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May 20, 2020

To all Meetings and Committees in Canadian Yearly Meeting, and Representative Meeting Reps
From the Canadian Yearly Meeting Change and Sustainable Transformation Working Group (CAST)

Hello Friends in CYM,

This letter is to inform you of the work of the Canadian Yearly Meeting Change and Sustainable Transformation Working Group (CAST) and to bring our initial recommendations to you.

CAST was established in March 2020 with a mandate from Representative Meeting in February as follows:

- Identify commonalities and themes from the Ad Hoc Committee on Financial Sustainability's national consultation and draw on other resources to draft:
 - a description of the purpose of CYM;
 - a list of CYM's needs and priorities;
 - a list of associated programs and services; and
 - proposed next steps for possible adjustments based on the above.
- Plan and engage in a process to bring forward the above drafts for documents in advance for 2020 CYM in session to move this work forward after 2020 CYM in session.
- After CYM in Session:
 - correlate the identified priorities, programs, and services with costs and our financial reality;
 - communicate the financial limitations to pertinent CYM Committees;
 - present recommendations to Finance Committee; and
 - report and present matters to Representatives Meeting in November 2020.
- Support ongoing communication flow regarding the progress of the work, especially with CYM and Monthly Meetings.
Continue to support ongoing organizational transformation and the sustainability of CYM grounded in Quaker faith, practice, and process.

CYM Purpose. We are now sending you a draft statement of CYM purpose. We ask you to consider it and send any responses to cym-clerk@quaker.ca and have your representative prepared to speak to it at Representative Meeting (on line) on June 20, 2020. We are asking the CYM clerk to put this draft purpose statement on the agenda for discussion, and we hope a statement of purpose can be approved in June.

CYM draft 'statement of purpose' from Change and Sustainable Transformation Working Group (CAST):

Canadian Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) unites its constituent Meetings to uphold faith and practice in the manner of Friends, seeking to be open to new Light as we collectively discern how we are led to witness in the world.

We are discussing ideas for restructuring how we do Yearly Meeting business. We believe that in 2021 we will need to have a national CYM-in-session (in Winnipeg as planned), as it would not be good process to make substantial changes in our structure and format without a full face-to-face meeting. However, we suggest that our 2021 session can be modified from past practice to respond to some of the suggestions made during the Ad Hoc Committee on Financial Sustainability consultations. We are working on specific recommendations which we will send to you in the near future.

CAST is also currently discussing the following:

- CYM's needs and priorities
- CYM's committee structures
- how we can address travel and climate issues and make CYM-in-session accessible to more Friends.

Topics that CAST will address in the future include:

- Supporting and Engaging Quaker Youth
- CYM Staffing
- Sustainability from an environmental perspective
- financial sustainability

We look forward to input from all parts of our Canadian Yearly Meeting.

In Friendship,

Change and Sustainable Transformation Working Group (CAST): Marilyn Manzer (clerk), Virginia Dawson, Zaley Warkentin, Pete Cross, Celia Cheatley, Wesley Weima