

**Canadian Eastern Regional
Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly**

**CERAASA 2025
DARTMOUTH, NOVA SCOTIA
FEBRUARY 21-22-23**



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DESCRIPTION OF WHAT CERAASA IS - ITS COMPOSITION PURPOSE

The purpose of Canadian Eastern Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly (here after CERAASA) is to develop greater unity among the members, groups and areas of the Eastern Canada Region and to encourage the exchange of ideas and experiences.

CERAASA is an opportunity for all A.A. members, especially General Service Representatives (G.S.R.s), District Committee Members (D.C.M.s), Area Committee members, to discuss General Service Conference agenda items and related issues and concerns affecting A.A. as a whole.

SCHEDULE

CERAASA is held the last weekend of February every two (2) years (odd numbered years), on a rotating basis among the ten (10) areas in the Eastern Canada region. CERAASA is a three-day event that begins on Friday evening and ends Sunday midday. The overall content of the weekend agenda includes panel meetings, open microphone sharing sessions, service presentations and speakers.

A business meeting is scheduled on Saturday afternoon dealing with the business of CERAASA only. All A.A. members are encouraged to attend this business meeting and to participate in voting.

Once an area has hosted CERAASA, a period of five (5) years shall pass before that area may submit another bid.

COMPOSITION

The current Delegates, current Alternate Delegates and the current Eastern Canada Regional Trustee (here after the Regional Trustee) comprise the Steering Committee of CERAASA. The regional boundaries are as designated in the A.A. Service Manual. The ten (10) areas of the Eastern Canada Region are as follows:

Area 81 New Brunswick/Prince Edward Island
Area 82 Nova Scotia/Newfoundland/Labrador
Area 83 Eastern Ontario
Area 84 Northeast Ontario
Area 85 Northwest Ontario
Area 86 Western Ontario
Area 87 Southwest Quebec
Area 88 Southeast Quebec
Area 89 Northeast Quebec
Area 90 Northwest Quebec

The masculine form is used to make the text lighter.

(A) A WORD FROM THE TERRITORIAL ADMINISTRATOR

Good morning, everyone. My name is Joyce and I serve the fellowship as your Eastern Canada Regional Trustee. I am an active member of the St. Clement's Group in Toronto and I am an alcoholic.

Thank you for being here and for being of service. I would like to thank the steering committee for inviting me to present a regional report. I have been given an hour for my presentation and I hope to leave room at the end for any questions. There is so much information and I am sure I have missed something.

I won't go over the agenda items because the Delegates will be discussing some of them with regards to their respective committees. I will however, mention items which are not on the agenda and just general information, which may be of interest to you.

At the January board weekend, the Delegate Chairs were in attendance. It was exciting to see the chairs take part and observe. They were very engaging and it was a joy to see their excitement for being there. I am really looking forward to the 75th General Service Conference where I get the chance to meet all the other Delegates.

The full background of all the committees was posted OnBoard Friday, February 17th – February 21st along with the list of the 75th General Service Conference Committees agenda items. This allows the areas to start the process of the Pre-Conference sharing where the Delegates get to hear the voice of the members in their area. They then will come to the conference with an informed group conscience.

I see on the agenda at 8:30 this evening there is a Delegate/Alternates orientation. It is important that you attend to gather information on your roles for the conference. Also, you may receive information on when to arrive, what to wear and what to bring with you. If you have any questions, I am always available.

The conference week agenda will not be released until March sometime. This is the schedule which lets the Delegates know where they should be and at what time. The conference will be from April 23rd to 29, to be held at New York Hilton – Midtown. Since I am not familiar with this particular location, I am in the process of searching out where I can take the Eastern Canada Delegates out for ice cream. This is an annual tradition and I get to pay! Also, I have not made any plans for any specific outing. However, for those of you who would like, we can walk over to Times Square and see all the action on Friday evening. Of course, this will be for those of you who will be getting to New York on Friday. Then on Saturday, the work begins.

World Service Meeting

We welcomed 74 World Service Meeting Delegates representing 49 countries from around the world to the World Service Meeting, October 26-31. It was the largest attendance in the meetings history and was the first in-person World Service Meeting since 2018 which was held in South Africa and the first in New York City since 2016. As anticipated, the opportunity to come together, in-person, made a significant impact on the success of the meeting. Many shared how much it meant to them to connect with so many of their fellow international delegates after years of interaction limited to a virtual space. Wide sharing on many topics directly related to carrying the A.A. message around the world brought hope and enthusiasm to all in attendance.

The General Service Board invitation to the World Service Meeting Delegates to observe the General Service Board Weekend immediately following the event is consistent with past practice. It was significant for these autonomous structures helping with the evolution of their own development, ultimately increasing the effectiveness of carrying the message around the

world. During the weekend, I shared with many delegates who expressed overwhelming gratitude for the opportunity to observe our board in action, interact with our staff and learn so much to take back to their home structures to help improve the effectiveness of their Conference and Board work.

The World Service Meeting Fund has made an enormous difference with participation and bringing the World Service Meeting closer to being self-supporting. In keeping with our 7th Tradition, each country is responsible for paying for their delegates fees as well as their air travel. Many countries have challenges meeting this responsibility. This year, the World Service Meeting provided support to many countries

faced with this challenge. In addition, the World Service Meeting Fund also provided support to our structure to help offset our costs as the principal planners and support for the meeting.

Due to the generosity and gratitude of so many structures around the world, since the 27th the WSM held in November 2022, World Service Meeting Fund received contributions of \$122,000 bringing the balance to \$158,000. In addition, each structure participating made many other sacrifices to save cost with efforts of sharing rooms, forgoing reimbursement for meal costs and local transportation among others. All these efforts yielded a bottom-line support from our General Service Board of \$121,401. In comparison, the average support from our General Service Board in past years has averaged in excess of \$250,000. Factoring the inflation levels, we've been experiencing over the last several years, these results are so heartwarming and a true expression of the deep significance of self-support and participation, embodied within our 7th Tradition. Money and spirituality really do mix!

Although a lot of the World Service Delegates did not speak English, the language of the heart was evident. It was interesting to hear what they do in their own countries. It was quite funny that most of them have the same issues we have here. For example, in Great Britain they are still debating the AA Preamble.

GSO Podcast

The GSO Podcast “*Our Primary Purpose*.” Launched on January 14, 2025. The first season includes eight episodes and spans through March 4, 2025. Initial feedback has been very positive and heartwarming! Listeners are encouraged to subscribe, share with others interested in A.A.'s program of recovery, and explore this unique opportunity to learn more about Alcoholics Anonymous.

The podcast offers listeners a behind-the-scenes look at how GSO supports A.A. groups and members in their efforts to carry the message of recovery to those seeking help for their drinking problem.

Through interviews with GSO staff, A.A. members, and voices from A.A. history, *Our Primary Purpose* sheds light on the crucial work being done to fulfill the mission of Alcoholics Anonymous. The podcast aims to engage listeners inside and outside A.A. with compelling stories and information about the many ways the General Service Office serves the Fellowship.

Listeners can look forward to an array of topics and stories, including:

- A virtual tour of the General Service Office, showcasing the services provided to the Fellowship.
- Insights from the dedicated people at GSO who help advance A.A.'s mission.
- Personal stories shared by visitors to GSO about how Alcoholics Anonymous has transformed their lives.
- An exclusive glimpse into the GSO Archives, revealing treasures from A.A. history.

Now that I have mentioned the GSO Podcast I would like to update you on the A.A. Grapevine. I am the current Chair of AA Grapevine and it really has been a pleasure serving with such dedicated members of the board and staff.

- **Podcast:** 1,051,228 downloads to date. We helped the AAWS podcast, *Our Primary Purpose*, with their launch, running a spot prepared by Communications Department three times in January
- **Instagram:** Grapevine has 13,402 followers, up 133 since December report. La Viña has 1,904 followers, up 36 since December report.
- **YouTube:** 351 videos up 19 since December; 14,800 subscribers, up 300; 251,094 views, up 7,008.
- **Apps international** release has begun. Mexico, Australia, India, UK all have apps available with about 160 downloads to date. EU countries a bit more complicated and we are adjusting apps to fit regulations.

Grapevine & La Vina Apps

- Total GV in-app subscriptions at end of 2024: 5,571
- Total GV subscribers with app access at end of 2024: 14,142
- Total LV in-app subscriptions at end of 2024: 275
- Total LV subscribers with app access at end of 2024: 386
- App Subscription Income from Apple Store and Google Play to date (16 months): \$222,776.93

Total Subscriptions (print, digital, apps)

Grapevine: Ending 2024 with 59,189, up 8.5% from 2023, 54,569

La Viña: Ending 2024 with 7,492, up 17% from 2023, 6,392

Book Publishing

Online Book Store Q4, units sold equaled 17,465 compared to 13,815 in Q3 and compared to 22,940 in Q4 of 2023 (when we had free shipping and 20% off). In all of 2024 we sold 59,516 units for revenue of \$734,595.

Coming in April: Emotional Sobriety special edition (1&2 in hardbound edition) plus stand-alone copy of Bill's article on special stock.

The board approved the production of Grapevine Greeting cards. They will have cartoons from either the AA Grapevine or La Vina. It is anticipated they will go into production sometime this month and will be available for sale on line at AAGrapevine.org and local Intergroups.

2025 International Convention: I hope you have registered and all excited to attend since we missed the one in 2020. It is going to be so much fun. The committee budgeted for approximately 47,500 registrants.

AA Grapevine will have a booth and presence at the convention. Also, there will be a broadcast booth with the hosts, Don, Sam & Olis from the Podcast. You can stop by and give an interview or perhaps tell your story.

3,462 souvenir books have already been sold. There will be a Language of the Heart Special International Convention Edition available in English, Spanish, and French.

Volunteers will be wearing T-Shirts with the Grapevine logo on them so they can be readily identified. They will help those who would like to sign up for a subscription and for the APP. Also, you may even see someone with purple hair dressed in a grape suit. No – it won't be me!

At the main stadium while everyone is entering, Grapevine will be displaying our material and other information on the large screen. This is to fill the time before the main events.

Needless to say, we at Grapevine are very excited.

Archives

Permission requests are when someone, not necessarily an AA member asks for permission to reprint or broadcast archival material. Some requests could be for copies of letters or digital talks.

The following permission requests were discussed and approved by the committee:

- Request from Irene Meisel and Mitchell Henry to access historical correspondence relating to the Greenwich Village Group and St. Nicholas Group of New York.
- Request from Paul Myles, on behalf of B Street Limited Company, to access historical materials on the early beginnings of A.A., including materials relating to the evolution and operation of the Alcoholic Foundation and Works Publishing entities (1938-1955).

The committee denied a request from Gerry Lange to obtain a copy of Roberto C.'s talk on the history of A.A. in Italy, given at the 1980 A.A. International Convention. The applicant noted that the purpose of the proposed use also includes distribution of the recording to Rome A.A. The committee agreed that the

use specified in the form was not in accordance with limited use requirements and requested the Archives Director to communicate the reason for the denial in the response. The committee also stated that in the response letter to include the suggestion that Rome A.A. contact GSO Archives directly for a copy and that the applicant resubmit their application for consideration of a copy of the recording, for limited use only.

If you travel with a group and would like to visit the massive archives at the office, please contact the Office ahead of time at: gsotours@aa.org or (212) 870-3430.

Conference

The committee discussed printing the Conference Manual and Conference Committee background for Conference Members' use during the Conference. The committee agreed that offering the option to request printed Conference Manuals and Committee background well in advance with a stated deadline would support preparations for the Conference Week. The committee also agreed that including a few printed copies of each item would be a reasonable backup plan. It is suggested that you bring a lap top, if you have one, will all the documents you would have filed on it, for reference. Don't forget to bring a roller bag, if you have one. It helps when you have a lot of material to carry around.

Saturday Meet and Greet

The committee continued their discussion on the venue of the Saturday Meet and Greet gathering. The committee reviewed a recommendation from the Improvements subcommittee to continue with plans to have the Saturday meet and greet onsite at the hotel, instead of the General Service Office for the following reasons:

- Simpler travel for Conference Members who need to travel from airport, complete their Saturday afternoon hotel check-in, and have dinner
- A simplified workload for GSO employees who are working with a new venue for the General Service Conference
- Construction plans to renovate GSO could restrict visitor access.

Discuss selection criteria for Conference Committees: The committee discussed the committee selection process and alignment to the related Advisory Actions and recently expressed needs from Conference members to have even rotation of committee members and the broadest participation of Service Areas on Conference committees. The committee noted the recent challenges to reach the widest possible geographical distribution and participation on Conference committees and felt that a list of prioritization criteria could help reach the best committee selection process.

The question often comes up – How are the Delegates assigned to certain committees? I found a report on the whole process. I understand that a software programme is now used for the process.

No area be represented on any standing Ccommittee for more than two consecutive years; that when any state or province has more than one Area, no standing Committee will have more than one member from each state or province.

