

Halifax Monthly Meeting warmly welcomes into membership all those who find in this meeting a congenial, sustained and significant religious experience and who want to deepen their commitment to the Meeting and to the Religious Society of Friends. Those contemplating membership will find the Clerk of the Meeting or members of Ministry and Counsel happy to discuss this step with them.

For Quakers, membership is the outward sign of a personal involvement with a group of people who have no binding creed, but who share convictions about the purpose and meaning of life. It involves a sharing of loving care, and a sharing of responsibility.

An applicant for membership should write a simple letter to the Meeting stating why he or she is drawn into the

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fellowship of the Religious Society of Friends. A visiting committee of two or three Friends will be named by the Monthly Meeting for Business, and will make a date to call upon the applicant, usually in his/her home, to discuss the contemplated step, to advise and to answer questions.

The visiting committee will discuss varying viewpoints on Friends' testimonies, beliefs and interpretations of membership. It gives consideration to the prospective member's familiarity with Quaker history, and with our Discipline (*Faith and Practice, Organization and Procedure and Advices and Queries*). The committee reports back to Monthly Meeting which decides if the applicant is ready for membership.

When an applicant has been approved by the Monthly Meeting, that fact is recorded and the new member is

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welcomed into full membership. This membership includes groups beyond the local Meeting: Canadian Yearly Meeting, Friends General Conference, Friends United Meeting, Friends World Committee for Consultation, the Canadian Council of Churches and the World Council of Churches.

There are no specific expectations of members. However, as a group which is dependent on volunteers, there are lots of opportunities for service on local, regional or national committees. Individuals are also asked to consider what financial contribution is appropriate for them to make towards the work of the Meeting.

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ON MEMBERSHIP:



**for those considering membership
in the Religious Society of Friends
through Halifax Friends Meeting**

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