

# Hamilton Friends January 2020 Newsletter



## Advices and Queries

41. Try to live simply. A simple lifestyle freely chosen is a source of strength. Do not be persuaded into buying what you do not need or cannot afford. Do you keep yourself informed about the effects your style of living is having on the global economy and environment?

# Coffee List



Next week, the Flemings have signed up  
Bev will do it the first Sunday in February

WE NEED PEOPLE TO SIGN UP FOR COFFEE SERVICE! It's easy and it benefits our community so much! Please sign the sheet on the bulletin board in the Meeting House. If you want to know more about it, talk to Janis, or Carol Leigh, or Glenna, or Harriet, or Bev, or Sheldon, or Don, or... you get the idea!

# Calendar

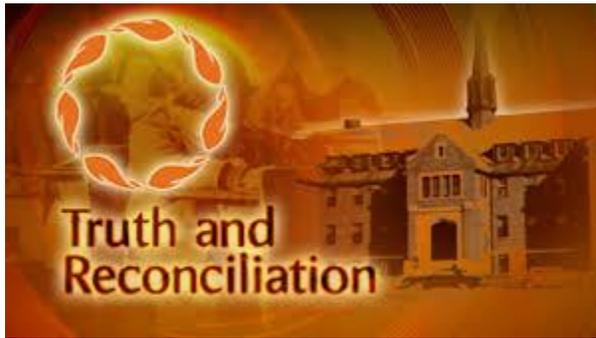
## JANUARY 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

**February 2nd:** Meeting for Worship for Business following worship

**February 9th (bad-weather date Feb. 16th):** The second occasion of viewing one of the four-part series "Hearing Our Voices", in our ongoing campaign to educate ourselves regarding Indigenous issues in Canada. Our friend Judith Murray made this set of videos some years ago and will be with us to talk more about it after we've seen the film.

2020 FEBRUARY						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29



In November the Truth and Reconciliation Committee (TRC), in response to HMM's decision to become more educated regarding the challenges facing the Indigenous community, launched a discussion series based on the United Church of Canada's production entitled, "Hear Our Voices".

We are delighted that Judith Murray who directed the series is able to be with us again, on Sunday February 9, to participate in our second discussion. We will view another segment of the video series, "Hear Our Voices" followed by our discussion with Judith.

After Meeting, on 9 February, we will have a potluck. Lentil soup will be hot and ready to share. Contributions to the meal would be welcome but not necessary. Please bring food that does not require heating up. The TRC looks forward to participating in this opportunity to learn in fellowship with you.

# Quaker Meeting House. Sarasota, Florida. January 12, 2020

Greetings from Sarasota Meeting to Hamilton Meeting. One of the women friends, Jean Smollens, has a niece, a Quaker, newly married and living in Hamilton. She has asked me to be in touch with her, which I will be when I receive her name and contact information. We will invite her to our Meeting.

After a turbulent tragic week in the world (downing of Ukrainian jet in Tehran) it felt wonderful to be in a place of peace and reflection.

In a post Meeting note a man asked Friends to write the Canadian government on behalf of Amnesty International to protest dreadful living conditions for the people of Grassy Narrows. (Mercury in the water)

I trust that at some earlier point he encouraged them to write to the US government about immigrant children being held in cages.

I wrote a letter to MP Karina Gould protesting the government's slow response to cleaning up the toxic mercury water in Grassy Narrows.

Bertrand and I return from Sarasota January 31.

Greetings to all,  
Judith





Meeting clerk Sarasota, Dave Hilsheimer, Judith Murray, Jean Smolens. January 12, 2020



In 2004, the Canadian (Department of) Peace Initiative - CPI - was founded. Soon after, at Hannah Newcombe's urging, Hamilton Meeting's Peace and Social Action Committee agreed to become the core of a Hamilton Chapter. A private member's bill was tabled in Parliament, and following the election, another (replacement) bill was tabled. Our committee was big - 12 of us - and enthusiastic for many years, but progress at the federal level was not encouraging, and our activity slacked off.

But the new minority Liberal government has established a Department of Women, Peace, and Children. The new mandate is being worked out, and two of the CPI faithful in the Ottawa chapter are maintaining discussions with the new minister. It would be a fine opportunity to re-start Hamilton MMs Peace group. If you would consider supporting a Hamilton chapter re-birth, please let Dick Preston know.

-Submitted by Dick Preston

## **The Future of Canadian Yearly Meeting**

After worship and the outstanding First Day School presentation on Sunday, January 12th, a good number of Friends gathered to consider the queries sent to all Monthly Meetings by Canadian Yearly Meeting's Ad Hoc Committee on Financial Sustainability. We used, as recommended by the committee, the Claremont Dialogue process. In this format, Friends sit in a circle to address a single question (so for this gathering we went through the process 3 times, for the 3 queries), and they do so out of a worshipful silence, one at a time in order around the circle, with silence between offerings and no sense of *discussion*, that is, of responding directly to something another Friend has said. No one is required to speak, and a Friend can pass if s/he wishes, with the opportunity to change her/his mind and contribute after the circle has been completed.

Notes on the queries and Hamilton Friends' responses to them are attached to this newsletter.

You are encouraged to submit your own responses to the queries to: [financial-sustainability@quaker.ca](mailto:financial-sustainability@quaker.ca)

A Note from Your Clerks. With this issue of the Hamilton Monthly Meeting newsletter we say good-bye to Lynn Comiskey as the editor. Lynn has put together a colourful, well-organized, delightfully illustrated, and comprehensive newsletter for many years, and we are both grateful. We're sure that many other Hamilton Friends have appreciated Lynn's service, too. Trusting that we'll often have other ways to be connected to Lynn, we say, Farewell, and thank you very much! And to incoming newsletter editor Siân Bowen-Cole, Welcome, and thank you for taking this on! Bev and Shirla