- A 1986 Advisory Action indicates that the Conference Committee on Trustees always have at least nine members so that there will always be enough to constitute one-half of the committee votes in Regional elections. (Trustees).
- The 1989 Advisory Action recommended the reaffirmation of a 1970 Conference Action: "Conference Committee selections continue to be by lot with the widest possible geographical distribution." It was the sense of the meeting that any other method could erode the confidence of the Conference in the committee system. (Policy and Admissions)
- As extracted from a 1996 Advisory Action: According to its scope, the International Convention/Regional Forums Committee has eight members, one Delegate from each of the eight Regions. (In years when site selection takes place - any sitting Delegate on the Conference International Convention / Regional Forums Committee whose Area is presenting at the General

Service Conference as a possible International Convention city shall withdraw from that Committee and a replacement be selected.)

- At its summer Board Meeting, the Trustees' Conference Committee appoints a subcommittee to review the process by which Delegates are selected to serve on the Conference's eleven Primary Committees and two Secondary Committees.
- In 1983, the Trustees' Conference Committee recommended that the election of Conference Committee members, ideally, take place in mid-December (at the time of the A.A. World Service Board Meeting) in the presence of two Trustees or members of the Trustees' Conference Committee, thereby gaining one month in communication time with Conference Committee members.

For Primary Committees:

- With 93 delegates divided as evenly as possible among eleven primary committees, five of them will have nine members and six will have eight members.
- While there is no stated policy on this, Grapevine and Public Information often have nine members.

For Secondary Committees:

- The General Service Conference has two Secondary Committees - International Convention/Regional Forums Committee and Archives Committee. Delegates assigned to these Committees also serve on a Primary Committee, which is Policy.
- As a Secondary Committee, Archives is generally assigned eight members, although according to its scope, it can have up to nine members.
- As far as possible, avoid placing two Delegates from same state or province on a single Committee.

It is also a practice to assure that, insofar as possible, no Committee will be either all male or all female.

When all Delegates had been assigned to their Committees, a final check is made to ensure that there are not three Delegates from the same Region, that no Committee is all male or all female, and that no Committees contain Delegates whose Areas abut each other.

When necessary, an exchange of assignment of two Delegates from the same Region is preferable to achieve compliance with the distribution.

With all primary Committees filled, all incoming Panel Delegates, by Region, and the two Secondary Committees are filled.

Double check to be sure that all first year Delegates have been assigned. One person should read the names of all Delegates assigned to each Committee while another person checks off each name called on alphabetical list of all Delegates.

Now having said all of this and I know it is a lot of information, conference had a situation this year whereas, Jean-Yves the Area 88 delegate was moved to the Report & Charter committee from Public Information to comply with the 1970 advisory action. Area 88 has not served on Report & Charter since 2017. Following a review of the committee assignments for the 2025 Conference Committee on Public Information, two members serving were from the same province (Quebec), which is not in line with the 1970 Advisory Action: One was Andre D. – Delegate from Area 87. “The procedure for selecting Conference committee members continue to be from the hat; that no area be represented on any standing committee for more than two consecutive years; that when any state or province has more than one area, no standing committee have more than one member from each state or province.” So, Jean-Yves was assigned to the Report & Charter Committee along with Amy L.. Delegate from Area 83. This adjustment was approved by the Chair and Vice-chair of the trustees' General Service Conference Committee, who oversee the conference committee selection process conducted annually by the Conference Coordinator each December. The history of assignments since 2017 was reviewed across all committees to inform this

decision. All other current Delegate assignments were reviewed for any other conflicts with Advisory Action and identified none.

Update on the Online groups & 2022 Membership Survey:

In response to the following committee consideration, the draft Guidelines for Participation of Online Groups is under development, to be reviewed at the March AAWS board meeting as part of the Group Services desk report. I was appointed the chair of the 2023 Ad Hoc Committee on Participation of Online Groups (POG) in the

U.S./Canada Service Structure and we had a wide-ranging discussion. The committee expressed appreciation for the Ad Hoc report, particularly the results of the survey to online groups. Based upon the Ad Hoc report findings, the committee noted that at this time there are no clearly expressed needs outlined in order to move forward with the creation of an additional delegate area for online groups. The committee noted that the suggestion of a future guideline service piece on the participation of online groups may be a helpful resource to consider for the future as information continues to be shared and gathered from the U.S./Canada service structure.

Year by year participation for Online Groups:

2021 - 595 active virtual groups - 300 have a GSR.

2022 - 883 active virtual groups - 587 have a GSR. *Virtual Districts: 2*

2023 - 1168 active virtual groups - 752 have a GSR.

Increase midyear to:

- 1236 active virtual groups - 797 have a GSR. *Virtual Districts: 5*

As you can see the numbers have almost doubled in 2 years.

It appears that groups, districts and areas have adapted very nicely with their online groups. As mentioned, Guidelines for Online groups will be coming out in the near future.

2022 Membership Survey

As of the latest available data, there are over 123,000 A.A. groups worldwide, with membership estimated at over two million.

Who are A.A. Members Today?

More than 6,000 A.A. members were randomly selected and surveyed in 2022 by the General Service Office for the U.S. and Canada. The Membership Survey, which has been conducted periodically since 1968, provides a snapshot of the A.A. fellowship and its members. This survey is not a census. The survey results may be of interest to the professional community, the media, and the general public — anyone who wants to know more about A.A. in keeping with the primary purpose of A.A. to carry the message to those who suffer from alcoholism.

The complete survey results can be found at aa.org.

In closing, a quote from AA Co-Founder, Bill W., April 1959, *“Leadership in AA: Ever a Vital Need,” From The Language of the Heart* “We shall often miscalculate the future in whole or in part. But even so, this will be far better than to refuse to think at all.”

Thank you for being here and I wish you all the best as you continue your journey.

Yours in Love and Service

Joyce S.

Eastern Canada Regional Trustee

(B) HIGHLIGHTS 2025

Delegates HAVE 5 MINUTES to describe their respective area, much like they will have to do at the next conference. Here they are:

B-1 AREA 81 HIGHLIGHTS TO CERAASA

Good evening. I am an alcoholic. My name is Marietta MacC, General Service Delegate Panel 74 Area 81 New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island. I am grateful for the privilege of serving Area 81 and sharing this weekend with you.

Area 81 consists of the provinces of New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island with a 13 kilometer bridge connecting us. The total population of the 2 provinces is slightly more than 1 million people with a few Alcoholics in the mix.

We have 2 sharing sessions and 2 Assemblies per year and try to rotate these business meetings between districts in both provinces. Members throughout the service structure take active roles in carrying the AA message to Treatment and Correctional Facilities and working with Public Information and Cooperating with The Professional Community. We continue to work on translation and interpretation in our French-English bilingual area.

Members and groups celebrate our anniversaries in sobriety. One such notable anniversary was held at the medium security facility in Dorchester New Brunswick in June 2024. This group behind the walls is the oldest prison group in Canada having registered with the Alcoholic Foundation, Inc. in 1949. The anniversary had a write-up in the AA newsletter PO Box 459 and the story with additional details was submitted to Area 81 and GSO Archives.

Area 81 Fall Assembly in October 2024 welcomed the Eastern Canada Regional Trustee - Joyce S. She shared a presentation on some of the work done on behalf of Alcoholics Anonymous at the Board level. It was a wonderful experience to have her spend time with Area 81.

I anticipate this weekend to also be a learning experience and look forward to spending time with fellow attendees.

Yours In Service

Marietta MacC

GSD Panel 74 Area 81 NB/PEI

B-2 AREA 82 HIGHLIGHTS TO CERAASA

Area 82 is the easternmost Area in Canada, stretching from Yarmouth, NS in the west to Cape Spear, NL the easternmost point in Canada. It stretches from Cape Sable Island, NS in the south to Cape Chidley, Labrador in the north. Area 82 borders two oceans, the Atlantic and the Arctic, and includes the Arctic Circle, and Canada's warmest province. It covers a land area of 460,464 square KM.

Our Area is split in the middle by the Gulf of St. Lawrence, with an 8-hour ferry ride needed to get us all together for assemblies. It IS a challenge, but one Area 82 overcomes annually to get together in one of the provinces for our Fall Assembly. The assembly rotates between four cities, two in each province.

Prior to Covid, each province held a provincial service weekend to deal with Area topics specific to their province, and to prepare for items common to both provinces for the Fall Assembly. With Covid, these weekends were ceased, and were replaced with a virtual Zoom Assembly each spring. The groups decided at the Fall 2024 Assembly that we would return to the service weekends and cease the Spring Assembly.

We currently have 279 active groups scattered over the two provinces and territory. We have remote communities in Labrador year-round, and seasonally in Cape Breton in the winter months. Our area has made good use of Zoom for remote communities. An ongoing hybrid RC meeting is hosted by Area 82 every Wednesday evening, with the in-person side taking place in Makkovik, Labrador, and members from across the area and Canada Zooming in.

We have also started a Quarterly Area Officer/DCM meeting on Zoom. As you will understand, prior to Zoom, this was an impossibility for our Area. These meetings allow us more transparency in financial

matters, as well as an ability to have the entire Area Committee have a say in decisions made between assemblies.

Zoom has also given us the opportunity to hold a Pre-Conference Assembly each spring to allow our Delegate to have a better handle on the Conscience of the Area going to New York.

Our Active Area Committees are chaired by our Alternate GSD, with Co-chairs of each committee from each province. The Active Area Committees host a meeting on the last Monday of each month, open to members of all districts, to share ideas, what's working in their districts, and what's not. A general service sharing session, that has been well received and attended.

Area 82 went through a period of painful growth and change through the Covid and post Covid years. But I am happy to report that we have come through it, accepting hardship as the pathway to peace, and are stronger and more ready to carry the AA message going forward, One Day At A Time.

Thank You,

Dwayne MacD,

GSD P75/A82 Literature/Archives

B-3 AREA 83 HIGHLIGHTS TO CERAASA

Perched on the north shore of Lake Ontario, Area 83 spans an impressive 445 km from Quebec border east to Mississauga, reaching north up to the wilds of Algonquin Park and dipping south into New York State. This is home to 13,000 members across 568 active groups—including 33 virtual and eight in correctional facilities—our Area includes Toronto, the most linguistically diverse city in Canada. District 16 ensures our Spanish-speaking members are supported, and we continue seeking ways to reach the other 100+ languages spoken here.

Embracing the digital age, we elected our Panel 75 trusted servants with seamless electronic voting, including a new Technology Chair. Our tech committee ensures all Area meetings—four Assemblies and seven ACMs per term—are hybrid, allowing participation from every corner of our Area. Our monthly online GSR and DCM workshops, now in their second term, have become a gateway for many to catch the *service bug*, igniting passion for AA's future in Eastern Ontario.

Now in its sixth year—and third as a hybrid event—our preconference agenda-sharing sessions continue to grow in participation, helping our delegate better understand the collective conscience of Area 83. As part of the Eastern Canada Region, we actively engage in CERAASA (odd years) and the virtual Eastern Canada Delegates' Orientation (even years), both of which strengthen regional unity and prepare delegates for the General Service Conference.

With its energy, dedication, and ever-evolving approach to service, Area 83 remains a shining example of dynamic, inclusive General Service. Being part of this journey is an honor, and I am forever grateful to s

Amy L

Delegate | Panel 75

Area 83 | Eastern Ontario

Report and Charter

B-4 AREA 85 HIGHLIGHTS TO CERAASA

Good evening, my name is Joel C Area 85 Delegate, Panel 75, Corrections and International Conventions/Regional Forums Committees. Area 85 is located in Northwestern Ontario Canada. I am happy to report that our area is fully self-supporting and have all Area Executive service positions filled as well as most of our Sub-Committee Chairs.

Although, in some districts, attendance is high and filling service positions comes easily, much of Area 85 struggles with maintaining service positions as well as keeping meeting rooms open in some districts. To combat this, our Area has an Ad Hoc Committee for "Turning on the lights" meant to connect "dark districts" within the Area and to give support and re-establish communication lines with the Area. Of all the Districts in our Area, only one (District #1 - Thunder Bay) has an elected DCM with a district committee that also holds regular district

meetings and some Districts have not been represented at the Area Assemblies in years. The Ad Hoc Committee has plans of going on the road and taking a “Boots on the ground” approach as well as a virtual approach to bridging the gap. They have had some success getting groups to the Assembly in person and via Zoom. We have also held Service Workshops in our Area to get people interested in service as filling Area positions can be challenging as well.

It gives me joy to add to this that AA is STILL alive and well in Area 85. A couple bright spots in our Area that come to mind are the Area 85 Round-Up Committee and the Corrections Committee. The Round-Up Committee has been dubbed the funnest committee in our Area and have done a great job in facilitating Area Round Ups as well as getting people young in sobriety involved in service. Our Round-Up theme this year is “Miracles in Recovery” and will be held on May 24-25th, we would love to have you if you can make it. Also, the Corrections Committee has been very successful in bringing AA into the Jail in Thunder Bay. The Committee has generated a lot of interest in the city and has been able to get AA members involved in bringing meetings to Jail.

I am so very grateful to be of service at this capacity and look forward to serving with you for the next couple of years.

Thank you/Miigwetch,

Joel C

Area 85 Delegate, Panel 75

B-5 AREA 86 HIGHLIGHTS TO CERAASA

Area 86 is one of the 4 areas in the Province of Ontario and currently serves the Western Region of Ontario that has a population of @13,000 alcoholics through the aegis of 23 Districts that amount to 975 Groups and 4 Intergroups.

