

THE INTER-COM

Area 79 Public Information & Cooperation with the Professional
Community Quarterly Newsletter for July 2019

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CPC Powerpoint

Bus Bench Ad

PSAs

International A.A.

Convention

Eleventh Tradition

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What is the Inter-Com?

Inter-Com is our newsletter, by us, 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 and what you're doing in your district.

Thank You!

Panel 69 PI & CPC DCMs

PI Committee Districts: 8 28 43 51 62

CPC Committee Districts: 4 30 38 52 59

Thank You to Districts 71 and 39 for
your submissions to this issue!
~We would love to hear from YOU~
PI/CPC Committee news, events and
shared experience are welcomed and
appreciated!

Hello to all fellow CPC Chairs in Area 79!

~Western Canada Addictions Forum~

My name is Sherri K.
and I am an alcoholic.

I am chair of a joint PI/CPC committee here in District 71 (Peachland, West Kelowna, Kelowna and Lake Country). I want to share with you, on behalf of the committee, notes and thoughts about the most recent event we attended – the 6th annual Western Canada Addictions Forum, May 3-5, 2019, in Kelowna.

We were invited to present on May 3rd to 200 physicians, nurses, social workers and other medical professionals who deal with people in addiction from all over Western Canada. AA had never been invited to speak before at the forum. A member of the organizing committee for the forum attended our CPC luncheon last October and liked what she saw and heard enough to add us to the roster of the forum.

An awful lot of legwork was done to ensure that our attendance would not be in contradiction of our traditions. As a committee we went through the checklist of questions posted in an earlier edition of the Inter-Com by our previous chair, Steve C., titled “Should AA Attend”. We decided all was well and began to plan the event. In a follow up conversation with Rio (past PI Chair and now current Area Chair) more questions were raised about our attendance. So, more discussions were had with Dana (current PI chair), Cathi N (current CPC chair) and finally Racy at GSO. The result was a firm and confident yes, we could attend.

Our preparations for the event were truly a committee effort. We hosted a workshop open to anyone in our district who was interested, but really offered to the four panel members who would be fielding questions from the forum attendees. Our panel was two women, two men in varying ages and years of sobriety. We read the pamphlet “Speaking at Non-AA Meetings”, discussed traditions, dress code, appropriate language and answers to commonly asked questions.

One longtime committee member prepared her personal story and we all helped edit and refine her message. The introduction to AA was given by me, and again the committee helped make

We used previous experiences as a basis preparing for the forum. It turns out the setting was very different! We were on a brightly lit, raised stage with the audience in near total darkness. We were given 40 minutes to present and were told we would be cut off at exactly the 40-minute mark, which we were 😊.

All went well, and interestingly enough, there were several audible gasps from the audience when we were first introduced by the MC as members of Alcoholics Anonymous. We were only able to answer a few questions from the audience due to the time allotted. Again, they varied greatly from what we have come to expect from our other presentations. The panel was amazing in their thoughtful responses! Two of the four questions dealt with Safety in the Rooms of AA concerns. We were able to bring to light several key points about sponsorship, traditions and that the unfortunately under-informed opinion of one member certainly does not reflect the ideals of AA.

We left small packages of literature, making good use of the free pamphlets from GSO and about one in four forum attendees went home with more information. We are very hopeful that the professionals we presented to are more confident to begin a conversation with their patients/clients who might be struggling with a drinking problem, and that they would refer that patient to AA, having seen our presentation. We were sober living examples of the Big Book and all our preparation was worth it!

I am humbled by the hours of time put in by this committee; together we did what I alone could never have accomplished.

In grateful service to our fellowship,

Sherri K.



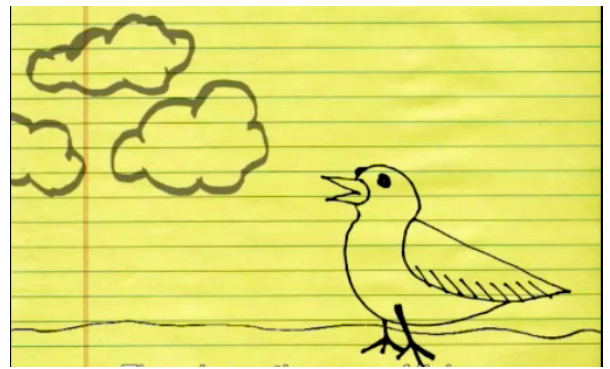
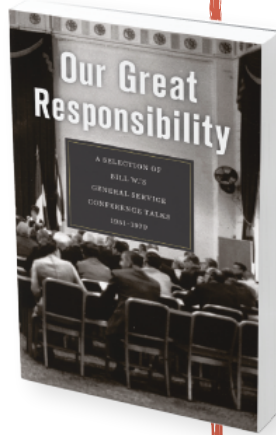
“Press Release”

Alcoholics Anonymous Publishes
First New Book in 30 Years:

Our Great Responsibility

Attention: Journalists, Producers,
Editors, Reviewers

aa.org under Press/Media



A.A. VIDEOS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Video submissions from A.A. members are still being sought to carry A.A.'s message of recovery from alcoholism to young people in high school and college settings.

There is no set deadline; submissions are being accepted on an ongoing basis.

SUGGESTIONS FOR CONTENT

- Use members' stories (what it was like, what happened and what it is like now) to help alcoholics identify.
- Focus on the experience of getting sober young.
- Emphasize what A.A. is and what it is not.
- Use your talent/imagination, modern technology, animation, puppets, etc., to make our message attractive.

Search “Videos” on AA.org for examples!



“Let’s be Friendly with Our Friends”

[CPC Powerpoint Presentation](http://www.aa.org/cpckit)

(F-175) www.aa.org/cpckit



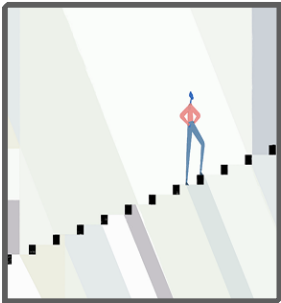
District 39- Abbotsford
Check out their
BUS BENCH AD!



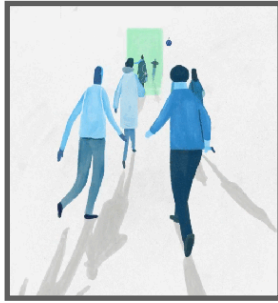
What's NEW on www.bcyukonaa.org

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS (PSAs)

International A.A. Conventions



Changes (PSA)



Doors (PSA)



How To Make Submissions 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. 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.org or 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.

Remember that this current edition, as well as all archived editions, are now on the Public Side of our Area 79 Website under the NEWS tab for your reading pleasure.

The Eleventh Tradition

*Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion;
we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio and films*

Ours is not a secret society
we carry the message
anywhere we can —



But we must ever be aware
that self-appointed
messiahs speaking
for A.A. through
public media can
do us great damage!



Disclaimer: Articles are not intended to be statements of A.A. policy, nor does publication of any article imply endorsement by either A.A. or BC/Yukon Area 79.