



CANADIAN YEARLY MEETING ANNUAL GATHERING 2025

The Daily Quacker

THURSDAY, JULY 23

Welcome to the Daily Quacker, the newsletter for Canadian Yearly Meeting's Annual Gathering.

HERE'S WHAT'S INSIDE TODAY:

- New Posts – [Note Minute on Reparations](#)
- Reminders (Previously Posted)
- Schedule

NEW POSTS

Minute on Reparations

The SIG on Reparations has asked that a revised draft Minute come to [Business Meeting Thursday](#). The Clerks then revised it again! Here is the version we wish you to consider.

Appendix G. Draft Minute on Reparations

Minute of Record 2026

Canadian Yearly Meeting Paying Reparations to Indigenous Peoples

Canadian Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, the national body of Quakers in Canada, recognizes that Indigenous Peoples in Canada continue to live with the harms of historic and ongoing colonialism. The Religious Society of Friends played a role in that colonialism, the dispossession of land, attempted genocide, and the eradication of language, culture and spirituality, and other harms. We continue to look for ways to address these grave injustices. At this time, we commit Canadian Yearly Meeting to pay at least 1% of its unrestricted charitable and interest income to a reparations fund.

Since the 1960s, Canadian Yearly Meeting and Canadian Friends Service Committee have been seeking right relationships with Indigenous Peoples. As this work has deepened, Canadian Yearly Meeting has approved several significant minutes. These include affirming the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (2010), repudiating the Doctrine of Discovery (2013), and encouraging Friends and Meetings to engage with the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's 94 Calls to Action (since 2015).

We join the movements of reparations that are growing around the world, including the Quaker world, in response to the deep harms created by and continuing as a result of colonialism. Individuals and organizations are committing one percent of their income to reparation funds.

In the land acknowledgement which opens all our Meetings for Worship for Business we say, 'May we, as Friends, commit ourselves to uphold the rights of Indigenous Peoples, to redress the injustices, to honour the treaties and sacred agreements made between Indigenous Peoples and our governments, and to work together in peace toward justice and reconciliation.'

In this spirit, and to breathe deeper life into our words, we direct our General Secretary-Treasurer and Finance Committee to make the reparations payment each year in consultation with Canadian Friends Service Committee. The General Secretary-Treasurer will include reporting the payment amount and recipient as part of annual reporting on expenditures. The use of the reparation money is controlled by survivors of the oppression.

We invite Monthly Meetings to consider how they may engage with reparations.

SIG on Universalism – 2nd Chance if you missed it Tuesday

Back by request, Jennifer Schoeck 's presentation and discussion on the role of Universalism in today's Quakerism SIG has been organized for **Thursday evening at 8** in Room S135 (around the corner from Reception).

Quaker Study Sessions

Quaker Study Sessions - All are welcome to follow up with Geoff after CYM in Session comes to an end.

Geoff's email is gjinmont@videotron.ca.

Here is a Google Drive link for Geoffrey's materials:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/15ejrRDTM8xNHb4GIPlpz_R_S60E_ME2?usp=sharing

Benjamin Lay

Friends who would like more information on Benjamin Lay are encouraged to look up the following resources:

Book by Marcus Rediker: *The Fearless Benjamin Lay*, 2017

Podcast episode from *Thee Quaker* podcast: Benjamin Lay, the Quaker Abolitionist that History Forgot.

New documentary film by Tony Buba and Marcus Rediker *Becoming Benjamin Lay*. Not yet in full distribution, but we have received permission for a one-time showing at CYM.

It will be shown after hours, **on Thursday following Family Night, in the first-floor lounge in Concord Hall.**

SIG Summaries

There were many excellent SIGs this year. If you attended something that moved you or other Friends would benefit from learning about, please share it!

You can either submit it to the Daily Quaker Thursday, or submit it to the weekly CYM newsletter at cym-communications@quaker.ca.

Discussion Notes from SIG on Sustainability, Earth Action and the Climate Crisis

"There's no going back"

In 2001 CYM, moved by the prophetic work of Friends in the Quaker Earth Action Network, (QEAN) approved a Minute on sustainability which encouraged monthly meetings to initiate ecology working groups and to share their experience across the country. Friendly resources to implement the recommended initiatives were limited and events, particularly the attack on the World Trade Centre in September consumed the worlds attention: Tragically many ecological concerns were put aside as Friends struggled to counter the widespread mood for revenge and war, and the many violations of human rights.

The Quaker study this year has expanded our understanding of the urgency expressed in the minute 25 years ago. Huge disparities in wealth and power have materially and spiritually impoverished everyone. Our dependence on fossil fuels, ongoing "forever" wars, and continued extraction of the earths gifts leaves many with a sense of despair or futility knowing that climate and greater ecological tragedies lie ahead and that there is no going back - not even to twenty years ago. Not ever. We have to adapt and mitigate.

Awareness of the difficulties and tragedies ahead and of the despair we many may feel, has compelled those of us in this group to ask what Friends might consider the most important work ahead. Perhaps the work ahead is pastoral, to help ourselves and others know that we can't live as strangers in the world, to help each other survive and thrive in a community searching for a new language of love and shelter in a very different and harsher world.