Breaking it down we have 601 Active Groups , 17 Virtual Groups with the balance of Groups h in various stages of identification.

Specifically, we are geographically situated between Three of the Five Great Lakes: Huron, Erie, and Ontario, throwing in Georgian Bay as bordering bodies of water within our area. Every year we host a pre-conference Spring assembly and a Fall assembly. In the odd year at the Fall assembly, we elect our 5 area officers. In even numbered years we have 3 area committee meetings and in odd years we hold 4 area committee meetings the December one being primarily for sub-committee elections (9 positions).

While the one of the great wonders of the world is Niagara Falls, the second one is Area 86.

If you are standing in Area 86 you will have access to the many entry points to access our friendly neighbours to the South with names of bridges like Blue Water, Ambassador, Rainbow and Peace.

We participate in CERAASA (Canadian Eastern Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly) and the ECDO (Eastern Canada Delegates’ Orientation) which is a virtual conference orientation style meeting replacing the Ontario and Quebec’s Delegate meeting which now includes participation from all areas in the Eastern Canadian region.

We also share a land-based border with our Friends in Area 83 and Area 84 to our NNE and we are one bridge crossing from our friends in Area 50(Buffalo NY) and Area 33(Detroit Mi).

Welcome to Area 86, the honor and pleasure is to serve.

Dan D

Delegate

Area 86 Panel 74

CPC Conference Committee Alternate Chair

B-6 AREA 87 HIGHLIGHTS TO CERAASA

Southwestern Quebec Area 87 (Southwestern Quebec) is the smallest (in geographic) of the four AA areas in the province of Quebec, but nevertheless accounts for nearly 40% of the province's total

membership. Largely urban, our area is historically trilingual - French, English and Spanish. It currently includes 23 districts: 16 French-speaking districts, 6 English-speaking districts and one Spanish-speaking linguistic district.

With just over 370 registered groups, it's possible for anyone to attend over 500 regular AA meetings a week, mainly in three languages and in a variety of formats. There are also a group in Russian and a group in Langue des Signes du Québec - LSQ. Treatment and correctional committees also offer numerous meetings in health care and correctional institutions. The presence of Alcoholics Anonymous in our area is vibrant and alive. And it not include the hard work of our membership who put Twelfth Step work into their families and communities.

We can also count on the unfailing dedication of our twelve committees in carrying our message, including Public Information, Détention and Correctional, Treatment, Literature, CPC, Technology, Helpline, to name but a few. Area 87 also has all the tools it needs to carry the AA message. Our trusted servants and our sponsors are ready to support our members individually.

We encourage all our membership to take actions and initiatives in pursuing our primary purpose. Many other activities, including the annual Area Convention, District Conventions, AA workshops provided by Group Services Committee, our super sponsorship task force - Service Sponsorship Unit - set up in 2021 are there to help carry the AA message and support our members committed to AA service. Our Area 87 Service Office (ASO) has four special workers and a well-stocked literature counter. The ASO performs many functions and remains open seven days a week to serve and support our membership.

Using virtual platforms to hold our meetings allows to expand our means of reaching out the alcoholic in need where he or she may be. This technology also enables us to create ongoing links with the entire General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous and elsewhere in the A.A. world. It is imperative that our spiritual principles continue to find their way through life's tribulations. Equally imperative is the use of a clear communication of our message-that recovery from alcoholism is possible through the Twelve Steps of Alcoholics Anonymous.

André D.

Delegate A87P74 AA

B-7 AREA 89 – Northeast Quebec /HIGHLIGHTS TO CERAASA

Area 89 began its activities in September 1975. It covers a vast territory stretching 800 kilometers along the St. Lawrence River and 550 kilometers northward, including a district on the south shore near Quebec City.

Our Area consists of 17 districts and 205 groups, primarily French-speaking, but also includes five English-speaking groups and one Indigenous-language group. Among our 205 groups, 17 are online. Our Area serves eight Correctional Centers and 26 Treatment Centers.

Our annual regional calendar includes eleven executive committee meetings, four executive meetings with committees, two general assemblies for GSRs and MCDs, and four regional meetings.

Our active committees include Archives, Correctional and Treatment Centers, Public Information and Cooperation with the Professional Community, *Le Nordet* (our regional journal), Seminars, Literature, Website, and Helpline Services.

At our annual regional meeting in December, we hold a service meeting, alternating each year between “*Welcoming New Servants*” and “*Our Regional Inventory*.”

We have a part-time administrative officer at our regional service office to facilitate communication and services for all members of our Area.

The Central Service Office in Quebec City provides literature to our groups and other common services to groups within the city.

Our remote communities are located on the North Shore of the St. Lawrence River at the easternmost part of our area and in the northern part of the province.

Every August, the Native community organizes a Roundup held in a traditional longhouse built specifically for this occasion. They also offer participants a traditional meal prepared by their community. Many Native individuals have found their way to AA through this special event. I am very proud and grateful to serve an Area that honors the principles and traditions of AA.

Jocelyne C

Déléguee, A89/ Panel 75

B-8 AREA90 HIGHLIGHTS TO CERAASA

Area 90 began operations in August 1976 and covers a vast territory in northwestern Quebec. This territory stretches from the city of Ottawa in the west to Joliette in the east, a distance of over 244 kilometers; and from the northern tip of Montreal in the south to Kuujuaq, in Nunavut, the northernmost point, a distance of over 1,445 kilometers.

We have a total of 374 active groups in 25 districts. Although this number is difficult to establish, we estimate that the area has close to 8,000 members. We have more than 20 groups in correctional facilities and a dozen in treatment centers.

Mostly French-speaking, we are a diverse, multicultural and multilingual region. We have seven area officers, six standing committees (Correctional, Treatment, Accessibility and remote communities, Publications, Public Information, La Vigne AA (similar to Grapevine) and the regional service newsletter L'Héritage.

In addition, there are two working groups, Archives and Digital Communications and Technologies (DTC). Our service calendar includes six area meetings, two general assemblies, a welcome assembly for new service members or all A.A. members who are interested in service, as well as a pre-conference service day and a day presenting 12 Concepts. Several other activities added to this calendar, such as one-day information sessions (on GSR, DCM, finances, etc.) and exchange of views with committees.

All these activities keep our members in the spirit of service while stimulating their interest. We've managed to adapt to the new reality, and many of our meetings are held either in person, by video-conference or even in hybrid format. Area 90 is vibrant and healthy, thanks to service. -

Debbie L.

P74A90 Northwest Quebec Trustees Committee

(C) REPORTS FROM ALTERNATE DELEGATES

C-1 REPORT FROM THE ALTERNATE DELEGATE AREA 81

SUBJECT: SERVICE SPONSORSHIP- SECURING THE FUTURE OF A.A.

What is a service sponsor?

A service Sponsor is typically defined as someone who possesses the experience, time, and compassion to share their knowledge of the program with their sponsee in a supportive and caring manner.

Key attributes of a Service Sponsor

1. Confidence (trust)
2. Experience
3. Patience
4. Relatability
5. Effectiveness

Confidence (trust)

Confidence is important between the sponsor and the sponsee. It is necessary to have a mutual understanding to facilitate comfortable discussions regarding decision-making and achieving results. Trust should be present so that both parties can value and consider each other's ideas.

Experience

It is essential for the service sponsor to possess pertinent experience related to the role that their sponsee aspires to excel in. They must have a comprehensive understanding of A.A. history and be familiar with various roles along with the fundamental principles of general service. Furthermore, they should have a good grasp of The A.A. Service Manual, as well as the Steps, Traditions and Concepts.

Patience

The sponsor must exercise patience when it comes to the various questions and how they relate to their responsibilities. The service sponsor provides support and encouragement to the sponsee. Additionally, they assist the sponsee in grasping the commitment and responsibility involved, as well as determining if they are willing and capable of fulfilling the role's obligations.

Relatability

Being able to relate to each scenario and recognize the most effective methods for tackling challenges is essential. It is important for both the sponsor and sponsee to share a mutual understanding, acknowledging the significance of communication, discussion, and the intended outcome.

Basically, they must be "on the same page."

Effective

Service sponsors are:

Experienced,

Focused,

Frank,

Empowering

Concept savvy

Tradition taught

Immersed in the Steps

Visionary

Enthusiastic

Role of the Service Sponsor

The key role of the sponsor is to help their sponsee navigate the challenges they encounter in their position by sharing insights from their own experiences. This support is provided by assessing the sponsee's comprehension of the A.A. program. They are there to answer questions regarding responsibilities, the structure of general service, and how the Traditions and Concepts are applied. They assist with time management, efficiency, and setting of realistic goals. They may introduce new opportunities to help clarify the distinction between addressing the needs of the fellowship and meeting the needs of another group member. They also provide moral support .

**Garry L, Alternate delegate
Area 81**

C-2 REPORT FROM THE ALTERNATE DELEGATE AREA 83

SUBJECT : AA FINANCIAL RESPONSABILITY

Good morning, everyone. I'm an Alcoholic and have the honour of serving Area 83 as the Panel 75 Alternate Delegate. Thank you for being here this morning to discuss a critical aspect of Alcoholics Anonymous—our financial responsibility.

A- "Seventh Tradition: A Foundation for Financial Responsibility"

Opening:

At the heart of this discussion is AA's Seventh Tradition, which states: "Every AA group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions."

This tradition isn't just about finances; it's a reflection of our commitment to autonomy, unity, and self-reliance.

But, let us always remember our responsibility to keep the services that help the alcoholic going

Through financial responsibility,

- we ensure AA remains accessible to anyone and everyone who seeks help
- we ensure that we remain free from outside influence or obligations
- we ensure that we remain free from fees of any kind.

In practicing our financial responsibility, we create no barriers to membership. And, in fact, this financial responsibility helps each and every one of us grow.

Today, let's walk through how we practice this responsibility at every level of AA – from discussion and deliberation over future PAI's to the home group who wants to upgrade their sound system.

B- "Managing Group Finances: Transparency and Prudence"

Group-Level Financial Responsibility:

Let's start at the group level. Each AA group has expenses like rent, literature, coffee supplies, and sometimes contributions to service entities.

Managing these finances requires transparency and prudence. Treasurers play a vital role by maintaining accurate records and regularly sharing financial updates with the group. This fosters trust and accountability among members. Thereby helping the members of the group grow.

But there is more! Those who serve the Fellowship as Treasurer gain in earning the trust of their group members and learning about responsibility and accountability. These are powerful tangible benefits that come from serving the Fellowship.

Groups are also encouraged to maintain a prudent reserve, usually enough to cover 1-3 months' expenses. This reserve ensures we're prepared for unforeseen circumstances without accumulating excessive funds. This further teaches each and every one of us the importance of prudent financial management.

By being mindful of our finances, we create stability and sustainability for our groups.

C- "Voluntary Contributions: Power of Unity"

Individual Contributions:

One unique aspect of AA is that we don't charge membership fees or dues. The Fellowship is open to all. Contributions are entirely voluntary, and each member is encouraged to give what they can. Individual contributions often change as our economic circumstances change.

Even small, consistent contributions have a profound impact. It's not about the amount but about the spirit of giving back. When we contribute, we demonstrate gratitude for the recovery we've found in AA and help sustain the groups that support us.

D-E- "Supporting the Greater AA Community"

Beyond the Group:

Financial responsibility doesn't stop at the group level. Groups often contribute surplus funds to districts, areas, and the General Service Office (GSO).

These funds support vital services that simply can't be done at the group, district or area level, such as maintaining the Big Book, translating literature, and carrying AA's message to those who need it worldwide.

By contributing to the broader AA structure, we ensure that our Fellowship remains strong and effective at reaching the still-suffering alcoholic – wherever they may be.

E- "Accountability in Action"

Accountability and Transparency:

Another cornerstone of AA's financial responsibility is accountability. Treasurers, at all levels, are tasked with keeping clear and accurate records of all contributions and expenditures. Regular financial reports should be shared at business meetings to ensure transparency.

This openness fosters trust and ensures funds are used appropriately, protecting the integrity of AA's mission.

F- "Why AA Declines Outside Contributions"

Avoiding Pitfalls:

Now, let's address why AA declines outside contributions. This principle protects AA from becoming financially dependent on, or influenced by, external entities. Imagine if you will, for just a moment if AA was to accept financial support from Keith's brewery ... ok, maybe it's better to not imagine that.

By remaining self-supporting, we safeguard AA's spiritual independence and ensure our Primary Purpose remains focused: to carry the message to the alcoholic who still suffers.

This self-reliance reflects the principles we practice in our personal recoveries—taking responsibility for ourselves and our actions. Growing in Recovery and Service and striving for Unity in our Fellowship.

G- "Carrying the Message Forward"

Closing:

In closing, financial responsibility in AA is much more than dollars and cents. It's a spiritual practice that reflects our gratitude, accountability, and commitment to helping others.

Through transparency, prudence, and unity, we ensure that AA remains available for future generations. Each of us has a role to play, whether it's contributing at the group level or supporting AA's broader mission.

