

To Meeting Representatives and Clerks of Monthly Meetings,

At Pacific Yearly Meeting Annual Session in 2018, Ministry and Oversight Committee (M&O) brought forward the question of Pacific Yearly Meeting's affiliation with Friends General Conference. This question has been under discernment by the yearly meeting since 2014. The history of this process is posted at this [link](#).

Many monthly meetings had seasoned this matter during 2018, but did so before having firm information on the costs of affiliation. At the 2018 Annual Session, some Friends asked for additional time for seasoning at the monthly meeting level with additional information on the costs to prepare for continued discernment at the 2019 Annual Session. Projections of the costs of affiliating with three representatives are now available here: [Financial Implications of FGC Affiliation Revised 1 March 2019](#).

Extensive materials describing the programs and benefits of FGC affiliation were posted during the Spring of 2018. These are available at these links:

- [M&O Summary of Monthly Meeting Reflections on FGC Affiliation](#) (for Annual Session 2018, posted 7/4/18)
- [Estimating FGC Affiliation Costs 13 July 2018](#) (posted 7/13)
- [FGC Affiliation Consideration Updates](#) (4/19/2018, published after RepCom 2018)
- [Additional Information about FGC Affiliation and a Request for Monthly Meetings to Season](#) (2/1/2018, published just before RepCom 2018)
- [PYM-FGC Affiliation Frequently Asked Questions](#) (5/31/2017)
- [Benefits of Affiliation with Friends General Conference 2017](#) (document from FGC)
- [Process and Procedures for a Yearly Meeting to Affiliate with FGC](#) (doc from FGC)
- [FGC programs June 2017](#) (document from FGC listing "what they are doing")
- December 2017 issue of [Vital Friends](#) (sample FGC newsletter)

M&O is asking monthly meetings to season the matter of affiliating between now and June 30, 2019. We *are not* asking your monthly meeting to reach unity or make a recommendation as to whether or not to affiliate with FGC. We *are* asking monthly meetings 1) to encourage members to review the materials above (including projected costs and the [FGC web pages](#); 2) to offer time in a meeting for business to season this question; and 3) to encourage those attending the 2019 Annual Session to be fully prepared for a deep and well-grounded discernment. The following queries may be helpful in this process:

1. In what ways could Pacific Yearly Meeting and your monthly meeting gain by affiliating with FGC?
2. Is the projected cost of affiliating with FGC worthwhile? If not, what costs would be acceptable?
3. What additional information would be helpful to members of your meeting in considering the question of affiliation?

Monthly meeting clerks are asked to send a summary of the reflections arising from the seasoning process to M&O member Shan Cretin as soon as possible but no later than July 5, 2019. M&O will then have time to synthesize and share the reflections from monthly meetings and provide the most complete information available for to our discernment at Annual Session.

If you have any questions, please contact M&O Co-Clerk Shan Cretin: scretin@me.com

Shan Cretin and Jim Summers, Co-Clerks, Ministry and Oversight Committee