

Grassroots Forum *Highlights*



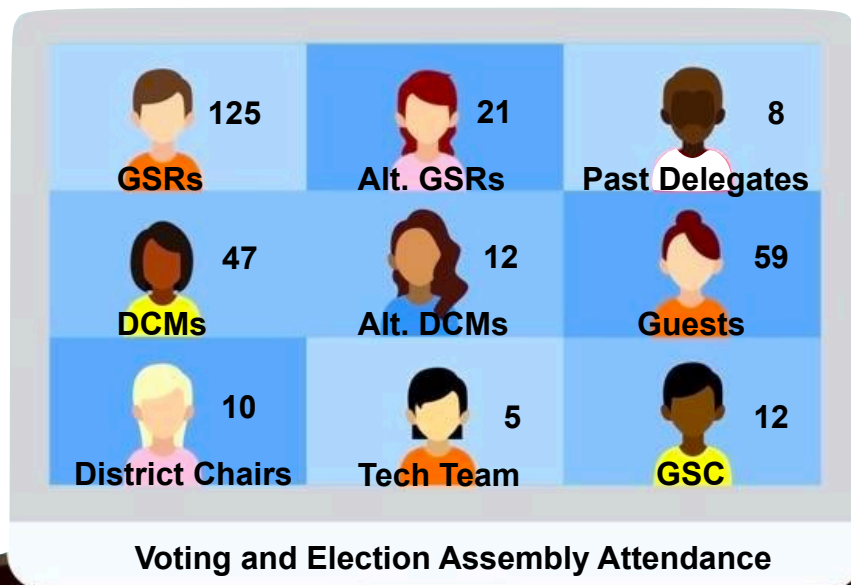
October 2020

Volume 40 No. 4

In Grassroots Forum you will find... Minutes of the October Voting and Election Assembly, 2021 Budget, Financial Reports, Panel 71 Elections, Results of the Motions, GSC Reports, District Reports, Ask-it Basket, Committee Reports & more... Here are some highlights.

Voting and Election Assembly

**Who
was
there?**



Assembly
Seventh Tradition
\$1,170

Please share this copy with your group.

Dec. 19, 2020

Mark your calendars...

...for the Western U.S./Canada Forum

Alcoholics Anonymous®

November 2, 2020

Dear Friends,

Greetings from the General Service Office (G.S.O.) of Alcoholics Anonymous!

We are happy to announce a **Virtual Western U.S./Canada Forum on December 19, 2020: "2020: Experience, Strength & Hope - what it was like, what happened, and what it is like now."**

The one-day event will feature participation from the Pacific, Southwest, West Central and Western Canada Regions. As with traditional Regional Forums, the day will include workshops, presentations, Q&As, General Sharing, and much, much more!

Registration will open on **November 20, 2020** and can be accessed on our website at www.aa.org.

All members are invited, so get on the virtual bus! Bring a newcomer!

In fellowship,

Sandra W.

Regional Forums

COVID – What's happened?

Area 79 Archives would love to hear from you.

Please send recordings, documentation, stories and any other information regarding COVID-19 and

A.A. experiences to archives@bcyukonaa.org

Ask-it Basket Questions

Fourteen questions were submitted at the Assembly. All are answered in Grassroots. Here are a few examples.

All the questions and answers may be found at:
bcyukonaa.org/news/grassrootsforum.php

#3. Are we doing enough to help under-18-year-old alcoholics? After a P.I. presentation what should be the next step?

#5. I'm wondering if we can continue a digital voting process after we return to "normal"?

#7. What advice can you offer to promote unity during this pandemic?

Answered by Kathleen McM., Website Chair

Thank you for the question. The first recommendation is to BE KIND. Unity is one part of our triangle, Unity, Service and Recovery. Without all three sides our triangle is not balanced. The advice that can be offered, I believe, is embedded in the Traditions. So how are we going to be informed and educated in our groups, districts, area and A.A. as a whole? Looking at the Traditions Checklist and answering the questions as an individual and group to practise these principles may be an idea, having a workshop, town hall meeting and sharing sessions, etc. Our common welfare should come first, personal recovery depends upon A.A. Unity.

#11. How does one go about the possibility of creating a new service structure focused on A.A. online?

Answered by Gail P., Delegate

Thank you for this very interesting question. There has been a fair amount of discussion regarding this at the fellowship level. Our General Service Office is aware of this question and I believe there will more discussion, and possibly a workshop at the Western Canada/U.S. Virtual Forum scheduled for December 19. The details of this first-ever virtual forum will be released in early November. So, to learn more about this, please make sure to attend the Forum once the details have been posted.

I hope that answers your question.

...Thank you Panel 69



Welcome Panel 71...

Panel 71 Elected Members

Delegate – Bob K.

Alt. Delegate – Rio D.

Chair – Rodney S.

Alt. Chair – Drew W.

Treasurer – Monica M.

Secretary – Carol H.

Registrar – Kimberlea M.

Special guest at the Voting and Election Assembly was Nancy McCarthy, Class A (Non-alcoholic) Trustee, General Service Board.