Thank you for your commitment and Service to our Fellowship and for ensuring AA continues to thrive. Together, we carry the message forward.

**Bill C, Alternate delegate
Area 83**

C-3 REPORT FROM THE ALTERNATE DELEGATE AREA 84

SUBJECT : WORKING TOGETHER - INCREASIN TRUST IN A.A.

Working Together, Increasing Trust in Alcoholics Anonymous

Strengthening Relationships in Recovery
James Pender Alt. Delegate Area 84 Panel 74



Working together

No society of men and women ever had a more urgent need for continuous effectiveness and permanent unity. We alcoholics see that we must work together and hang together, else most of us will finally die alone.

AA is made up of interconnected circles of people, within the fellowship, who work together to carry AA's message of hope.

Each group sends its own ideas or problems to the assembly, where groups can share their experience and provide help and support.



Working Together

Working together is when two or more Individuals join forces to accomplish a shared objective.



Working together

Working together or collaboratively is the process of working collectively with a group of people to achieve a specific goal

It involves the combined efforts of individual members who bring their unique knowledge and skills to the table.

Working together provides an avenue for individuals with different skills, to share their differing ideas while still working towards a shared goal.

By working together we can help one another and complete tasks and projects more efficiently

The more people work together, the stronger bonds they can build. With these shared experiences, AA members can relate to one another more closely and may find it easier to collaborate and communicate

When AA members work together, they can help one another when necessary. This assistance can prevent someone from struggling with a task, as everyone collaborates on ways to resolve problems as a team.

Working together



AA members work together to help the alcoholic who still suffers. Helping each other is a key to staying sober

There are many ways to participate.

The best place to start getting involved is through an A.A. group.

Practical experience shows that nothing will so much insure immunity from drinking as intensive work with other alcoholics.

Building Trust in AA



Building trust can be done by:

1. Showing your character, such as being caring, fair, open and honest.
2. By demonstrating your competence, and sharing your experience and results
3. Building trust can be developed over time with the right strategies and approaches and by understanding the key elements that foster trust.

Trust is the foundation of any successful relationship, it's the glue that holds people together.

When trust is present, individuals feel more comfortable sharing their thoughts, feelings, and ideas, leading to deeper connections and more meaningful interactions.

Challenges to Trust

- Fear of judgement or stigma
- Breaking confidentiality
- Misunderstandings or conflicts within the group



Building Trust

Trust helps to create a sense of unity and cooperation. When we trust others, we're more likely to take risks, share our ideas, and work together towards common goals. In contrast, a lack of trust can lead to suspicion, mistrust and conflict, ultimately undermining our relationships and overall well-being.

By being open, honest, and transparent, we can create an environment of trust, where individuals feel comfortable sharing their thoughts, feelings, and ideas.



Building Trust

Authenticity and transparency are essential components of trust. When we are genuine and honest, others are more likely to trust us. Being authentic means sharing our thoughts, feelings and ideas openly, without fear of judgment or rejection. Transparency on the other hand refers to our willingness to share information, be accountable, and take responsibility for our actions. Being accountable is taking responsibility for your actions and be willing to apologize when you've made a mistake.



Working together as a group

- Encourage active listening.
- Create inclusive discussions
- Resolve conflicts with compassion
- Maintain confidentiality



Sponsors



- ❑ Sponsors provide guidance and accountability
- ❑ Building trust one-on-one strengthens group unity
- ❑ Leading by example inspires others.

Tools for strengthening Trust

- Group inventories to address concerns.
- Workshops on communication and conflict resolution
- Sharing stories to build connection.



Working together building Trust in AA

By working together, we can build a stronger more trusting AA Community.



C-4 REPORT FROM THE ALTERNATE DELEGATE AREA 85

SUBJECT : LIVING THE PRINCIPLES, ACCEPTING OUR DIFFERENCES

"Welcome, everyone, to this presentation. 'Living the Principles, Accepting Our Differences.' I'm Luca and I am an alcoholic Today, we'll explore how Alcoholics Anonymous's foundational principles extend beyond sobriety, guiding us to embrace and celebrate the diverse backgrounds we all bring to the table. These principles are the backbone of our unity and growth as individuals and as a community.

Alcoholics Anonymous is built on three legacies: recovery, unity, and service, each underpinned by its own set of principles. Recovery is guided by the 12 Steps, unity by the 12 Traditions, and service by the 12 Concepts. Today, I'd like to delve into the foundational elements of these principles.

What is the essential ground from which these roots and this tree grow?

So I turned to my Big Book , this quote is found in appendix II Spiritual Experience.

"We find that no one need have difficulty with the spirituality of the program. Willingness, honesty and open mindedness are the essentials of recovery. But these are indispensable." So today I want to discuss the principles of Willingness, honesty and open mindedness and how they can move us towards accepting our differences.

So what do these Core Principles mean to me:

Honesty: It's about being truthful with ourselves and others. Honesty fosters trust and genuine connections. When we practice honesty, we acknowledge our own biases and work towards overcoming them.

Open-mindedness: This means being willing to listen to different viewpoints, even when they challenge our own beliefs.

Open-mindedness allows us to learn from each other's unique experiences, fostering empathy.

Willingness: Openness to change and growth. It's about being ready to adapt for personal betterment and community harmony. Willingness to change helps us adapt and accept others' ways of living and recovering. And through these we build a community where everyone feels included and valued.

So just How can we apply these principles to embrace the diversity we encounter daily in AA?

Embracing diversity in AA through the principles of honesty, open-mindedness, and willingness involves a conscious effort to integrate these values into our everyday interactions within the fellowship.

Honesty: begins with an acknowledgment of our own biases and prejudices. In AA, this can mean openly sharing our struggles with understanding or accepting differences in how others experience or approach recovery. By being honest about our own limitations, we create a space where others feel safe to share their unique perspectives. Implementing honesty could look like admitting when we've made assumptions based on someone's appearance, background, or beliefs, and then actively seeking to learn more about their experiences to correct our misconceptions. This practice not only fosters trust but also deepens our connection with others, reinforcing the unity that AA strives for.

Honesty about our own experiences with alcohol and our prejudices allows us to connect on a deeper level with others. When we share our stories with candor, we invite others to do the same, regardless of how different those stories might be from our own. This openness paves the way for the second step in our journey through the 12 Steps, Traditions, and Concepts - where we come to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity. Here, honesty helps us acknowledge that this power might manifest differently for each person, respecting the diverse ways people find their spiritual path.

Open-mindedness: is about actively listening and valuing the diverse stories within AA without judgment. Every member's journey to sobriety is unique, shaped by personal, cultural, and social factors. To apply this principle, we can challenge ourselves to attend different meetings, engage with members from various backgrounds, and be genuinely curious about their recovery stories. This might mean asking questions to understand different viewpoints or cultural practices related to sobriety. By being open-minded, we not only broaden our own understanding but also signal to others that their experiences are valid and appreciated within the AA community. This inclusivity can lead to innovative ways of supporting recovery that we might not have considered otherwise.

Open-mindedness is crucial when we move to the third step, deciding to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understand Him. This principle encourages us not only to accept but to actively learn from the varied spiritual practices and beliefs present in AA. It teaches us that recovery is not about conformity but about finding personal truth and support in the collective wisdom of the group.

Willingness is perhaps the most actionable of these principles; it's about being ready to change and grow. In the context of diversity, this means being willing to step out of our comfort zones, to adapt our behaviors, and to evolve our thinking. We can implement willingness by volunteering for service roles that expose us to different parts of the AA community, participating in workshops or discussions on diversity, or supporting initiatives that aim to make AA more accessible to all. Willingness also means being open to feedback about how we might inadvertently exclude or misunderstand others and then taking steps to rectify this. It's about actively choosing to be part of a community where everyone can feel they belong, by continuously learning and adapting.

Willingness becomes our beacon as we navigate the 12 Traditions and 12 Concepts, which govern how AA groups operate and how service is conducted. This principle is about being ready to change, to learn, and to serve in ways that might not have been part of our initial vision for recovery. For instance, Tradition Three reminds us that the only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking, underscoring the inclusivity that willingness fosters. In terms of service, as outlined by the 12 Concepts, willingness means being open to serving in roles that might not align with our personal interests or comfort but are essential for the group's welfare and for upholding the spirit of AA's unity and purpose.

By integrating honesty, open-mindedness, and willingness into our daily lives within AA, we not only enrich our own recovery journey but also contribute to a fellowship where diversity is not just acknowledged but celebrated as a strength. This approach not only aligns with AA's principles but also with the broader human experience, fostering a compassionate, inclusive environment where every member can recover in their own way.

Alcoholics Anonymous groups truly reflect the vast tapestry of human experience, embodying a microcosm of society where members come from all walks of life. Alcoholism does not discriminate; it touches people across every demographic you can imagine - from the highpowered executive to the stay-at-home parent, from the young to the old, from different ethnicities, religions, genders, and socioeconomic backgrounds. This diversity in AA meetings is not just anecdotal; it's a fundamental part of the fellowship's strength and appeal. When we step into an AA meeting, we see faces that might look like ours or utterly different, but the shared language of recovery unites us. Understanding and embracing this diversity begins with the core principles of honesty, open-mindedness, and willingness, which serve as the foundation for navigating through the rest of AA's guiding structures.

These core principles are not just about personal recovery; they are about creating a community where every individual feels they belong, regardless of their background. They teach us to look beyond our differences, to find common ground in our shared struggles and victories, and to serve in a way that reflects AA's mission of carrying its message to anyone who seeks it. In this environment, the diversity of AA not only enriches our meetings but also our lives, making our recovery journey one that is both deeply personal and universally connected.

To wrap up, living by these principles not only supports our personal recovery but also builds a supportive, diverse AA community where everyone feels valued.

Thank you for participating in this presentation.

Remember, our journey in AA is not just about sobriety but also about growing together in love and tolerance.

**Luca L, Alternate delegate
Area 85**

C-5 REPORT FROM ALTERNATE DELEGATE AREA 86

SUBJECT : UNITY - OUR SECOND LEGACY



UNITY: OUR SECOND LEGACY

PANEL 74

AREA 86 ALTERNATE DELEGATE

TAMMY SOMERVILLE

WHAT IS UNITY ?

Unity and the twelve Traditions

In closing Questions and comments



AGENDA

WHAT IS UNITY?

UNITY AND THE TWELVE TRADITIONS

IN CLOSING

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS



WHAT IS UNITY?

Adherence to Traditions: The Twelve Traditions help maintain order, inclusivity, and a focus on recovery.

Spiritual Connection: Many members find that a shared belief in a higher power (as understood individually) fosters a sense of connection and community.

Respect for Differences: Diversity of thought, experience, and background is embraced, as all members share the desire to stop drinking.



UNITY AND THE TWELVE TRADITIONS

Tradition One

Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends upon AA unity.

Purpose: This tradition emphasizes that the survival of AA depends on the unity of its members. While personal recovery is important, it is interconnected with the group's overall health.

In Practice: Members prioritize the group's collective well-being over personal grievances or differences. This might mean setting aside disagreements to ensure the group remains a safe and supportive space.

Application: During a meeting, a heated discussion arises. Members prioritize mutual respect and focus on the shared goal of recovery rather than personal grievances, ensuring the group remains unified.



Tradition Two

For our group purpose, there is but one ultimate authority—a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern.

Purpose: This tradition underscores humility and collective decision-making. Leadership in AA is about service, not control.

In Practice: Decisions are made through group conscience, often by voting or consensus. Leaders facilitate, but they do not impose authority.

Application: When deciding on a new meeting format, the group holds a vote, trusting the group conscience to guide the decision rather than relying on the opinion of one dominant member.



Tradition Three

The only requirement for AA membership is a desire to stop drinking.

Purpose: This tradition ensures inclusivity and eliminates barriers to membership.

In Practice: Anyone who expresses a desire to stop drinking is welcomed, regardless of age, gender, religion, or other differences.

Application: A newcomer who is uncertain about their drinking problem is welcomed into the group without judgment or the need to prove their qualification.



Tradition Four

Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or AA as a whole.

Purpose: While each group operates independently, this tradition encourages responsibility and consideration for the larger AA community.

In Practice: Groups can choose their meeting format, readings, or traditions, as long as their decisions don't conflict with AA's overall principles or affect other groups negatively.

Application: A local group decides to hold a meditation-focused AA meeting, ensuring their new format doesn't conflict with AA's broader principles or other local meetings.



Tradition Five

Each group has but one primary purpose—to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers.

Purpose: This tradition keeps groups focused on helping others achieve sobriety, avoiding distractions or secondary agendas.

In Practice: Meetings focus on sharing experiences, strength, and hope to inspire and support newcomers and struggling members.

Application: A meeting avoids turning into a social club or therapy group by focusing discussions on personal experiences with alcoholism and recovery.

Tradition Six

An AA group ought never endorse, finance, or lend the AA name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property, and prestige divert us from our primary purpose.

Purpose: This tradition keeps groups focused on helping others achieve sobriety, avoiding distractions or secondary agendas.

In Practice: Meetings focus on sharing experiences, strength, and hope to inspire and support newcomers and struggling members.

