

# The Inter-Com—April 2015

Public Information (PI)

Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC)

PANEL 65

APRIL 2015 ISSUE

## WHAT'S IN THIS ISSUE:

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## What is Inter-Com?

The Inter-Com is our newsletter, by us and for us. The newsletter is for the exclusive use of A.A. members who wish to exchange information about Public Information (PI) and Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC) work within Area 79. The Inter-Com is a Quarterly publication - January, April, July and October.

It is a fantastic opportunity for Districts, specifically PI and CPC Committees to share experience, strength and hope - new ways to reach the public and cooperate with the professional community - how your doing in your district.

**Please have your submissions for July 2015 Inter-Com in by June 15, 2015**

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*Thank you for your contributions to this, our second Panel 65 edition of our newsletter! And thank you to those who are reading this second edition. Please share this with your PI and CPC Committees. This is a forum for sharing. We are here to help facilitate this sharing, and help others in the same positions as you, to learn and grow. Together, we can reach the alcoholics who are still out there, as well as the professionals who come into contact with them in their daily work. The goal for this newsletter for 2015 forward is to make it a quarterly publication. We can only do this with your help, guidance and submissions. **Special thank you to Districts 41, 43, 44 and 68 for your submissions!***

*Have something you would like to share with others? Or would you like to receive some shared information? Or just need help finding some information? Please feel free to contact us.*

*Yours in Love, Unity and Service*

*Cyndi V; Public Information Committee Chair  
Panel 65, Area 79 BC/Yukon  
Email: [publicinformation@bcyukonaa.org](mailto:publicinformation@bcyukonaa.org)*

*Jeff C; Cooperation with the Professional  
Community Committee Chair  
Panel 65, Area 79 BC/Yukon  
Email: [cpc@bcyukonaa.org](mailto:cpc@bcyukonaa.org)*

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”Our Twelfth Step—carrying the message—is the basic service that the A.A. Fellowship gives; this is our principal aim and the main reason for our existence. Therefore, A.A. is more than a set of principles; it is a society for alcoholics in action. We must carry the message, else we ourselves can wither and those who haven’t been given the truth may die.”

The A.A. Service Manual, “A.A.’s Legacy of Service” p.S1

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## Does Speaking at Schools really help?

Our Intergroup Office received a call from a lady requesting information on AA. She was especially interested in attending a meeting. Myself and another lady were given her 12 step request. That evening, we took her to a meeting accompanied by her 15 year old son. After the meeting she was offered pamphlets including a meeting schedule. Pulling out the schedule she declared “I have one of those”. Since I understood

this was her first contact with AA I inquired “How did you get a meeting schedule?”

**“And thus the seed was planted!”**

She responded “My son brought it home from school”. Some District 43 AA speakers spoke at his school and he was given the schedule which he in turn brought home to his mother and thus the seed was planted.

In Service and Gratitude,  
Margaret L; District 43 (Langley, Cloverdale, Aldergrove and Fort Langley)

*What does your Committee do?*

*Share your experience in the Inter-Com*

## Looking for New Ideas!

What I have been doing: Lots of literature placed in Dentist and Doctors offices. Working on Leisure, Library, Family Education Centers! Looking for new ideas!

George W; PI/CPC Chair—District 41 Maple Ridge

## Cherished Experience by All

Members of District 68 came together to host an AA Booth in Oliver for the Oliver Health Fair on February 28th at the local community center. It was a very cherished experience by all who worked the event.

Many thanks goes out to all those that worked it as well as those who dropped by the booth. Thanks also goes out to our Area Public Information (PI) Committee Chair; Cyndi V. She was very instrumental in helping us set up, giving us ideas on what literature to display and hand out to the public.

The whole thing was a real learning

curve as myself and others working the booth had never done this before. There were many questions brought up and ideas pertaining to what to display and how to communicate with the public.

Maybe one day a work shop could be held on helping those that would be interested in organizing an AA Both.

Thanks again to our Area PI Committee Chair Cyndi and her husband and all those that helped.

Yours in service.

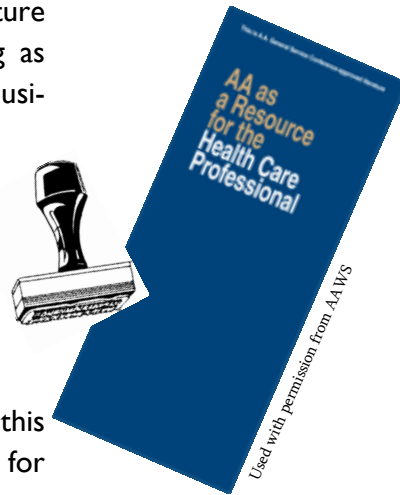
Michael W; PI/CPC Chairperson  
District 68; Oliver and area



## Rubber Stamp of Approval

The PI/CPC committee of District 44 has been around for a while now but has been sitting kind of dormant. In the fall of 2014 a new committee rotated in. There are only 2 of us on the committee so far, neither of us have any experience with PI/CPC and this is a new adventure in our sobriety, we are learning as we go. The District is very enthusiastic about PI/CPC. At the District meeting when the PI/CPC report is read, it turns into a bit of a brainstorming session with new locations and new contacts being put forward. We have asked that a discussion of the scope of this committee be put on the agenda for the next district meeting, both to make sure we are fulfilling our responsibility to the district and in the hope that the discussion will get more members involved.

