

To: All North Pacific Yearly Meeting Friends

From: NPYM Committee to Explore Affiliation with Friends General Conference

Date: March XX, 2025

Dear Friends,

This letter is to ask you, in your Monthly Meetings and Worship Groups, to begin to discern whether NPYM's affiliation with FGC is rightly ordered. While we do not expect to bring a recommendation on affiliation to this year's Annual Session, your responses will guide us in determining how to approach information sessions at Annual Session and what further steps might be helpful to the Yearly Meeting in its discernment.

Our Committee has been working over the last several months to gather information that will help with the discernment process. We have reached out to the two western Yearly Meetings that are affiliated: Intermountain Yearly Meeting and Pacific Yearly Meeting. We have gotten feedback from the three NPYM Monthly Meetings that are independently affiliated. We asked these meetings what their experience of affiliation was, what financial impact there was, and whether affiliation had impacted their ability to find Friends willing to step into service roles in their Meetings. We asked how being part of FGC enriched them and whether affiliation presented any undue burdens. The information we received is summarized in the first attachment to this letter, [Report on Outreach to Affiliated Meetings](#).

We also reviewed and responded to the questions asked in our Faith and Practice that would guide us in deciding whether to affiliate with a larger Quaker organization. The answers are comprehensive and cover a wide variety of concerns related to affiliation. They comprise the second attachment to this letter, [NPYM Considerations for Affiliation](#).

**In the context of this information we ask you now to consider in your Monthly Meeting or Worship Group the question of whether NPYM should affiliate with FGC. We hope that you can complete your discernment on this important question and respond to us by June 1, 2025.** Please let us know right away if you would like someone from our Committee or from FGC to address your meeting and answer any questions you may have as you move through the discernment process. The person to contact on our Committee both with your response to the discernment question as well as to ask for a visitor is Theo Mace ([theomace9@gmail.com](mailto:theomace9@gmail.com)).

Thank you,

Jane Snyder, Clerk; Patty Lyman, Theo Mace, Mico Sorrel, Caroline Wildflower