Application: A group is approached by a rehab center asking for a public endorsement. The group politely declines to ensure AA's name remains independent and neutral.



Tradition Seven

Every AA group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.

Purpose: Financial independence reinforces AA's autonomy and prevents external influences from undermining its principles.

In Practice: Groups rely on voluntary contributions from members to cover expenses like rent and literature.

Application: A group covers its expenses (e.g., rent, literature) through member contributions, even if funds are tight, rather than accepting a donation from a local business.

Tradition Eight

Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever nonprofessional, but our service centers may employ special workers.

Purpose: The nonprofessional nature of AA ensures equality among members, avoiding a hierarchical structure.

In Practice: Members volunteer their time to help others. Paid roles, like administrative positions in service centers, are limited to necessary functions.

Application: Members volunteer their time to run meetings, while administrative tasks at intergroup offices are handled by paid staff to ensure smooth operation.

Tradition Nine

AA, as such, ought never be organized; but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve.

Purpose: This tradition maintains the informal, flexible structure of AA while allowing for practical organization where needed.

In Practice: Committees handle tasks like coordinating events or maintaining literature, but they remain accountable to the members.

Application: A local group creates a committee to organize events like anniversary meetings, but the committee always reports back to the group for final decisions.

Tradition Ten

Alcoholics Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues; hence the AA name ought never be drawn into public controversy.

Purpose: This tradition protects AA's unity by avoiding divisive topics that could create conflict.

In Practice: Meetings focus solely on recovery, avoiding debates about politics, religion, or social issues.

Application: During a meeting, a member avoids discussing political or social issues to ensure AA remains a safe and neutral space for all.

Tradition Eleven

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.

Purpose: This tradition emphasizes humility and the power of personal example over advertising or publicity.

In Practice: AA relies on word of mouth and members' testimonials to reach those in need, rather than marketing campaigns.

Application: A member sharing their story publicly avoids using their full name or linking their identity to AA to protect the organization's anonymity and integrity.

Tradition Twelve

Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities.

Purpose: This tradition ensures that members focus on AA's principles rather than personal recognition or status.

In Practice: Members maintain anonymity publicly, allowing them to focus on recovery and service rather than individual accomplishments.

Application: Members focus on the shared goal of sobriety rather than individual conflicts, ensuring personal disputes don't detract from the group's unity.

IN CLOSING:

THE DECLARATION OF UNITY

This we owe to A.A.'s future: To place our common welfare first; to keep our fellowship united. For on A.A. unity depend our lives and the lives of those to come.

Tammy S, Alternate delegate
Area 86

C-6 REPORT FROM DELEGATE - PANEL62 / AREA 87

SUBJECT : CERAASA : A BRIEF HISTORY

The origins of CERAASA's date back to 2007-2008. Jo-Anne L. who was then 1 Trustee-at-Large for Canada, submitted the idea of holding a service meeting for our region to the ten Eastern Canada delegates. As a delegate from Area 80 (Manitoba) Panel 52, Jo-Anne L. had experienced the Western Region AA Service Assembly (WRAASA) and thought it would also be a good idea for the Eastern Canadian territory to hold such an assembly. It was no coincidence that she was the keynote speaker who addressed participants after the Saturday evening banquet at the first CERAASA in 2013. She had been invited in gratitude for her suggestion and her leadership in shaping the event. (You can hear her share in *Un jour autrefois* on aa87.org)

Until 2013, delegates from Quebec's four areas had the opportunity to meet several times a year at the Éditions de La Vigne board meetings, at inter-area committee meetings, and at the Provincial Assembly. Ontario delegates also had opportunities to meet, including the ODC (Ontario Delegate Committee). Delegates from Area 81 and 82 in the Maritimes on the other hand, had no such opportunities. At best, outside of the General Service Conference, the ten delegates from Eastern Canada met at the Regional Forum once every two years. Jo-Anne L. believed that a service meeting would help unite the Eastern Canadian region, get members involved, and better prepare Eastern Canadian delegates for the General Service Conference. At that time, six of the eight territories in the Canada/U.S. Conference had such a service assembly.

The very first Regional Service Assembly was held in 1968 in the Pacific Region, PRAASA. In the early '90s, NERAASA held its first activities after current and honorary delegates from the U.S. Northeast Region had attended PRAASA. These delegates had found the Pacific delegates very well prepared for the General Service Conference, and were intrigued. In November 2011, SSAASA did the same for the Southeastern states.

As far back as September 12, 2009, when Ginette W. was the Area 87 delegate, the question of the proposed Canada Eastern Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly (CERAASA) had been raised at the Area Committee. Although there were no developments at this meeting, the question remained as to whether Area 87 would be supportive of such a project, and whether Area 87 would agree to financially support the expenses incurred for its participation in such an assembly.

On November 14, 2009, at the Area Committee meeting, it was asked whether each area of the Eastern Canada Region would support such a project, and whether each of these areas would be willing to financially support the project for its start-up, after which the event would become autonomous in terms of registration fees, and whether the areas could eventually host it.

The discussion continued until the Area Committee meeting of December 12, 2009, when a decision was taken to support the project by a large majority vote of 41 in favor and 1 against. The principle of an Eastern Canada inter-area was thus adopted. However, the term CERAASA was not introduced until 2011, when the guidelines were drawn up. The members present felt that the French-language term ASTECAA sounded better than other suggested acronyms. Previously, Jo-Anne L. had already suggested the English acronym CERAASA, as the acronym ECRAASA for Eastern Canada Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly already existed. ECRAASA stands for East Central Region Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly.

So, it was around 2010 and 2011 that discussions about the feasibility and the agenda of a service assembly took place during conference calls between the ten delegates from the Eastern Canadian Region and their alternates. Richard B. (then the Area 90 delegate, Panel 60) chaired these discussions. As the most bilingual participant, he ensured that the meetings ran smoothly. In 2010, on the Friday afternoon before the Eastern Canada Regional Forum, held at Trois-Rivières, delegates and their alternates gathered at the Delta Hotel to continue the discussions.

Original title: C.E.R.A.A.S.A (Canada Eastern Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly) A brief history 1 by : Pierre C., delegate A87/P62. Thanks to Diane, Jules, Raymond and André for their contribution.

On October 7, 2010, Area 87 delegate, Jules R, informed the members of the Steering Committee of a notice announcing the NERAASA to be held in February 2011 in Area 49, at Tarrytown, New York. It was then decided that Pierre C. and Jules R. would attend to see what all the fuss was about and get some ideas. After talking it over with the other Quebec delegates and registering for the event, Pierre C., Jules R., Richard B., Luc T. (then Chairperson of Area 90) and Estelle F. (then Area 89 delegate) flew out to attend the NERAASA event.

NERAASA turned out to be a fantastic experience with over a thousand participants and a true experience of the inverted triangle. All the presentations that the Quebec delegation attended were made by G.S.R.s, D.C.M.s and Committee chairs. Aside from reading highlights from their areas, current delegates were strongly encouraged to refrain from speaking and to listen to what members had to say. Pierre C. and Jules R. returned to NERAASA in 2012 in Albany, N.Y., accompanied by a dozen members from Areas 87, 88, and 90, and their experience was just as incredible. Area 86 delegate, Percy G., was also in attendance.

It was decided that the first CERAASA would be held in Area 87 at a dinner of the Eastern Canadian delegates to the 61st General Service Conference in 2011. Upon his return from the Conference, Jules R., then Area 87 delegate, Panel 60, informed Pierre C., then alternate delegate for Area 87 and probably the Area 87 delegate in 2013, that he would surely have to take part in organizing the first CERAASA. To make it all official, at the June 11, 2011 Area Committee meeting, Jules R. made the following proposal: That Area 87 host the first CERAASA in 2013. This proposal was adopted unanimously. Although he had seconded the proposal, Pierre C. wasn't sure what he was getting into, or how to organize it.

The first CERAASA in 2013 was modeled on the NERAASA. Some 476 participants were registered and all went well - apart from some reception difficulties with the Walkman's (for live translation) on the Friday evening that were resolved quite simply the next day, one wire just not being tight enough, and translation as some members said they heard the interpreters too close to them. It was with the profit generated at the end of the event that Area 87 was able to purchase the mobile interpreter station. This same set is still in use today at Area 87 assemblies and meetings, as well as at CERAASA.

Another more or less remarkable event was the somewhat chaotic turn of the business meeting that was held during CERAASA and chaired by the Area 87, Panel 50. The guidelines should have been ratified as submitted and before any changes were proposed. That's what you call gaining experience! The turning point in the history of the first CERAASA was undoubtedly the first meeting of the Organizing Committee on April 1, 2012. After an initial round of discussions, all present agreed that at best, perhaps 50 members would be interested in the event, until Pierre C. took the floor to say that he couldn't conceive that ten areas could interest less than 350 people. Area 87 Chairperson Diane H. agreed. In the minutes of the meeting, it is written: "We are doing this event with conviction and enthusiasm, and it will be a success!" Each member of the Committee had a job to do, and it was done with excellence - a team effort signed "we", not "I".

G.S.O. staff member Mary C. was invited to make a presentation at this first CERAASA, along with Barb K., Trustee-at-Large for Canada, and Donald C., the Regional Trustee for Eastern Canada. There was also a table to present and sell our AA literature. Diane P. and Ginette W. did an outstanding job.

As delegate for Area 87, Pierre C. acted as the link with the other nine delegates from Eastern Canada, and his job was to keep them informed of developments and registration numbers at least once a month, and more frequently, as the event got closer. The entire organizing committee was highly committed to ensure things ran smoothly. With the G.S.O.'s permission, a table with a banner

for registrations was even set up at the Eastern Canada Regional Forum at St. Catharines, in Southern Ontario, in July 2012. Furthermore, a few weeks earlier, Jules R. had set up a bilingual website with information in English and French offering the possibility of registering and paying online.

In 2012 and 2013, time was allocated to the organizing committee chairman, Jules R., to report back at Area meetings and assemblies. From December 2012 to January 2013, 5 or 6 members had visited all the districts in Area 87 to speak to G.S.R.s and promote the event. The work of Area 90 members Richard B., Gilles F. and Luc T., should be highlighted for their unfailing support in organizing and promoting the event.

The first Canada Eastern Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly was held February 22, 23 and 24 at the Sandman Hotel in Longueuil, Quebec, on the South shore of Montreal, and was a resounding success with 476 AA members attending! On Friday, we had the pleasure of tasting the delicious *sucre à la crème* (maple fudge) prepared by our Area Chairperson, Diane H. Over the course of the weekend, the hotel staff had never seen alcoholics drink so much coffee, and were totally amazed to see us clear away the chairs and tables at the end of the meeting on Sunday. They'd never seen an organization do that before.

This initial CERAASA was a wonderful occasion to learn more about service, an important aspect of our Three Legacies, and a golden opportunity to share with our AA friends from Eastern Canada.

A wealth of information was made available, such as the history of the General Service Conference, the structure of the Conference, the theme of the 63rd Conference ("The General Service Conference takes stock - our solution at work"), among other things. The program also included a number of presentations, some of which were directly linked to the agenda of the General Services Conference to be held at the end of the following April. Many of the presentations were made by "rank and file" members. There was a great deal of energy at this first meeting. An energy that would undoubtedly spur us on to continue and improve the work of carrying the A.A. message (Excerpt from the *Echo, Eco* Newsletter, Volume 8/Number 2, Spring 2013).

Subsequently, CERAASA was held in Area 83 in Mississauga, ON, in 2015, Area 81 in Moncton, NB, in 2017, Area 90 in Laval, QC in 2019; 2021 none – COVID and in Area 86 in St. Catharines, ON, in 2023.

Pierre C, P62
Area 87

C-7 REPORT FROM ALTERNATE DELAGATE OF AREA 88

SUBJECT : PASS IT ON - RECOVERY, OUR FIRST LEGACY

"Each group has but one primary purpose—to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers."

Carrying the Message

"Every A.A. member has the unique ability to identify with the newcomer and offer them a path to recovery. This has nothing to do with education, eloquence, or any personal talent. The only thing that matters is that they possess a way to achieve sobriety."

"Their suffering and their recovery constitute a heritage that alcoholics can easily share with one another. This is the gift that God has given us, and carrying this gift to others is the sole purpose that drives A.A. throughout the world." (Twelve & Twelve, p. 152-153)

"Practicing the Steps leads us to an eager desire to carry our message to other suffering alcoholics." "And through the divine paradox of this form of generosity, they have already received their reward, whether their brother has benefited or not." (Twelve & Twelve, p. 110)

In the Beginning

Our legacy originates from a meeting between Bill W. and his childhood friend, Ebby T. The message Ebby transmitted to Bill was purely spiritual in nature—he had to believe in and hold onto something greater than himself.

From the very beginning, A.A. grew thanks to the efforts of individual members who moved or traveled for business. We only need to think of Bill and Dr. Bob, whose meeting was the result of Bill's travels.

One of the first international members, Captain Jack, carried the message of hope from port to port throughout his life as a merchant marine. Today, A.A. is present in 181 countries with 66 General Service Offices worldwide (*A.A. Around the World – GSO Resource*).

