

## **Agenda: Welcoming Meeting and Meeting for Worship for Business - WHYM Spring 2026**

*\*Friends are encouraged to provide regrets and the details (full names and dates) for births, deaths, new members, and marriages to WHYM Recording Clerk Andrew Gage at [andrew\\_gage@wcel.org](mailto:andrew_gage@wcel.org) (in advance if possible!).*

**Saturday, May 16, 2026**

### **Welcoming Meeting (10:30am)**

With children present

- o Opening Worship**
- o Approval of acting Clerk (Andrew Gage) and Recording Clerk (Ruth Walmsley)**
- o CYM Land acknowledgement** - The Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) acknowledges that across this land we call Canada, Quakers live, worship, and work on the traditional territories of Indigenous Peoples who have lived in relationship with these lands since time immemorial. We honour the nation-to-nation friendship Treaties and sacred agreements made between Indigenous Peoples and settler/newcomer governments. We acknowledge the great debt owed to those who, willingly or not, have shared and continue to share their land with settlers. Colonization has inflicted and continues to inflict harm on Indigenous Peoples that has led to spiritual, cultural, and human loss. As Friends, we commit ourselves to upholding the rights of Indigenous Peoples, to redressing the injustices, and to working together in peace toward justice and reconciliation.

We are grateful to gather in Sorrento on the traditional and unceded territories of the Secwépemc Nation, as well as on-line in the territories of many different Nations.

- o Introductions**
  - o Introduction of the Clerks
  - o Welcome from Sorrento
  - o Meetings: Argenta, Calgary, Cowichan Valley, Edmonton, Interior BC, Saanich Peninsula, Saskatoon, Vancouver, Vancouver Island, Winnipeg
  - o First-timers, Visitors, Representatives:
  - o Regrets:
- o Announcements**
  - o Listeners
  - o Community expectations - See [Community Agreement here](#)
  - o Balancing and children's programs announcements
- o Committees & Volunteers for the weekend:**
  - o Epistle & Reporter for Canadian Friend - Nathan Seckinger
  - o Gleanings - Celia Cheatley, Jonah Dimant
  - o Cards for Absent Friends - Alina Freedman
  - o Snacks set-up/clean-up - Karl Maier (Sat. only);
  - o Kitchen Liaison -
  - o Family Night Host -

- o Children's program helpers - Juniper & Graham Entwistle, Jesse, Amy & Chris, Nori, Nathan, Ben Von Schulmann
- o Music Coordinator - Ruth Walmsley & Tim Bartoo
- o Tech Hosts:
- o Help with whatever: Sarah Chandler, Trevor Chandler, Tia, Peter, Joe Ackerman, Heidi Dick, Barbara, Dale, Rebecca WG, Karl Maier, Sean, Nathan Seckinger, Jonah Dimant

Children Leave for Children's program

### **Meeting for Worship for Business (10:50pm – approximate)**

#### **o Re-Centring worship**

The Clerk read the following reflection:

My husband and I ... made it a practice to attend Quaker meetings in the places we visited. ... Wherever we worshipped we found the same expectant waiting worship, closed by handshakes and discussions and/or conversations that centered on concerns of peace, equality, and bringing help to those who were needy. ... As Quakers everywhere, we know that we are all called to minister in our own way and that ministry takes many forms. In working together in the Spirit, we find that there is far more to unite us than that which may separate us.

– Caroline Lane, Flushing Meeting, NY, 2019

- o **Agenda Review**
- o **Acceptance of Minutes from Spring WHYM 2025**

[Minutes, Spring 2025](#)

#### **o Births, Deaths, New Members, Marriages**

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##### **Birth:**

- Euan Hildebrandt: Winnipeg MM, July 2025
- Alma Phipps-Jones, June 2025

##### **Death:**

- Alan Ampersand (VIMM), April 4, 2026
- Janet Martin (Calgary): July 10, 2025
- David Polster (VIMM), May 11, 2026

##### **New Members:**

- Jonah Dimant: Transfer of membership from Montreal MM to Vancouver MM on February 15, 2026
- Kay Kearley: welcomed into membership in Vancouver MM on February 15, 2026
- Lisa Kreut: welcomed into membership in Vancouver MM on March 15, 2026
- Karl Maier, accepted into membership in Interior BC Monthly Meeting on Jan 25, 2026
- Becks Repka (Calgary)- March 2026

## Marriages

- Arwen Brennehan and Sam Levy, married under the care of Vancouver MM, October 25, 2025
- Alison Jones and Sean Phipps, married under the care of Vancouver Island MM, August 23, 2025

## o Reports 1

- o Registrars' Reports
  - o On-line – Joy Morris
  - o In Person – Nat Knight
- o WHYM Ministry & Counsel - Graeme Hope (See below)
  - All State of Society reports are posted online [here](#)
- o Nominating Committee - Maggie Knight, and Mavis Dixon
  - Report [here](#)
- o [Clerk's Report](#)
- o WHYM Rep to Representative Meeting - ?

## o Brief introductions to Special Interest Groups

SIGS list and descriptions here.

## Sunday, May 17, 3:30pm

## o Reports 2

- o Treasurer/Finance Report (Nathan Dick)
- o Nominating Committee Report (Laurel Beyer)
- o Other reports

## o New Business

- o Anything arising from SIGs?
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## o 4:45 - Future Gatherings

- o Fall WHYM Thanksgiving Weekend Oct 9-12, 2026, Camp Kannawin, Alberta
- o Spring WHYM May 22-24, 2027, Sorrento, BC

## o 4:50 - 5pm Closing Worship

## REPORTS:

### Western Half-Yearly Meeting (WHYM)

#### May 2026 Report of Meeting of Ministry and Counsel (M&C)

We continue to endeavour to make WHYM a welcoming community, especially to newcomers. As usual, “Buddies” are identified for first-time attenders. However, we also encourage all Friends to introduce themselves to newcomers and make them feel welcome. We also further encourage the inclusion of online participants into our onsite activities. For the Intergenerational Welcome on Friday night, the facilitators discussed themes beforehand and attempted to create parallel, related activities in the two distinct groups. Thanks to Peter Stevenson and Jesse Thompson for the in-person welcome, and Darlene Kennedy for the online activities.

Since we are not a Continuing Meeting, we do not consider issues arising from or pertaining to the MMs except in so far as they affect attendance at WHYM. State of Society reports for western Monthly Meetings are online in a Google doc identified by a link in the agenda . A hybrid Closed Meeting of Ministry and Counsel will be held on Saturday afternoon.

Listeners for confidential conversations during this gathering are Laurel Beyer for online and Rachel Maxcy and Peter Stevenson for in-person participants. Please email [Darlene Kennedy](#) or call me at 250 879-0580 if you need to speak with a Listener.

The Worship Fellowship Groups were organized by Peter Stevenson for in-person, and Darlene Kennedy for online participants. The Memorial Meeting is being facilitated by Graham Entwistle.

The guidelines for volunteers in the children's program (***Safety of Children at WHYM***) are posted on the main bulletin board and in the children's program room.

Graeme Hope, Darlene Kennedy, Rachel Maxcy, Peter Stevenson