We decided to get started with the PI side of things; contacts were made and literature has now been distributed throughout Mission. Several of



these contacts have expressed an interest in more information including the local RCMP detachment.

After attending a workshop and quarterly we started incorporating some of the ideas we had heard. We now have a rubber stamp that is applied to all

the literature that we distribute so the people picking it up have a local contact number. We also put together 10 envelopes with pamphlets for an adopt a doctor program, these will be available at our district meetings for members to drop off at their doctors office. After the workshop people started asking for these packages.

*“... the support and enthusiasm of the district counts for a lot.”*

With only 2 of us on the committee, the support and enthusiasm of the district counts for a lot. As the committee grows with more members, we are looking forward to being able to expand the work of our committee.

In the spirit of service,

Mark Y. PI/CPC Chairperson - District 44 Mission

## How to Submit a story to the Inter-Com

We would love to hear from PI and CPC Committees with what is working, what is not working—looking for shared experience. If you have a particular question or topic you would like to ask of others working in PI/CPC work, feel free to submit your questions. We will publish it to be answered by others districts in a future newsletter.

**Sharing experience, strength and hope within our Area.**

### It's as easy as 1 2 3

1. Email your story, submission, and/or question to: [publicinformation@bcyukonaa](mailto:publicinformation@bcyukonaa) or [cpc@bcyukonaa.org](mailto:cpc@bcyukonaa.org)
2. Please identify yourself by first name and last initial only, in keeping with our tradition of anonymity.
3. Please identify your contribution to the Inter-Com with District number and a brief review of where your district is within BC/Yukon and please specify if your committee is PI, CPC, or PI/CPC.

Your suggestions/comments/input are not only needed but are also greatly appreciated and will make our exchange successful.

# Districts within Area 79 - Let's share our information with each other

Below are examples of what your District could use to assist in PI/CPC work. One is an initial contact letter to the professionals in your community (CPC) and the other is guidelines (designed by a combined effort of Districts within Area 79) to assist with your PI in your School Speaking program. These examples are only suggestions compiled from AA Experience to help others get started or improve their PI and/or CPC Committees. The hope is to help the creative process - tailoring it to suite your District needs.

## CPC Work - EXAMPLE

### *Many C.P.C. committees initiate contact with professionals through letters*

This letter comes to you from Alcoholics Anonymous, not as a request for anything, but as an offer of A.A. services through you to (your patients, clients, students, congregation members, etc.) who may have a drinking problem. Because of your involvement, you are in a unique position to have contact with what we call the "still-suffering alcoholic."

The purpose of our A.A. Committee for Cooperation With the Professional Community is to be "friendly with our friends" in all walks of life, so that the A.A. message of personal recovery can reach more of those who need and desire our help.

Simply stated, Alcoholics Anonymous is a worldwide Fellowship of more than two million men and women who help each other maintain sobriety and who offer to share their recovery experience with others. Anyone who thinks he or she has a drinking problem is welcome at an A.A. meeting.

Much more information about A.A. is available in A.A. literature. The enclosed postcard lists a few of the available services in which you may be interested. This card, returned to us with any or all of the boxes checked, will be answered promptly with a phone call to arrange an answer to your request in the manner most convenient to you. - *CPC Workbook*

*(This language may be tailored to meet the needs of a particular audience.)*

## Public Information Work - EXAMPLE

### Guidelines for Speaking at Schools:

Alcoholics Anonymous District \_\_\_\_\_

1. If under 1 year of sobriety you must be accompanied by a member with at least 1 year of sobriety and has previously spoken at schools or other AA presentations.
2. It is required to attend and observe at least once before going out on your own.
3. Remember the need for personal anonymity at the public level; give your first name and A.A. membership.
4. Avoid drunkalogs, keep your story general and brief. Although drugs may be part of "your story" Please remember AA's singleness of purpose (**read "Speaking at Non-AA Meetings" pamphlet**). Use humour with good taste; what's funny to A.A.'s may not be laughable to nonmembers.
5. Confine your comments to A.A. information; remember that **we are not experts** when speaking as A.A. members. We don't try to speak for A.A. as a whole.
6. Bring required literature and pamphlets. (bring your Big Book)
7. Be on time. Dress simply and neatly. First impressions are important.
8. NO swearing.



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