

Dear Friends,

Re: Minute for Canadian Yearly Meeting (CYM) 2016 - Truth & Reconciliation

At Canadian Yearly Meeting sessions in August 2016, CFSC facilitated Friends adoption of a new minute on reconciliation, a copy of which is attached. The minute commits Friends to specific actions to take our Indigenous rights work "to the next level". The minute acknowledges, "that part of our journey is to decolonize our own thinking and sit in the discomfort and pain of confronting where we need to deepen our understanding, bear witness, and transform our behaviour."

Monthly Meetings and Worship Groups were asked in the minute to report back annually through CFSC on actions they have taken on reconciliation and CFSC was asked to collate the information in our reporting to CYM.

We have heard informally of examples of the work Friends are doing in their communities, and we have been heartened that many Meetings and Worship Groups are engaging in this vital work.

We encourage all Meetings and Friends in CYM to take up the challenge of the minute on reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples. This work is not always easy; but it is important for Quakers, in keeping with Friends' testimonies, to be involved along with all Canadians in building Nation-to-Nation relationships. Please let us know what you are doing!

We request that you submit your report to us by April 30 (if possible) so that we can include it in our report to CYM. Please send something in writing to us, even if you feel that you do not have anything to report, so that we can have complete information on what is happening across CYM. The process of reconciliation will be ongoing in the long term but we do need to get a clear sense of where we are at present.

It would be helpful to include in your report:

1. The name of the of the Indigenous Peoples on whose traditional territor/(y)(ies) your Monthly Meeting or Worship Group is located;
2. List each activity and give:
 - a description
 - the level of involvement (number of people participating, time, budget etc)
 - specify if this is an activity of the Monthly Meeting or Worship Group as a whole, or a committee, or concerned individuals
 - any learnings? follow ups?
 - contact person (either per activity or for your entire report)

You may also want to share photos.

Email the completed report with "2017 Report to CYM on Reconciliation" typed in

the subject line to: outlawimmigration@me.com, and amanuelap@gmail.com.

We look forward to hearing from you and giving a full report of the work done over the year in our annual report to CYM.

In Friendship,

Rob Hughes
Clerk, Quaker Indigenous Rights Committee