...from the GSC Reports

from the Chair

To date, this Panel 69 General Service Committee has had a total of 144 travel assignments.

from the Delegate

For the first time ever, there will be a virtual Western U.S./Canada Forum. This is planned for December 19, 2020. The theme is "2020 Experience, Strength & Hope – what it was like, what happened and what it is like now." The one-day event will feature participation from the Pacific, Southwest, West Central and Western Canada Regions and will include workshops, presentations, Q&As, general sharing and more.

... on October 2 we were advised that the General Service Board authorized a drawdown of \$1.5 million from the reserve fund of AAWS to cover cash flow requirements in the fourth quarter. This drawdown put the Reserve Fund balance at approximately \$13.1 million which is approximately 7.78 months operating expenses.

from the Alt. Delegate

The Summer issue of Box 4-5-9 is titled Meeting Uncertainty with Resiliency: G.S.O. in the Pandemic. It mentions that on March 20, 2020, the General Service Office of Alcoholics Anonymous was forced to close its doors due to the COVID-19 pandemic. But services to the Fellowship never stopped.

...from the District Reports

District 3 Archives Committee ... Gone from being near the brink of losing the office space to actively keeping it alive by being open one day a week for a few hours so people can stop in and check out what's been collected over the years and see historic memorabilia.

District 6 Meditation workshop was held on Zoom.

District 19 is in the process of putting together a website.

District 26 groups also using on-line platforms to bring panel meetings to detox facilities.

District 37 continues to run the Remote Communities meeting.

District 38 a special focus has been helping some of our older, less tech-friendly members get online.

District 43 Recruitment Day. The event will be held in a church where, with proper social distancing and safety measures, we will have information about the different committees and opportunities to get involved.

District 52 Our new answering service continues to work very well. We have continued ads in our local newspaper.

District 66 Our district has recently become active! We elected a district committee which we have not had in quite some years.

District 68 We had a lively discussion on the motions for the October Assembly.

District 75 Our 2021-22 committee consists of four active group service members, three are new to the District 75 table. And most excitingly, they all come from different communities.

Motions and Floor Actions

There were seven motions and four floor actions at the Voting Assembly:

- 4 motions passed;
- 2 were withdrawn;
- 3 defeated; and
- 2 Floor actions were not considered.

The motions that carried were:

Motion 2: That the language be clarified in motion #5, 2019 (100 Mile House) to read:

The Area 79 Finance Committee purchase the Square product to be used to receive 7th Tradition contributions and to sell Area 79 produced publications online at bcyukonaa.org. To be used also at our Area Quarterlies and Assemblies for AAWS and Grapevine literature sales.

Motion 3: To change the name of the Area 79 Remote Communities Committee to the Remote Connections Committee.

Motion 8: That the Conference Literature Committee consider updating the pamphlet P-21, (A.A. for the Native North American) to reflect more current language, current stories, and populations.

Motion 9: For Area 79 to write to the Conference to consider changing the term Remote Communities to the term Remote Connections throughout Alcoholics Anonymous.

Full details are in the minutes in Grassroots.

**Grapevine just
announced free shipping
in North America until
Dec. 31, 2020!**



Editor's Note

In four pages it is not possible to summarize 52 pages. Please see the full edition of Grassroots Forum for much, much more about the "happenings" in BC/Yukon and around A.A.! Consider subscribing to have it delivered to your mailing address. The full edition of Grassroots Forum is available at:

<https://www.bcyukonaa.org/news/grassrootsforum.php>

2020 Dates

Western U.S./Canada Regional Forum – Dec. 19, 2020 ~ virtual

2021 Dates

January Quarterly, Jan. 8-9, 2021 ~ virtual

April Pre-Conference Assembly, April 9-11, 2021 ~ virtual

July Quarterly, July 9-11, 2021 ~ Smithers

October Voting Assembly, Oct. 22-24, 2021 ~ Vernon

**Grassroots
Forum**
The Voice of the B.C. Yukon Area 79



what you get...

The full version Grassroots include complete conference minutes, in the neighbourhood of 50 pages, while Grassroots *Highlights* is a four page document outlining the *Highlights*. Both are included in this subscription rate.

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Thank you for supporting Grassroots Forum!!

Please announce and post in your
District and Intergroup newsletters

Our Web Team needs Volunteers

DEVELOPMENT:

Team member needs knowledge of PHP

ADMINISTRATION:

**Team member needs good general
computer skills**

The Area 79 web team carries out routine maintenance of the website and implements the changes and additions requested by the Website Committee or GSC.

Web team work is done at home, so members can be located anywhere within the BC/Yukon area.

For more information please contact our Website Chair at
website@bcyukonaa.org or give a call at **778-834-6144**.
I'd love to talk with you!!

Grassroots Forum is a newsletter published quarterly by the BC/Yukon Area 79 General Service Committee. Opinions expressed are not to be attributed to that of the Committee, Grassroots Forum or Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole.

Canadian Publication Sales Agreement #40014567 "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."