Carrying the Message on a larger Scale

The message of hope in A.A. was first transmitted person to person, and then the early members had the idea to publish their experience, strength, and hope in book form. Since then, the literature provided by A.A. World Services has become a rich and varied resource for carrying the message and helping alcoholics.

From its early years, A.A. has also used media outreach to reach as many alcoholics as possible. A prime example is the article by journalist Jack Alexander, published in 1941, which introduced A.A. to thousands of people.

Today, A.A. uses a wide range of communication tools to spread the hope of recovery through both audio and visual media. Various public service messages are available for individuals and professionals who work with alcoholics.

In Quebec, we publish a French-language magazine every two months, *La Vigne* (now called *La Vigne 2.0*). This publication provides valuable information for those seeking solutions to stop drinking and includes experience shares from members who have overcome the disease *one day at a time*. Since 1965, *La Vigne* has been an invaluable tool for carrying the message of hope.

Carrying the Message Through Service

Everything in A.A. exists because of service and the members who make it happen. Carrying the message also means being willing to serve both the Fellowship and its members.

Dr. Bob once said: *"If we fail to develop a spirit of service, we will have missed the greatest gift that A.A. has to offer—the ability to give away our sobriety and keep it."* (*Sponsorship: A Bridge to Service and Sobriety*)

Ultimately, all service in A.A. exists for the sole purpose of carrying the message of hope, helping others find happiness and freedom.

Maintaining Unity to Carry the Message

"To allow each person to recover and to continue carrying the message effectively, the group and the Fellowship must remain united. Without unity, the heart of A.A. would cease to beat, and we would once again find ourselves in isolation. We do not have to agree on everything, but there is one common goal we can all strive for: our primary purpose." (*Experience Has Taught Us: An Introduction to Our Twelve Traditions*)

"May we never forget that without lasting unity, we can only offer fleeting relief to the tens of thousands who have not yet joined us in their quest for freedom." (*A.A. Tradition: Its History and Development*)

The transmission of the message, which began through individual efforts and expanded to a global scale, remains at the core of our mission. By maintaining our unity and practicing the Steps, we can continue to offer a precious lifeline to those who need it.

Thank You for your Commitment.

Paule Rouillard, Alternate Delegate
Area 88

C-8 REPORT FROM ALTERNATE DELEGATE AREA

SUBJECT : SERVICE- OUR THIRD LEGACY

Method Used

Hello, my name is Michel C., Alternate Delegate for Region 89 (Northeast Quebec), and I am an alcoholic. My sobriety date is September 20, 1987.

Usually, when I need to write about the AA movement, I refer not only to *As Bill Sees It* but also to the *AA Service Manual*.

I treasure this small book, which I acquired on April 23, 1988. However, I primarily use the electronic versions of both books on all my devices—computer, tablet, and phone.

This allows me to highlight passages, quickly retrieve excerpts, and conduct keyword searches.

Although Bill passed away on January 24, 1971, all the writings he left behind have helped me get to know him better, and most importantly, appreciate him—just as one appreciates a friend.

His experience and the wisdom of his words make him an incomparable service sponsor, even though he is no longer with us...

Since it is impossible to describe and explain all aspects of service in just a few minutes, here are some excerpts I have chosen to elaborate on the concept of service, based on Bill's writings.

What is Service?

- It is everything that helps us reach out to a fellow still suffering, including:
- A phone call, a cup of coffee
- A meeting place
- An intergroup office, the General Service Office
- Publications: books and pamphlets
- Conventions, conferences, meetings, committees
- Trusted servants, coordinators, delegates, administrators...
- Voluntary contributions
- The sum of all these services and many others constitutes our **Third Legacy: Service**

Willingness and Choice

- We can try to live with honesty and humility, selflessly serving our fellows and God as we understand Him.
- As we continue making these choices and progressing toward our higher aspirations, we regain sanity, and our **irresistible urge to drink disappears**.

Privileged People

- I should have felt gratitude rather than self-sufficiency.
- Gratitude for having suffered from alcoholism at one point.
- Gratitude for the miraculous recovery made possible by God.
- **Gratitude for the privilege of serving my fellow alcoholics.**
- Gratitude for the brotherly bonds that continually strengthen my connection with them in a fellowship few associations ever experience.
- **The Work of All and Each One**
- We thank our Heavenly Father, who has allowed us to build this magnificent spiritual edifice in which we now dwell—this cathedral whose foundations are already laid across the four corners of the earth.
- Engraved on its vast floor are our **Twelve Steps of Recovery**.
- On the walls of this cathedral, we have seen the **AA Traditions** rise like buttresses to preserve our unity as long as God deems it fit...
- **Its bell tower bears the name Service.** May it always point toward God.

Leadership in AA

- A leader in AA service:
- Is a man or woman who can personally apply
- Principles, guidelines, and action plans
- With enough dedication and efficiency
- That we all feel inspired to support and assist them in their work.

Faith – A Plan – Work

- Nothing is truer for AA members than this passage from the Bible:

Faith without works is dead.

- **AA service**, all designed to facilitate the practice of the **Twelfth Step**, offers us activities that allow us to live and grow... in our recovery.

In Conclusion

- Bill is my friend in service.
- By engaging in service with honesty and humility, my irresistible need to drink has disappeared.
- I feel gratitude for the privilege of serving my AA fellows.
- Service is AA's spiritual structure.
- A leader in AA is someone who inspires us to support and help them in their work.
- Service is designed to foster the practice of the Twelfth Step.
- Service is like virtual money that you deposit into your sobriety wallet.

Michel C, Alternate delegate

Area 89

C-9 REPORT FROM ALTERNATE DELEGATE AREA 90

SUBJECT : THE IMPORTANCE OF BRIDGING THR GAP

A little background...

Temporary contacts

Back in 2012-2013, I was myself in charge of temporary contacts for District 14 of Area 90. The responsibilities were limited to operate the program Bridging the Gap to have someone on that job. I visited all groups to collect a list of volunteers that could accompany individual members getting out of treatment. The larger the list, the better the chances to find a match for the gender, the age group and the geographical proximity of the newcomer.

What does the program Bridging the Gap?

A simple 12th Step work

- One drunk talking to another, each reinforcing the other's understanding that they can find a way to face life sober and build meaningful relationships without alcohol.
- A.A. members have volunteered to be temporary contacts and introduce newcomers from treatment centers to Alcoholics Anonymous.

Introduce types of meetings

- The difference between opened and closed meetings is explained to the newcomer by the member.
- The newcomer is accompanied by the member to various types of meetings including online meetings. He is offered a meeting list and shown how to use the Meeting Guide app.

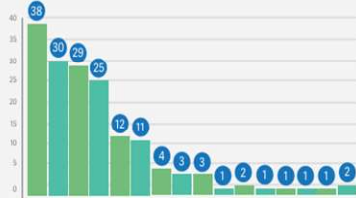
Explain key ideas to get started

- The member introduces Conference approved literature (starting with the Big Book).
- Member explains the importance to become an active member of a home group.
- Member the newcomer what sponsorship is, based on the pamphlet Questions & Answers on Sponsorship, and, if applicable, helps the newcomer to find a sponsor.

Why is this program so important? Some data from the 2022 Membership

What got you here?

A remarkable effect takes place when an alcoholic asks for help, and someone shares with them that Alcoholics Anonymous can be a possible solution. Other A.A. members, professionals, families and even information found surfing the Internet or on social media have led them to their first A.A. meeting.



These numbers do not add up to 100% because respondents were allowed to select more than one.

A.A. member	38%
On my own	30%
Treatment facility	29%
Family	25%

What keeps you here?



Meeting Attendance



Members attend an average of
2 A.A. meetings per week
*See more information on aa.org.

Most A.A. members find it important to belong to one group they call their "home group." This is the group where they attend meetings regularly and try to sustain friendships with other members. While all A.A. members are welcome at all groups, the concept of the home group helps to maintain a strong bond with the Fellowship.

Additional Help

Percentage of members who received some type of treatment or counseling (such as medical, psychological, spiritual, etc.) related to their drinking, either before or after coming to A.A.

BEFORE coming to A.A.

60% 79% of those members who received treatment or counseling said it played an important part in directing them to A.A.

AFTER coming to A.A.

56% 86% of those members who received treatment or counseling said it played an important part in their recovery from alcoholism.

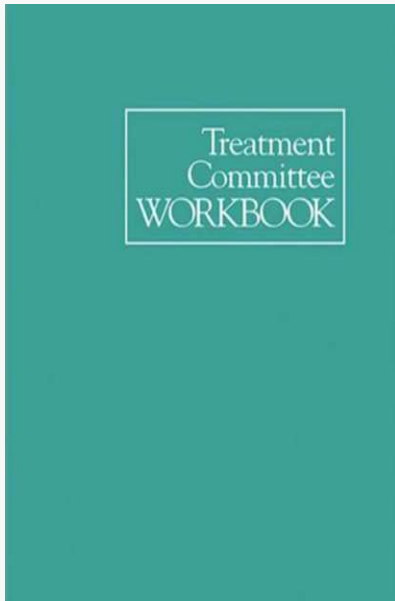


Relationship with Healthcare Professionals

53% Referred to A.A. by a counselor, medical or mental health professional.

77% Members' doctors know they are in A.A.

Temporary Contacts Program



Simply put, a temporary contact is an A.A. member who works with newly sober individuals who are being discharged from treatment settings and helps them bridge the gap to A.A. in the local community. The pamphlet "Bridging the Gap" was developed to provide information to A.A. members about temporary contact programs. It contains general guidelines and suggestions for temporary contacts and includes important points to remember. Bridging the Gap through temporary contact programs may be handled differently in various parts of the U.S. and Canada. In some places, this service may be under the auspices of the Area Treatment Committee or a Hospitals and Institutions Committee. Some areas have formed "Bridging the Gap" Committees while others have a Temporary Contact Service as a committee separate from the Treatment Committee. In many places, A.A. committees inform treatment settings about the temporary contact service and are given opportunities to present information directly to the newcomers. Then it is up to the newcomer to let A.A. know if he or she wishes to have a temporary contact upon discharge. Some temporary contact services accept requests for temporary contacts from either treatment professionals or those in treatment.

Setting Up a Temporary Contact Program

Many temporary contact programs are channeled through Area General Service Committee or through intergroup offices, either through their Treatment, CPC, or Institutions Committees. Those committees may coordinate to obtain lists of A.A. temporary contacts. Sometimes, if the intergroup office has referred an individual to a detox unit, an automatic system of temporary contacts is set up for that individual upon his or her release. In some areas, individual groups sponsor an A.A. meeting at the treatment facility and initiate temporary contact connections with newcomers as the latter get ready to leave the facility. In most cases, however, the more effective programs seem to result from a group's working through a local Treatment Committee.

Scores of A.A. volunteers across the United States and Canada are helping to bridge the critical gap between treatment and Alcoholics Anonymous. Bridging the Gap committees everywhere have found that literature is of enormous help in carrying the A.A. message. Many use GSO's pamphlet "Bridging the Gap," but increasing numbers are developing their own fliers and pamphlets to satisfy local needs. Because these are produced for individual areas and not for A.A. as a whole, they do not require the approval of the General Service Conference.

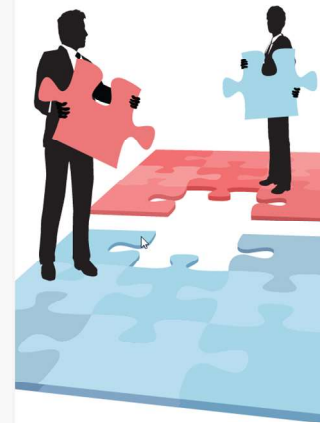
Some interesting resources:

AA.org literature/Pamphlets

- FM-40I Treatment Committee Workbook
- FP-49 Bridging the Gap
- FP-27 A.A. in Treatment Settings
- F-183 Bridging the Gap Request – For people in Treatment
- F-184 A.A. Temporary Contact / Bridging the Gap Volunteer – for A.A.s on the outside
- FP-48 Alcoholics Anonymous 2022 Membership Survey

Bridging the GAP

Becoming a temporary
contact between
treatment and A.A.



In conclusion

I hope I could demonstrate the important goal of this program: Bridging the Gap is having a hand from one drunk to another, through a temporary contact, to promote understanding of the first steps in A.A., by attending meetings, belonging to a home group, sponsoring and literature.

Did we establish links with those numerous resources? Let the work continue!

**Melanie C, Alternate delegate
Area90**

D- REPORT FROM DELEGATES

D-1 REPORT FROM DELEGATE AREA 81

SUBJECT : THE CONFERENCE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Good afternoon. I am an alcoholic. My name is Marietta MacC, General Service Delegate, Panel 74, Area 81 New Brunswick/ Prince Edward Island.

My assignment for 2024- 2025 is to the Conference Finance Committee (or CFC). Persons making up the committee are 4- 5 first year delegates and 4-5 second year delegates. These delegates are determined by lot held in December of each year which means that their names are drawn out of a hat. AA staff members are non-voting secretaries of the committee. This committee corresponds to Trustees Finance and Budgetary Committee (or TFBC). According to the AA Service Manual, CFC's focus is on three main functions as follows:

- Review the budget and financial reports of A.A. World Services and AA Grapevine
- Review or initiate Conference recommendations that involve finances
- Stay abreast of the Fellowship's needs, including annual budgets and income needed to carry out service work

During Conference Week, all committees meet twice early in the week. Discussion is held on the agenda items assigned to the committee. Agenda items are usually related to the committee, though additional items may go to a different group through Equal Distribution of Workload considerations. A report is generated that goes to the full Conference body later in the Conference Week.

