

Grassroots Forum *Highlights*



June 2023

The Voice of BC/Yukon Area 79

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Where the Business of A.A.



Meets the Love of Service

PLEASE SHARE THIS COPY WITH YOUR GROUP

GENERAL SERVICE COMMITTEE REPORTS: HIGHLIGHTS

Archives – Sandi P.
archives@bcyukonaa.org

There is so much to be done and a super crew of volunteers to help. If you are interested in helping in the Archives please visit the BC/Yukon Area 79 Website, click on Committees and the Archives. There is an amazing amount of information there. Not only for volunteering but there is a video and the BC/Yukon History timeline. There are also forms for Group history, District history, Oral History and Covid History. There are forms for donating to the Archives and what Archives is all about.

One important item I would like to mention to everyone is with regards to requests for Archives to come to attend your events. All service assignments go through the Chair, Monica, and the travel assignments get rotated through the Committee Members. So as Archives Chair, I may not be the person at your event, it could be any one of the GSC members. All of which will be excited to share the Archives with you.

Public Information – Kristina P.
pi@bcyukonaa.org

For those that don't know, I submitted my service resume twice in previous years with no luck. And when I had the opportunity to do it a third time, I felt like it was the worst possible time in my life to do so but with some encouragement from others, I did and here I am. Now that I'm six months into my role, it is clear to me that I am exactly where my Higher Power wants me to be. I'm uncomfortable at times, learning a lot, and having so much fun. For a fellowship that I never wanted to be a part of, I'm so glad to be here!

Treatment & Accessibilities – Eileen M.
treatment@bcyukonaa.org

Since we last met in April, I have received six Bridging the Gap requests – for Prince George, Victoria, Terrace, Kamloops and Surrey. As always, these requests have been sent to the various BTG contacts, District Committee Chairs or the DCM of the district. As we all know, it is so important for one of us to be able to reach out the hand of Alcoholics Anonymous to another alcoholic coming

out of treatment back into their community.

Speaking of which, I wanted to let you know that I currently have approximately 21 BTG and DCCs combined in our Area 79 which covers all of B.C. and the Yukon. We have over 800 groups and almost 50 districts so as you can see there is a huge gap between the service we are able to provide in BTG and the growing need. Please consider becoming a BTG contact or a District Committee Chair for Treatment and Accessibilities. If you already have a service position, please encourage your friends and other members to consider this service work. It is a critical life-saving piece of our primary purpose.

**For full GSC Reports, see *Grassroots Forum*,
June 2023, pages 10-23.**

**For Committee Report-backs — all about the work
you did on Tuesday, June 6 —
see *Grassroots Forum*, June 2023, pages 33-40**

DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS: HIGHLIGHTS

District 15

**Bear Mountain, Brentwood Bay, Cordova Bay,
Elk Lake, Keating, North Saanich, Pauquachin,
Prospect Lake, Royal Oak, Saanich, Saanichton,
Sidney, Swartz Bay, Tsartlip, Tsawout, Tseycum**

I'm happy to report that A.A. is picking up steam again in district 15 after what feels like a foggy period due to the pandemic. We unfortunately lost a few groups as a result of that, but on the flip side a couple of new groups have sprung up. We have some new GSRs and groups are having business meetings again to fill positions that have been left vacant (including mine).

District 38

**Delta South, Ladner, Point Roberts, WA,
Tsawwassen, Tsawwassen First Nations**

My name is David, and I am alcoholic; I am currently serving as the DCM for District 38 which covers Ladner, Tsawwassen, South Delta and Point Roberts. We have five registered groups that are active with the district and all groups have at least one GSR for group representation. My home group is the River Group, our meeting is open seven days

a week – weekdays at noon and 6pm, weekend is the same with a Saturday 9am meeting.

District 75

Balfour, Castlegar, Crawford Bay, Crescent City, Fruitvale, Kaslo, Nakusp, Nelson, New Denver, Rossland, Salmo, Silverton, Slocan, Trail, Winlaw

I am currently in the process of visiting all 44 meetings and 21 groups to offer my support and reconnect them with the district. I am super grateful that we talked about this at the sharing session last night and I thank everyone for all the helpful information I received.

Recently one of our groups closed its doors and that's when I discovered they never had been registered so being the perfectionist I am, I am working hard to get contact information for each meeting, to ensure groups are registered and make sure all information is up to date.

For complete DCM Reports, see *Grassroots Forum*, June 2023, pages 42-56.

ASK-IT BASKET

#1. What part of A.A. history did James Newton play?

