

# Grassroots Forum *Highlights*



January 2026

The Voice of BC/Yukon Area 79

Volume 46 No. 1



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# HIGHLIGHTS from JANUARY 2026 GRASSROOTS FORUM

## Area Service Committee Reports

For full reports, see January 2026 *Grassroots Forum*, pages 10-20

**Delegate – Drew W.**  
[delegate@bcyukonaa.org](mailto:delegate@bcyukonaa.org)

Hello friends, my name is Drew, and I'm an alcoholic. I have the privilege of serving as your Area 79 Panel 75 Delegate. Thank you District 45 for hosting us this weekend.

Following our September Voting Assembly in Castlegar, I forwarded the two motions that carried to Rainer L., who serves at the Conference Assignment Desk at our General Service Office. Of those two motions, one was recommended by the Trustees' CPC Committee to move forward to the 76th General Service Conference. I will share more on this process in my upcoming Pre-Conference presentation shortly.

**Alternate Chair / Public Information Chair**  
**– Joanne C.**

[altchair@bcyukonaa.org](mailto:altchair@bcyukonaa.org)  
[pi@bcyukonaa.org](mailto:pi@bcyukonaa.org)

It is my privilege to serve alongside the creative and hardworking DCMs of Districts 6, 26, 41, 54, and 68 as part of the Panel 75 Public Information Committee. Inspired by the thoughtful work of the Area 79 CPC Committee, we have been exploring how to better utilize the Area 79 YouTube account and enhance the Public Information page on our Area website. We utilized time on Tuesday night to explore these digital platforms, and I am pleased to report that we received great feedback that will help inspire more than one public information initiative for the rest of this panel. You will hear more about this in the committee report-back in a few moments.

**Treatment / Grassroots Chair – Caleb W.**

[treatment@bcyukonaa.org](mailto:treatment@bcyukonaa.org)  
[grassroots@bcyukonaa.org](mailto:grassroots@bcyukonaa.org)

Hi, my name is Caleb, and I am an alcoholic. I am honoured to serve as the Treatment Chair and Grassroots Chair for Panel 75 in Area 79.

I have not had any travel assignments since September. I do have one scheduled, to go to Vernon in late February, to help facilitate a Pre-Conference Preparation workshop with District 70.

I have started a monthly meeting for the Treatment and Bridging the Gap Chairs in Area 79. The goal is to review relevant literature, hear speakers share about their

experience, and ask questions about the process. If you are not involved, but would like to be, please talk to or email me.



**Assembly Attendance: 440**  
(in person and online)

**7th Tradition: \$2250.35**

## District Committee Member Reports

For full DCM reports, see January 2026 *Grassroots Forum*, pages 47-59

### District 45

**Agassiz, Boston Bar, Chilliwack, Cultus Lake, Deroche, Hope, Harrison Mills, Rosedale, Sardis, Yarrow**

How excited District 45 and I are to host this event for Area 79! Our district needed this; thank you for allowing District 45 to be of service to you all. I extend appreciation for the host committee and the committee chair, Penny, in making this a possibility. I am filled with love, service, and gratitude.

This weekend, I am accompanied with 17 GSRs, three Alternate GSRs, four DCCs, four inside correction members who are GSRs or Alternates, the Alternate DCM, Past Trusted Servants, and 60 volunteers! Currently, sitting at our district table, eight DCCs and myself that serve 21 GSRs.

*Continued page 3*

## District Committee Member Reports Cont'd.

### District 4

**Comox, Courtenay, Cumberland, Denman Island, Fanny Bay, Hornby Island, Merville**

Hello, my name is Rose, and I'm an alcoholic. I'm honoured to serve as the DCM for District 4 for Panel 75. District 4 is located on the eastern side of Vancouver Island and encompasses Courtenay, Comox, Cumberland, Fanny Bay, Royston, Merville, Denman Island, and Hornby Island.

At the recent January Quarterly, nine of our members attended the online breakout session. On the weekend, I was delighted to be joined by three new GSRs. In total, five GSRs and one delegate attended in person while four GSRs and one past delegate attended online. Thank you to District 45 for their excellent organization and hosting of this event!