Marietta Mac C, delegate
Area 81 Panel 74

D-2 REPORT FROM DELAGATE AREA 83

SUBJECT : THE CONFERENCE REPORT AND CHARTER COMMITTEE

The conference **Report and Charter Committee** plays a crucial role in reviewing and maintaining the integrity of Alcoholics Anonymous' governing documents, including **The A.A. Service Manual** and the **Conference Charter**. As one of the original four committees of the first General Service Conference, the committee ensures the **Conference Final Report** is released on schedule and is accurate. Additionally, it is responsible for reviewing and recommending improvements to the Conference Final Report in terms of **format, method of reporting, style, and content** to enhance clarity and accessibility.

Since its establishment, the committee has been tasked with evaluating proposed changes to these governing documents, ensuring consistency, and making updates that reflect the evolving needs of A.A.

Key Responsibilities:

The Report and Charter Committee primarily focuses on the following areas:

1. Considering any proposal or recommendation for change in *The A.A. Service Manual* (which includes the Conference Charter) and in the *Twelve Concepts for World Service* and offering these recommendations to the Conference as a whole.
2. Proposing any change considered desirable for changing and improving the format, method of reporting, style or content of the Conference *Final Report*.

3. Reviewing the rough drafts of the Conference *Final Report* and tear sheets of all changes to *The A.A. Service Manual* with careful attention to accuracy, completeness of reporting, together with any other suggestion that may occur.
4. Establishing a deadline for examining the rough drafts of the Conference *Final Report* and *The A.A. Service Manual* and returning to G.S.O. with corrections or suggestions, usually within 14 days of receipt.

As of February 10th, I am aware of 4 categories of Agenda items that the Report and Charter Committee are to consider at the 75th General Service Conference (A-D below).

A. Discuss the Service Manual, 2026-2028 Edition:

1. Review list of editorial updates.
2. Review progress report on the development of a new section "Amendments" to be added to the Twelve Concepts for World Service.
3. Consider a request to remove the phrase, "A group may also decline to hear reports from a GSR at all" from page 10 in the A.A. Service Manual. **(PAI 72)**
4. Consider a request to remove the word "woman" from the Concept IV essay. **(PAI 75,124)**

B. Consider a request to expand Article Three in the Conference Charter to protect the co-Founders' writings. (PAIs 81,15, 26 and 109)

C. Review progress report on exploring the creation of a corresponding Trustees' committee for Report and Charter.

D. Discuss General Service Conference Final Report.

PAI 72 as background for Agenda item A3. (above):

PAI 72 - Delete or erase the last sentence on page 10 of our Service Manual in English and Spanish regarding RSG Reports. "A group may also decline to hear reports from a GSR at all." (This phrase is also present in the French edition of the Service Manual)

PAI 75, and 124 as background for Agenda item A4. (above):

PAI 75 - Remove the word "woman" from the following sentence of the Concept IV, Right of Participation, essay in the Twelve Concepts for World Service portion of the Service Manual: New volunteer corporate directors will ask why any paid woman staff member should also be a corporate director and thereby have a vote as good as their own.

PAI 124 - A change is being proposed to a sentence in the Concept IV (Right of Participation) essay on pg. C13 in the second full paragraph which currently reads: New corporate directors will ask why any paid woman staff workers should also be a director and thereby have a vote as good as their own...The change would be to eliminate the word "woman" in this sentence.

PAI 81, 15, 26, and 109 as background for Agenda item B (above):

PAI 81 - Area 35, Northern Minnesota, would like to add to AA's Current Conference Charter under article #3, that A.A.W.S. and Grapevine publications of pre-1972 "Founders Writings" have no contextual changes to their writings without a supermajority of ¾ approval from the full General Service Conference.

Books this includes but is not limited to AAWS publications:

- *Alcoholics Anonymous* (Big Book)
 - specifically, The Doctor's Opinion, the first 164 pages plus two stories Dr. Bobs Nightmare along with AA Number Three and Appendix II Spiritual Experience
- *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*
- *As Bill Sees It*
- *Alcoholics Anonymous Comes of Age*
- *Our Great Responsibility*
- Twelve Concepts essays currently in *The A.A. Service Manual*

AAWS pamphlets and other literature:

- Problems other than Alcohol
- Let's be Friendly with Our Friends etc.
- Including Grapevine publications,
- Language of the Heart
- Best of Bill along with
- any archival articles pre-1972 written by our Founders both Alcoholic: Bill W., Dr. Bob S., Hank P., Bobbie B., etc., and non-alcoholics: Dr. Silkworth, Father Dowling, Dr. Harry Tiebout, Bernard Smith, Frank Amos, etc. These writings should be left intact.

PAI 15 - Whenever any changes are brought to the Conference floor to the Founders' writings, considered by this motion to be:

1. The book *Alcoholics Anonymous* — specifically, the first 164 pages, the chapter "The Doctor's Opinion," Forewords to the first and second editions, the Appendices on Spiritual Awakening and the Traditions, and Dr. Bob's Nightmare
2. The book *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*

the Conference must achieve a super-majority of 75% in order for the General Service Board to act upon it. However, the General Service Board shall not immediately act upon the Conference's directions, and instead, shall request all Area Delegates to conduct further discussions in their respective Areas. Area delegates' report backs will be conducted the second following General Service Conference at which the Conference may amend or change the previously approved change to the Founders' writings described above. For final action by the General Service Board, the Conference must achieve substantial unanimity 67%.

PAI 26 - (Not provided with the November PAI release)

PAI 109 - In accordance with Appendix L: Resolution authorizing the general service conference, our motion would include all registered A.A. worldwide groups. Our request is that the explanations of the Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions, and Twelve Concepts from the Appendices in the book; Plain Language Big Book: A Tool for Reading *Alcoholics Anonymous*, be sent to all the registered A.A. groups worldwide so they are suitably notified of modifications and would have the right to vote on them.

Amy L

Delegate | Panel 75

Area 83 | Eastern Ontario

Definition of Contextual:

***contextual* (adjective)**

1. depending on or relating to the circumstances that form the setting for an event, statement, or idea:
"he included contextual information in footnotes"
2. depending on the preceding or following parts of a text to clarify meaning:
"they have limited practice in working out the meaning of unfamiliar material from contextual clues"

D-3 REPORT FROM DELEGATE AREA 84

SUBJECT : CONFERENCE GRAPEVINE COMMITTEE

Hello friends I am an alcoholic. My name is Alan Wilkinson I have the honour and privilege to serve as Delegate for Panel 74, Area 84 Northeastern Ontario. I am assigned to the Grapevine/La Vina Conference Committee for the 75th General Service Conference. Thank you to the Canadian Eastern regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly committee for putting this weekend together for our region to come together and share this experience.

AAGV items are published for several reasons: first, to carry the message of Alcoholics Anonymous through stories from members and friends of the Fellowship; and second, to help GV maintain its self-supporting status. Furthermore, GV items provide a service to the Fellowship by making Grapevine and La Viña articles available in a wide range of formats: print, audio and digital. They also introduce both magazine titles through these anthologies to those who are unfamiliar with them; and help deepen members' interest and understanding of the Steps, Traditions, and history of Alcoholics Anonymous.

Composition

There are not more than nine voting members of this committee and a nonvoting secretary.

The new panel members will be selected by lot geographically in mid-December (at the time of the A.A.W.S. Board meeting), in the presence of two trustees or members of the Trustees Conference Committee.

The members of the committee will include:

Not more than five delegates from the previous year's panel (they continue to serve on this Committee for their second year).

And

Not more than five delegates from the current year's panel. The new chairperson and alternate chairperson are elected by written ballot at the final committee meeting from the first-year panel members and take office immediately following the Conference.

Grapevine Conference Committee

Panel 74

Matthew L** - Area 7, Northern Interior CA

Diane R - Area 35, Northern Minnesota

Jim T - Area 70, Vermont

Alan W - Area 84, Northeast Ontario

Liz W* - Area 16, Georgia

Panel 75

Stan C - Area 13, Washington, D.C.

Martha M - Area 10, Colorado

Bob S - Area 75, Southern Wisconsin

Courtney S - Area 72, Western Washington

Secretary: Paola M

Secretary: Jon W

Scope

The Grapevine Committee was formed in 1954. It is responsible for reviewing the development and circulation of the Grapevine for the past year at the individual and group level. Its members are invited to make suggestions and recommendations in any area of the Grapevine, including material and format.

Procedure

1. Meet as a committee during the annual meeting of the General Service Conference.
2. Meet jointly at least once with the A.A. Grapevine Corporate Board during the annual meeting.
3. When appropriate, make recommendations, reached in committee by majority vote, to the entire Conference.
4. Present these recommendations to the Conference for approval, disapproval, or

amendment in a report given by the committee chairperson.

5. Maintain correspondence with the committee secretary and other committee members during the year.

75th General Service Conference Grapevine Agenda Items.

A. Review AA Grapevine Workbook.

B. Consider the list of suggested Grapevine book topics for 2026 or after.

C. Review the 5-year financial plan for La Viña.

D. Review the progress report on a plan for a more effective La Viña subscription. procedure, fulfillment process and customer service experience.

E. Review the financial reporting system for the Grapevine and La Viña.

F. Consider request to revise the pamphlet “Grapevine and La Vina: Our meetings “in print.”

Background information not available until February 17th – 23rd.

AA Grapevine, Inc. Financial Report - Grapevine

Grapevine					
	December 2024 Actual YTD	December 2024 Reforecast	Variance Actual vs. Reforecast	December 2023 Actual YTD	Variance 2024 vs. 2023
Circulation					
GV Magazine Circulation	45,048	46,000	(952)		
GV Complete (print & online)	5,422	5,745	(323)		
GV Online	3,149	4,800	(1,651)		
GV App	5,571	7,900	(2,329)		
Total Circulation	59,189	64,445	(5,256)	54,569	4,620
Financial Activity					
Income					
Gross Margin on subs/App Gross	829,581	970,700	(141,119)	575,467	254,114
Gross Margin-Books and other items	791,632	794,564	(2,932)	651,461	140,171
Gross Margin	\$1,621,212	1,765,264	(144,052)	1,226,928	394,285
Expenses					
Editorial	703,115	717,239	(14,124)	1,087,961	(384,846)
Circulation & Business	1,608,812	1,611,289	(2,477)	913,979	694,833
General & Administrative	126,735	118,786	7,949	88,894	37,841
Total Expenses	2,438,662	2,447,314	(8,652)	2,090,834	347,828
Interest earned on Reserve Fund	9,600	9,600	0	6,760	2,840
Net Income(Loss)	(\$807,850)	(\$672,450)	(\$135,400)	(\$857,146)	\$49,296

AA Grapevine, Inc. Financial Report - La Viña:

La Vina					
	December 2024 Actual YTD	December 2024 Reforecast	Variance Actual vs. Reforecast	December 2023 Actual YTD	Variance 2024 vs. 2023
Circulation					
GV Magazine Circulation	7,006	7,300	(294)		
GV Complete (print & online)	131	113	18		
GV Online	80	56	24		
GV App	275	400	(125)		
Total Circulation	7,492	7,869	(377)	6,392	1,100
Financial Activity					
Income					
Gross Margin on subs/App Gross	11,568	36,171	(24,603)	30,372	(18,804)
Gross Margin-Books and other items	97,356	93,366	3,990	108,728	(11,371)
Gross Margin	\$108,925	129,537	(20,612)	139,100	(30,175)
Expenses					
Editorial	302,366	347,268	(44,902)	568,639	(266,272)
Circulation & Business	353,049	316,094	36,955	313,124	39,925
General & Administrative	18,959	27,350	(8,391)	13,086	5,872
Total Expenses	674,374	690,712	(16,338)	894,849	(220,475)
Contribution GSB	565,449	561,175	4,274	755,749	(190,300)
Net Income(Loss)	-	-	-	-	-

Ways to improve our bottom line.

Downloading the Grapevine App, and subscribing for a digital copy, or combined subscription getting the Grapevine digitally and in print.

The download is free, simple, and easy to use. There is podcast, back issues, meeting guide app, sobriety counter, and of course the quote of the day.

Yours In Love and Service

Alan W

Panel 74, Area 84, Northeastern Ontario

Grapevine/La Vina Conference Committee

D-4 REPORT FROM DELEGATE AREA 85

SUBJECT (A) : GENERAL SERVICE COMMITTEE ON CORRECTIONS

I. History and Highlights of Actions

a. 1976-1980

- i. In 1976, the General Service Conference divided committees into Correctional Institutions and Hospital/Rehabilitation Centers.