Answered By: Sandi P., Archives Chair

Thank you for this fantastic question and the opportunity to share a bit of A.A. history. James Newton was a member of the Oxford Group and the man partially responsible for the Akron, Ohio, meetings between Bill W. and Dr. Bob.

#5. As a new member interested in service, what resources and guidance would you recommend to help me deepen my understanding and commitment to the A.A. principles, both in meetings and in my daily life?

Answered By: Carol H., Alternate Chair

Thank you for the question. My first thought would be to definitely get a service sponsor. I have found that my service sponsor has been worth her weight in gold. I am also reminded that we are not alone... All I have to do is reach out for help if I need it. I have also found that joining a Step group, Traditions group, and a Concept group is invaluable. I rely on our literature, *Twelve Steps and*

Twelve Traditions pamphlet, our *Service Manual and Twelve Concepts for World Service*, *Twelve Concepts Illustrated* pamphlet, our Area 79 Literature Tool, the Area 79 website, www.aa.org, *A.A. Comes of Age*, *The A.A. Group* pamphlet, and the *Circles of Love and Service* pamphlet.

The opportunity to learn and grow never stops.

#21. General Service Conference: 93 areas x \$12K/area = \$1.1 Million. Very expensive! Is there anywhere we can see a breakdown of the costs? Why is it so much? (most expensive parts)

Answered By: Rio D., Delegate

Thank you for the question. The answer is Yes, it is very expensive to facilitate your General Service Conference. Yes, there is a breakdown that will be in the final report of the 73rd General Service Conference but the numbers in the 2023 final report will be the audited financials of the 2022 Conference. The earliest we will see numbers for the 2023 Conference costs will be out after the July Board Weekend. I do have the info of the 2021 Conference which I found in the 2022 final report on page 144 (2021 audited) page 146 (2020 audited). Two years are usually given for comparison. These audited financials on page 144 are for the virtual Conference back in 2021. What I want to do is to direct you to the literature resources where you can look when the next final report comes out. Being mindful that in that report you will have the information from 2022 and 2021, not 2023.

For all the Ask-it Basket Q&As, see *Grassroots Forum*, June 2023, pages 58-67.

Statement of Purpose

The Grassroots Forum is a newsletter by and for the members of Alcoholics Anonymous in BC/Yukon Area 79. It is compiled and edited by the Grassroots Chairperson with the assistance and input of the Grassroots Committee. This newsletter is a vehicle for communication within Area 79 with the aim of strengthening unity and participation. Grassroots is also the means of distribution of the minutes, financial statements and all reports from our Area Quarterlies and Assemblies. It is the aim of the Grassroots Forum to fulfill its purpose with the greatest possible consideration of fiscal prudence and to practise A.A. principles in all of its affairs.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

September Voting Assembly - Sept. 5 (Online Only) & Sept. 8-10, 2023 - District 54 - Smithers, BC (Hybrid)
January Quarterly - Jan. 2 (Online Only) & Jan.5-6, 2024 - District 40 - Coquitlam/Pt. Coquitlam/Pt. Moody
April Pre-Conference - Apr. 9 (Online Only) & Apr. 12-14, 2024 - District 56 - Prince George
Western Canada Regional Forum - May 10-12, 2024 - Vernon
June Quarterly - Jun. 25 (Online Only) & Jun. 28-30, 2024 - District 42 - Surrey / North Delta
September Voting & Election Assembly - Sept. 3 (Online Only) & Sept. 6-8, 2024 - 5 Districts - Victoria
2025 International Convention - July 3-5, 2025 - Vancouver

Check out the Events page on our website for upcoming District events!

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Hello Area 79!

What a wonderful quarterly in June! Thank you D71 and everyone who participated virtually and in-person! I truly felt the love and from your feedback, it sounds like you did too! What a continuing privilege to serve with each of you indeed. I appreciate the time you have taken to submit reports, content, and event notifications. It all makes for a rich *Grassroots*!

I would like to personally thank each of my dedicated and hard-working proofreaders, and Lori W., our fearless formatter, for this issue! We are always looking for proofreaders, if you are interested, please reach out!

If you would like a print subscription, please use the form enclosed, or subscribe on our website: www.bcyukonaa.org

You can also access all previous editions of *Grassroots* at the above website, the password is *aagrassroots*.

Please contact me with any questions or concerns, I'm here to serve!

In peace and loving service,
Sha-nnon H.
Grassroots Chair
grassroots@bcyukonaa.org



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