

**HAMILTON MONTHLY MEETING**  
of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)  
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**NEWSLETTER JUNE 2007**

**Refreshments for Meeting for Worship**

June 17 potluck at Brink's; June 24 Ray; July 1 Dawn and Ryan's family; July 8 OPEN; 15 Jesse; 22 Carol Leigh and Glenna. Friends are invited to sign up to provide refreshments on the new list that is in the foyer for this much appreciated service. If you have any questions please contact Christina or Nicki.

**Upcoming Dates**

June 17 Sunday 11:00 am Garden meeting at Brink's followed by potluck.  
June 24 Brown Bag discussion at 12:30 on a Quaker reply to 'Responsibility to Protect'  
June 30 Saturday 7 pm Celebration of wedding of Dawn and Ryan  
August 3-11 Canadian Yearly Meeting Windsor, Nova Scotia  
Next Meeting for Worship for Business Sunday Sept 9 2007 at 1 pm  
Sept 16 Sunday First Day School Open Meeting after Meeting for Worship  
Sept 23 Sunday Brown Bag discussion to prepare questions re Caledonia  
Sept 27 Thurs Potluck discussion regarding Aboriginal land claim in Caledonia  
Oct 27 Saturday Yonge Street Half Yearly Meeting at Toronto Meeting House

**Summer Hours**

In July and August Meeting for Worship starts at 10 am. Starts July 1.

**A June Wedding Celebration**

Wedding Celebration for Dawn and Ryan  
Saturday, June 30 2007, at 7 pm at Hamilton Meeting House  
If you can help out, please talk to Jesse, Jean, or Harriet as soon as possible.  
Submitted by Jesse, Jean and Harriet

**Gardeners Needed**

If you can help spruce up the garden the last week of June before the celebration June 30, please call Jean.

**Dinner groups to be re-formed; sign up!**

We have had several dinner groups running over the past year. They generally meet every month or two, are a great way to get to know each other. We want to re-form them so that people have an opportunity to foster friendships with other members of

meeting. We invite anyone who wishes to be in a dinner group, whether you were in one previously or not, to let Don know by the end of June. He will post the new lists in the meeting house and via email. As there are many complications involved in creating these groups, such as a mix of single people and couples, men and women, people with cars and without and their locations, and reshuffling members of previous groups, it would be appreciated if you don't make other requests.

Submitted by Don

### **Photos previously on the bulletin board.**

Archives committee would like to find the photos that were removed from the bulletin board earlier this spring. If you know where they are, please call:

Robbie M

### **Responsibility to Protect**

There will be a brown-bag discussion following meeting on June 24<sup>th</sup> (see Jesse Husk if you have any questions about this). Below is some background material to aid in preparation for the brownbag:

The responsibility to protect is a UN sponsored document that lays out a series of guidelines for dealing with international violence and genocide. It is a document that attempts to answer the question of when and how the international community should interfere in the activities of a foreign country. In brief, the document suggests that sovereign states bear responsibility for the welfare of their citizens and that when this responsibility is abused, it is the responsibility of the international community to step in and offer protection, be that in the form of prevention, intervention, or rebuilding.

The Canadian Council of Churches has drafted a response to this document, and CFSC has been working towards providing feedback on the part of Canadian Friends to the CCC response. To that end, CFSC has requested that meetings contribute their responses to CFSC.

Further resources: Gianne Broughton has put together an extensive and highly-useful document that includes the CCC draft statement and a wide range of additional background information: <http://cfsc.quaker.ca/pages/documents/R2PResourcePaper.pdf>

Specifically, we are being asked to consider the following:

1. What experience stories can be share of examples of unarmed people protecting people from the violence of armed people. CFSC would like to collect such stories from our own experiences, or from other verifiable sources.
2. What questions or advice do you have for better prevention or better intervention? This could become a "toolkit" for non-violent protection.
3. What wording changes would you recommend for the CCC draft statement?

