of the recipient, the International Committee to Abolish Nuclear Weapons, in 2012. The name “Religious Society of Friends, Canada” is recorded with others on the commemorative stone marker in Oslo, Norway.

A report by Nominating Committee of the challenges in filling CYM positions led to a discussion of Friends' individual strengths and weaknesses, and Friends were encouraged to engage in discernment rooted in getting to know each other better and being willing to try new and unfamiliar things. One position which was not filled was that of "Carbon Coordinator;" later we were delighted to learn that a small group of Friends has agreed to have their names put forward together as a team for this position to help us understand how to reduce our environmental footprint.

A wide and varied bouquet of Special Interest Groups was offered throughout the week on topics such as restorative justice, Friendly outreach, couples' enrichment, experiences with cancer, tools for spiritual discernment, electronic surveillance, death and dying, environmental concerns, principles of Quaker Faith, the “No Way to Treat a Child” campaign to end Israeli military detention of Palestinian children, lessons from Britain Yearly Meeting, the erosion of democracy in the US, and more.

We enjoyed the contributions of several visitors: Gloria Thompson from Friends World Committee for Consultation (and Manhattan Monthly Meeting), Anne Pomeroy from Friends General Conference (and New York Yearly Meeting), Hugh O'Farrell Walsh from Ireland Yearly Meeting (who was a particular joy to YFs/YAFs), and the family of Binwa and Etienne Paul Mungombe, from the evangelical United Friends Churches in Canada (UFC). UFC invited Friends in Canadian Yearly Meeting to its general conference August 25-26.

A thread ran through the way we welcomed Evangelical Francophone Friends, engaged in a week-long reflection on right relations with Indigenous peoples, and really listened to Young Friends and Young Adult

Friends. We realize that God is calling us to widen our circle and to challenge the barriers we unconsciously have placed on our welcome.

Great joy and fellowship was shared during CYM's visit to Camp NeeKauNis, Family Night, and in all the nooks and crannies that Friends creatively found in our very full schedule. Though we may have come to CYM as individuals, we left as family.