PYM’s Indigenous Concerns Subcommittee was reconstituted and began meeting in December 2021. Eight members have been active and attended most meetings. Most, to their knowledge, are fully European in ancestry. Two members have some Native heritage.

This group started by sharing knowledge and backgrounds related to Indigenous concerns which provided a rich set of references and ideas, laying a foundation for addressing the needs of PYM’s monthly meetings.

We then looked at five possible scenarios for focusing our efforts. Feeling called to connect with monthly meetings, members volunteered to contact a selection of monthly meetings. Getting responses from monthly meetings proved challenging. This exercise showed that the awareness of Indigenous issues was likely lacking in PYM generally. Not giving up, we persevere in reaching out to monthly meetings.

In response to a request from the PYM Presiding Clerk, we developed a water/land acknowledgement draft to be given to RepCom. The expectation is that feedback from RepCom will feed into the water/land acknowledgement for Annual Session. We also agreed to provide an interest group during Annual Session, the details to be worked out over the next two months.