Family Night

Please sign up on the bulletin board to share your talents at **Family Nigh – Thursday night.**

Gleanings

You can send your gleanings using the same Quacker form. Gleanings are a few words or phrases that you come across during your conversations that seem to reflect or capture the spirit of the meeting. Gleanings can be profound, or sober, or silly. These will be **read out at Family Night Thursday** and included in Friday's Quacker.

Hybrid Community Time

12:00 pm - 12:45 pm Pacific
1:00 pm - 1:45 pm Mountain
2:00 pm - 2:45 pm Central
3:00 pm - 3:45 pm Eastern
4:00 pm - 4:45 pm Atlantic
4:30 pm - 5:15 pm NL

Hybrid Community Time Thursday afternoon is a casual, unprogrammed time for onliners and on-siters to spend time together. Come to visit with one another, share your reflections of the Gathering so far. Explore with others how each of the two experiences have been.

In the Conference Room and on the CYM All Sessions link (click the online Meeting for Worship link on your schedules).

Share a Cab

If you would like to share a cab ride, most likely to the airport, there is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board.

Name Tags and Keys

As you are leaving...

Please drop off your key and name tag at our CYM desk in the reception area

There will be a box for keys and a box for name tags. Please tuck the string or cord into the name tag holder so tangles are prevented

Many thanks. Program Committee

Share a Photo

If you have a photo from the Gathering you would like to share in Friday's Quacker, please email to Steve Ginley at: ginleywrites@gmail.com The regular submission form cannot take photos.

REMINDERS

Morning Chanting

Friends will meet for sacred chanting in-person in the second floor Poettker lounge from 8:30 am to 9 am. If anyone has a copy of Bev Sheppard's Sacred Chanting book, please speak with Steve Ginley if you are willing to lend it to the chanters :)

Early Morning Chair Yoga

Chair Yoga led by Kathryn Belzer is available at 7:00 a.m. on Friday in the Conference Room.

World Quaker Day

Evan Welkin has mentioned World Quaker Day a few times. If this is part of your meeting's life and work, then here is the link for this year's theme and resources. <https://fwcc.world/event/worldquakerday2026/>
If your meeting does not celebrate World Quaker Day, this material will help you understand its intent, value, and opportunities.

CMU Campus Host:

Contact for concerns about your room or other campus difficulties: call 204-228-3962.

For all other Gathering difficulties, including Tech: CYMHelp@quaker.ca

Beautiful Space On Campus

If you are looking for a quiet space to wander in for a few minutes, try the CMU Art Gallery in the tall, pointed roofed building across from South Hall. It's open 8:30-4:30 and is free. The current exhibit features works created using cereal grains and local scenes. See <https://www.cmu.ca/gallery>

Cell Phone Reminder

A note to Friends: cell phones ringing and pinging are very disruptive. Please ensure that you silence your phone or turn it off before entering a session. If you are expecting an important call or text, kindly wait for it outside the room so as not to disturb others. There is also the option of doing a digital detox during the gathering and not bringing your phone everywhere you go.

CFSC Merch: Because Even The Simplest Friends Could Use a T-shirt

Yes, we know. "Simplicity." We wrestled with the irony too — then made peace (pun intended) with it. Now we have buttons! Stop by our table in the lobby for shirts, notebooks, magnets, buttons, pins (and more) that fund real peace and justice work. Guilt-free purchasing, mostly.

The Canadian Quaker Library & Archives needs your help!

There is a table in the main reception area (next to the puzzle table) with some photographs from Yearly Meetings past. Can you identify any of these people? Please come by and take a look and use a post-it note to write any names or descriptions and attach it to the back of the photograph.

Interested in Canadian Quaker history?

If you would like to proofread transcriptions of 1960s and 1970s Canadian Yearly Meeting minute books, please contact Sheila at havard_translations@hotmail.com. Little or much help would be great. Corrections will be few as they have already been proofed by the transcriber. These books contain many fascinating stories: development of the CYM discipline, Grassy Narrows and mercury poisoning, discernment around taxation for military purposes.

First Aid Contacts:

In case of a medical emergency, please contact:

Steve Giinley 705 927 6734

Kate Holden (Children's Program)

In case of a mental health crisis, please contact:

Jackie Bonner 587 434 4090

CYM Faith and Practice Books for Sale

Anne-Marie Zilliacus has 10 copies of CYM Faith and Practice for sale (\$23.00 each) by cash or e-transfer to the CYM Treasurer. That is the same process as payments were made online for Yearly Meeting.

More about The Daily Quacker

Finding the Quacker:

We're emailing this first Daily Quacker right to your inbox! [Look for the next edition on the website.](#) When the Quacker is ready for the day, we'll post them here.

Getting your news into the Quacker:

If you have news, announcements, queries, or questions send them using the [Daily Quacker submission](#) form (same link!). Deadline for posting to next day's issue: 7 pm *Central*.

Meals at the Gathering and Kitchen Liaisons.

The registration forms gathered information about allergies and food preferences (vegetarian, vegan, gluten free). The CMU kitchen makes a great effort to accommodate these needs. If you have concerns or questions about meals, please do not ask the kitchen staff. Instead, speak to our Kitchen Liaisons, **Leigh Turina and Laurel Beyer**. They will talk with the CMU Chef and get back to you with answers.



The Daily Quacker

[illegible]