



Quaker Indigenous Rights Committee

Queries for Friends as we engage with Reconciliation

Am I aware of the local history of colonization?

Am I aware of current local reconciliation efforts, including those by other faith communities?

How do I find out how to approach and engage with Indigenous people where I live?

What queries should guide me throughout my reconciliation efforts?

Are my actions in support of Indigenous self-determination and sovereignty? Am I "in solidarity" only because I already agree on this issue?

Am I, to the best of my knowledge and ability, avoiding the use of hurtful language, stereotypes or non-Indigenous ways of framing issues, either consciously or unconsciously, between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples generally and in the historical context of my region?

Am I doing "my own work" with humility and grace? Am I aware of my own areas of ignorance and discomfort? Am I drawing deeply on the emotional resources of Indigenous people in my life, or am I just asking non-Indigenous F/friends to accompany me in my own journey?

Are we as Friends pro-active in our self-education efforts (instead of waiting on or expecting others to educate us, especially Indigenous people, groups, organizations)

Does my Meeting or Worship Group acknowledge the territory on which we meet? Are we holding our piece of reconciliation efforts mindfully, so that any acknowledgement is not tokenistic?

If I find out where my local Friendship Centre is, can I just walk in some day to find out more? How can I respectfully engage?

Are there news sources, listservs, or other media to help me understand current events from the perspective of local and national Indigenous groups and communities?

Are we actively challenging racism, stereotyping, and colonialism when we encounter it (e.g. in the media or workplace, with our f/Friends and families, etc).

For more info please contact Jennifer@quakerservice.ca