Submitted by Jesse

**Hamilton Monthly Meeting**  
**Meeting for Worship for Business**  
**June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2007**

**Present:** Rex, Helen B, Ian (recording clerk), Jesse, Glenna, Andy (presiding clerk), Dick, Carol Leigh  
**Regrets:** Bev

- 1 The Meeting began in silent worship at 7:30 pm.
- 2 Agenda reviewed for order and approved
- 3 Minutes of May 17, 2007 were approved.
- 4 Continuing Business
  - 4.1 Story-telling Potluck. Bev contacted Harriet, Helen and Wilf. The nature of the event is under discussion and will be presented at the First Day School open meeting on Sept 16<sup>th</sup>.
  - 4.2 June calendar. The outdoor Meeting for Worship in the Brinks' garden will be June 17<sup>th</sup>. The wedding celebration is scheduled for 7pm, June 30<sup>th</sup> (organizing committee: Harriet, Jesse, Jean). A brownbag to discuss Friends' responses to CFSC's queries regarding the Responsibility to Protect (R2P) document will be held after M4W on June 24<sup>th</sup>, (Jesse to host).
  - 4.3 October History and Archives Potluck. Robbie M is carrying this item forward, with a tentative date in October.
  - 4.4 Auditor. Peter C is named, but has not been contacted for his consent to serve.
- 5 Business arising
  - 5.1 Disposition of clerk's discretionary fund. Ian reported that the fund has received \$1000 in specified donations, \$400 has been disbursed to date (of the \$1300 requested), leaving a balance of \$700. We agree at the April meeting that the account be overspent by \$300.
  - 5.2 Developing policy for dealing with emergency financial requests (070405.7.2) Bev prepared a recommendation which was attached to the agenda. We agree to form a small taskforce to assist the clerk in preparing a standard response to requests of this nature. We ask Don and Harriet, and Mona A (subject to consent) to assist the clerk with this task in the near future, and report to M4B in September.
  - 5.3 Quaker involvement at Caledonia (070405.7.3) It is proposed to hold a potluck on Thurs. September 27<sup>th</sup>, using resources recommended by Jenn Preston. Jenn agreed to lead a discussion on issues of native land claims. This would be preceded by a brownbag event on Sept 23<sup>rd</sup>, to prepare specific questions to be discussed. (Bev to confirm with Jenn re date). Dick offered a background resource on conflict resolution at Six Nations Reserve to anyone interested in more depth (contact him directly).
- 6 Reports

- 6.1 HMM Nominating Committee. Jesse reported that the Naming Committee has recommended Janis for the Nominating Committee. We approve this name with thanks.
  - 6.2 Yonge Street Half Yearly Meeting. Carol Leigh reported that eight Friends from Hamilton attended, and prepared food for the diverse group of up to 55 people. A report is attached to archive minutes. Next meeting will be Saturday, Oct 27<sup>th</sup> at Toronto Meetinghouse. We thank these Friends for their cooking and Carol Leigh for her report.
  - 6.3 Nominating Committee. Glenna reported that the [incumbents] request to stand down from the Statistics position. Nominating Committee recommends Betty to take over the remainder of their term. We agree with this name. We thank [them] for their service.
- 7 New Business
- 7.1 Membership Clearness issues. We ask the Clerk to refer membership clearness committees to the guidance contained in Organization and Procedure and resources on the FGC website regarding membership.
  - 7.2 Appointment to Regional Multifaith Council. We ask Ian to bring this matter to the attention of other Quaker Meetings in the Niagara, Hamilton Brantford catchment area and report back to HMM in the fall.
  - 7.3 Disposition of Bequest from Bea Fletcher. A report from Blair was read regarding the estate of Bea Fletcher, stating she donated \$13,852.66 to HMM. We ask Blair to invest the funds in an appropriate interest bearing account at an institution of his choice, including a one year term deposit. Much discussion followed on the merits of ethical investment decisions, banks vs credit unions, based on evidence. We remind ourselves that this is an important issue which should be considered by the Meeting in the future. C/F to a future meeting. We are grateful for Bea's generosity.
  - 7.4 Letter of Invitation for Adrien Niyongaba, African Great Lakes Peace Initiative. Jesse reported that we are asked to invite Mr. Niyongaba to a future speaking tour in October 2007, including coverage for his expenses during his stay with HMM. We ask Jesse to draft this letter to be approved and signed by the clerk.
- 8 Correspondence: None
- 9 Date and time of next meeting: Sunday Sept 9<sup>th</sup>, 2007
- 10 Closing Worship