### District 68

**Grand Forks, Greenwood, Keremeos, Oliver, Osoyoos, Princeton, Rock Creek, Tulameen**

Recent and upcoming district events or service activities:

Since the last Area meeting in Castlegar, I have attended one district meeting and Barb K. has attended two P.I. Committee meetings.

I attended the November 22, 2025, Mini Assembly meeting in Penticton. Sha-nnon facilitated the workshop "Maintaining A Healthy District". We are taking to heart her telling us we should make service fun.

Our most recent district meeting was November 16, 2025. We had 14 attendees, seven in the room and seven online. I have not received any GSR reports. We have set the date for our next district meeting for March 15, 2026, in Oliver.

## Ask-it Basket

**Read all the January 2026 Ask-it Basket questions & answers... *Grassroots Forum*, pages 61-63**

**1) During a virtual session, while on break or prior to the start of the meeting while attending a Fellowship breakout room, is vaping prohibited on camera?**

Answered by: Eileen M., Corrections Chair

Thank you for the question.

In our housekeeping notes read prior to these events, it is requested that if I wouldn't do it at an in-person meeting, I might refrain from doing it on a virtual platform. I always have the option of still participating with my camera off.

I learned in Alcoholics Anonymous not to tell another alcoholic what to do — this is only offered for your consideration.

**4) During an active quarterly/assembly where a voting member and their alternate are present, if the voting member steps out of the room during a vote, can the alternate vote in their absence?**

Answered by: Michelle B., Cooperation with the Professional Community Chair

Thanks for the question — and the answer is, "It depends."

If your GSR or DCM has left the event, and you are the alternate "acting-as", then you would need to go to the registration desk in person, re-register, and get a GSR/DCM coloured name badge. Online, you would have to register as a GSR/DCM.

If the voting member is out of the room, that vote is missing just the same as though there was no alternate

available. There is one person who is registered (at a time) to vote. If the voting member left for the weekend, the alternate could be registered to vote. If the voting member is out of the room, the group/district misses the vote.

**7) I like the change from "Ask-it Basket" to "Askit Basket", but can we please have an explanation?**

Answered by: Paul T., Chair

I gave explanations at previous events but in an effort to shorten my housekeeping script, I removed it this event. On page 152 of our book *Our Great Responsibility* you'll see a picture of a basket in the 1955 General Service Convention, and it has a sign with the spelling you noticed: "Ask-it Basket"



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 Publications Sales Agreement #40014567



## Letter from the Editor

Hi, my name is Caleb, and I am an alcoholic. It is an honour to be the Grassroots Chair and Grassroots Editor for Panel 75 in Area 79. This position has introduced me to a whole world of publishing that I did not know anything about beforehand. I want to thank the team that has worked with me so hard producing this issue.

I also want to thank everyone who subscribes both electronically and to the print edition. Please consider purchasing print subscriptions for or donating print subscriptions to groups, Intergroup, and offices in Area 79. Many such entities find it a useful tool for members to learn about service in Area 79 and how to get involved.

I hope that everyone will remember that *Grassroots* is produced for the members of Area 79. If you have questions or comments about the magazine's operations or content feel free to email or call me. If you are interested in publishing a flyer for an event, please talk to me; this is very doable!

I hope that this can be of use to everyone who reads it.

In love and service,

Caleb W.

### 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.



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*Thank you for supporting Grassroots Forum!*

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

2026 April Pre-Conference Assembly – Apr. 14 (Online Only) & Apr. 17-19 (Hybrid)  
– Districts 30, 32 & 40, Burnaby

2026 Western Canada Regional Forum – June 12-14  
– Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

2026 July Assembly – July 7 (Online Only) & July 10-12 (Hybrid) – District 54, Smithers

2026 October Voting Assembly – Oct. 20 (Online Only) & Oct. 23-25 (Hybrid) – District 6, Port Alberni

2027 WRAASA – February 5, 2027 - February 7, 2027 – District 43, Langley

**Check out the Events page on our website for up-**

**BC/YUKON AREA 79**

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