- ii. In 1977, the Institutions Committee was dissolved, creating separate committees for Correctional and Treatment Facilities.
 - iii. By 1978, a new inmate pamphlet titled 'It Sure Beats Sitting in a Cell' was approved for production.
 - iv. In 1979, further recommendations included adding pamphlets to discount packages and exploring a filmstrip based on the new inmate pamphlet.
 - v. In 1980, emphasis was placed on cooperation with correctional facilities and prerelease sponsorship for inmates.
- b. 1981-1985**
- i. In 1981, the committee recommended continuing the pamphlet 'Memo to an Inmate Who May Be an Alcoholic'.
 - ii. In 1982, it was proposed to translate key pamphlets into Spanish due to the high Spanish-speaking population in prisons.
 - iii. The development of a Correctional Facilities Workbook was recommended in 1983 to facilitate A.A. messaging in correctional facilities.
 - iv. By 1984, the committee aimed to simplify the language of pamphlets and include correctional facilities news in existing communication channels.
 - v. In 1985, it was emphasized that A.A. members must comply with correctional facility rules while carrying the message.
- c. 1986-1990**
- i. 1986 recommendations included film production and pamphlet revisions for inmates.
 - ii. A.A. emphasized the importance of sponsoring inmates upon release from prison.
 - iii. By 1988, new pamphlets were proposed to inform both inmates and facility administrators about A.A.
 - iv. The committee aimed to improve outreach to illiterate inmates through audiotapes and other resources.
 - v. 1990 focused on community involvement and new resources for A.A. groups in correctional facilities.
- d. 1991-1995**
- i. The committee recommended producing a 60-minute audiotape featuring diverse inmate stories from A.A. in Prison.
 - ii. They proposed a softcover version of the Correctional Facilities Workbook for improved accessibility and cost savings.
 - iii. The committee discussed the discontinuation of the Correctional Facilities Directory, deeming it unhelpful for inmates.
 - iv. They emphasized the importance of local autonomy in decisions regarding correctional facility group representation in A.A.
 - v. The need for enhanced guidelines and resources for working with correctional facility populations was highlighted in multiple meetings.
- e. 1996-2000**
- i. The committee recommended producing a video to boost A.A. participation in correctional facilities, costing approximately \$20,000.
 - ii. A quarterly newsletter aimed at inmates and A.A. members on the inside was proposed, estimated to cost \$6,000 annually.

- iii. Changes to pamphlets and literature were suggested to improve communication and relevance for A.A. members and correctional professionals.
- iv. The video 'Carrying the Message Behind These Walls' received approval with minor adjustments to protect anonymity.
- v. The committee emphasized the need for ongoing literature reviews and informational outreach to correctional facility administrators.

f. 2001-2005

- i. The committee emphasized that prior incarceration is not necessary to share A.A. experiences in correctional settings.
- ii. It was agreed to update the Correctional Facilities Kit with the service piece accompanying the video 'Carrying the Message Behind These Walls.'
- iii. The committee called for improved communication among local A.A. committees to enhance outreach efforts.
- iv. Recommendations were made for developing guidelines and training for correctional personnel regarding A.A. programs.
- v. The committee suggested increasing the visibility of the 'Singleness of Purpose' statement in relevant A.A. literature.

g. 2006-2010

- i. A media presentation on A.A. for correctional personnel is recommended for development and approval.
- ii. The draft manuscript 'A.A. in Prison: Inmate to Inmate' was approved for publication.
- iii. Suggestions for improving the Corrections Kit and Workbook include adding magazines and DVDs.
- iv. The committee discussed revisions to several pamphlets to better align with current A.A. practices in corrections.
- v. Future efforts will focus on ensuring consistency across language versions of corrections materials.

h. 2011-2015

- i. The pamphlet 'A.A. in Correctional Facilities' will feature broader types of meetings including Step, Tradition, and Big Book studies.
- ii. A draft revision of 'It Sure Beats Sitting in a Cell' was approved, targeting the needs of young, incarcerated alcoholics.
- iii. The term 'Release and paroles' is being changed to 'Re-entry and Parole' for clarity in communications.
- iv. A new video to replace 'It Sure Beats Sitting in a Cell' is proposed, with a budget not exceeding \$70,000.
- v. The committee is focused on improving the Corrections Correspondence Service by addressing volunteer participation and geographic criteria.

i. 2016-2020

- i. The committee recommended renaming the video to 'A New Freedom' and creating various versions for different audiences.
- ii. Efforts were made to improve Spanish-speaking outreach and access to corrections correspondence services.

- iii. Updates and revisions to corrections service materials were suggested, including creating pamphlets for inmates about prerelease.
- iv. The committee noted the importance of providing staple-free materials due to increased security restrictions in correctional facilities.
- v. Digital distribution of A.A. literature in correctional settings is being explored to enhance accessibility.

j. 2021-2024

- i. The committee recommended changing 'inmate' and 'offender' to 'person in custody' in A.A.W.S. literature.
- ii. There is a push for better digital literature access for alcoholics in correctional settings.
- iii. The committee affirmed the need for inclusive language as outlined by the 71st General Service Conference.
- iv. Changes to A.A. literature will be made slowly, maintaining our primary purpose.
- v. A pamphlet on the transgender alcoholic in A.A. is to be developed for future consideration.

II. Current Committee Agenda Items

- a. Review content and format of Corrections Kit and Workbook.
- b. Review progress report on development of a pamphlet on the transgender alcoholic in A.A (Transferred from another committee due to Equitable Distribution of Workload)

SUBJECT (B) : CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS AND REGIONAL FORUMS

I. History and Highlights of Actions

- a. The committee focused on improving Regional and Special Forums through increased flexibility and accessibility.
- b. Suggestions included early organization, better communication, and tailored advertising to boost participation.
- c. The importance of incorporating translations for Spanish and French speakers was emphasized to promote inclusivity.
- d. Local Forums were introduced to meet specific community needs and enhance member engagement.
- e. The use of digital communication and social media is encouraged for disseminating information about upcoming forums.

II. Composition Scope and Procedure

- a. The committee focused on improving Regional and Special Forums through increased flexibility and accessibility.
- b. Suggestions included early organization, better communication, and tailored advertising to boost participation.
- c. The importance of incorporating translations for Spanish and French speakers was emphasized to promote inclusivity.

- d. Local Forums were introduced to meet specific community needs and enhance member engagement.
 - e. The use of digital communication and social media is encouraged for disseminating information about upcoming forums.
- III. Site Selections**
- a. Enhancing Engagement in Regional and Local A.A. Forums
 - b. The committee focused on improving Regional and Special Forums through increased flexibility and accessibility.
 - c. Suggestions included early organization, better communication, and tailored advertising to boost participation.
 - d. The importance of incorporating translations for Spanish and French speakers was emphasized to promote inclusivity.
 - e. Local Forums were introduced to meet specific community needs and enhance member engagement.
 - f. The use of digital communication and social media is encouraged for disseminating information about upcoming forums.
- IV. Committee Inventory**
- a. In 1999, the committee requested that the Trustee's Committee on International Conventions/Regional Forums implement an inventory to be discussed in the 2000 Conference Committee on International Conventions/Regional Forums. In 2001, the inventory was positive overall and fulfilling their purpose as a committee. The committee also agreed to another inventory be made in the future, a single inventory questionnaire be sent out midway between conventions.
- V. International Conventions by year (1955-2035)**
- a. Year by year the Site Selection process and what cities were also considered. Additional committee considerations that formed the way the committee runs today. The evolution of the International Convention as times change and how to improvements were made.
- VI. Regional, Special and Local Forums**
- a. Enhancing Engagement in Regional and Local A.A. Forums
 - b. The committee focused on improving Regional and Special Forums through increased flexibility and accessibility.
 - c. Suggestions included early organization, better communication, and tailored advertising to boost participation.
 - d. The importance of incorporating translations for Spanish and French speakers was emphasized to promote inclusivity.
 - e. Local Forums were introduced to meet specific community needs and enhance member engagement.
 - f. The use of digital communication and social media is encouraged for disseminating information about upcoming forums.
- VII. Current Committee agenda items**
- a. Discuss the upcoming 2025 International Convention.
 - b. Review progress report on the development of new declaration to be adopted at the 2030 International Convention.

- c. Consider that all Sovereign States flags be a part of the Flag Ceremony at an International Convention.
- d. Discuss ways to encourage interest and participation at Regional Forums.

Joel C, Delegate
Area 85, Panel 75

D-5 REPORT FROM DELEGATE AREA 86

SUBJECT : CPC (CO-OPERATION WITH PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY) AT THE CONFERENCE

I am powerless over alcohol, and I am an active member of the Triangle Action Group in Hamilton, and my name is Dan. Triangle Action is in District 21 on Hamilton Mountain, (which is not a mountain but a 500ft Limestone Outcrop) and we are currently meeting on Wednesdays at 8:00pm plus we have added a closed discussion meeting on Sunday @10AM and the irony is not lost on me.

It is an honor and a privilege to serve with and for Area 86 as your Delegate here in Panel 74 and I also serve the fellowship as a member of the CPC (Co-operation with the Professional Community) at the General Service Conference

On behalf of Area 86 I bring greetings and good tidings.

Today I serve CERAASA and I have been asked to present on the Co-operation with the Professional Community Committee.

So, lets begin with a little history:

In 1971 The 21st General Service Conference recommended the formation of the Conference Committee on Professional Relations to broaden and supplement the activities of the trustees' committee of the same name, established in 1970. The committee deals with A.A.'s relations with outside agencies and other professional groups or individuals concerned with alcoholism, which were formerly handled by the Public Information Committee.

Beginning in 1972, the committee, comprising five Panel 22 members, held its first meeting and recommended that:

- A.A. members approach the professional community without anxiety or fear, but with confidence that we have something to offer the alcoholic – through the professional.
- .A. members approach the professional with the point of view that we have a mutual interest in helping the alcoholic, and with the idea of sharing our 37 years of experience as a resource for alcoholics – that we in A.A. stand individually and collectively prepared to perform the function of Alcoholics Anonymous in the total care of the alcoholic
- The G.S.O. staff prepare a draft of the Conference committee's Composition, Scope and Procedure for their approval and suggestions.
- The Conference approves the publication of the pamphlet "If You Are a Professional . . ." with minor editorial changes.
- The secretary sends each member of the committee a copy of the monthly report of professional relations activity

A solid foundation was made, and the committees work began to compliment AA's ongoing efforts to carry the message to all who need to hear it.

To accommodate the time allotted I will attempt to keep the remarks to a select number of recommendations since its inception in **1971**

In **1973**, the committee **recommended** that the question of attempting to carry the message of Alcoholics Anonymous to the U.S.S.R. should be referred to the Third A.A. World Service Meeting.

In **1975** the committee **recommended** that the film "Bill's Own Story" may be shown at orientation sessions in rehab facilities provided it is under the control of an A.A. member

In **1976** the committee **recommended** that That to improve communication between A.A. and the professional community, we encourage A.A. members to become active on C.P.C. committees. Where there is existing P.I. and institutions committees, encourage cooperation among members of all committees, keeping always in mind that our primary purpose is to carry the message to the alcoholic who still suffers.

In **1980** the committee **recommended** the pamphlet “Alcoholics Anonymous and the Medical Profession” be condensed and rewritten to reflect current information about A.A.

In **1984** the committee **recommended** Cooperation with the professional community news be regularly included in Box 4-5-9, eliminating the P.I./C.P.C. Bulletin.

In **1988** the committee **recommended** that a letter be sent to all Area P.I. and C.P.C. chairpersons with these revised suggestions for carrying the A.A. message to minority group members:

- Train P.I./C.P.C. speakers of varying ages, races, and backgrounds and notify the following of their availability: schools, colleges, churches and synagogues, special civic projects, regional youth centers, juvenile centers, senior citizen residences and centers, departments of senior citizen affairs and health fairs.
 - Offer A.A. help to police departments, courts, probation officers, sheriffs, jails, clergy, and welfare departments.

In **1994** the committee **recommended** that Abbreviations and acronyms be spelled out or explained the first time or two each is used, and the pamphlet’s title be changed to “How A.A. Members Cooperate with Professionals” with the subheading “Cooperation, But Not Affiliation.”

In **1998** The committee **recommended** that:

The draft revision of the pamphlet to replace “A.A. and Employee Assistance Programs” be approved with the title “Is There an Alcoholic in the Workplace?” and the following changes:

In the section to the co-worker, delete the line: “Al-Anon is not affiliated with A.A., but its contribution to increased understanding of the A.A. recovery program has been substantial.”

In **2003** the committee **recommended** that:

The “Singleness of Purpose” statement in six designated C.P.C. pamphlets “Some professionals refer to alcoholism and drug addiction as ‘substance abuse’ or ‘chemical dependency.’ Non-alcoholics are, therefore, sometimes introduced to A.A. and encouraged to attend open A.A. meetings, but only those with a drinking problem may attend closed meetings.

In **2006** the Committee **recommended** that:

Three short video segments be produced that can be accessed on G.S.O.’s A.A. website and directed to professionals in the employment/human relations, legal/criminal justice, and medical fields [with a total cost not to exceed \$60,000].

In **2009** the committee **recommended** that:

The video segment directed to professionals in the employment/human relations field to be streamed on G.S.O.’s A.A. website be approved.

In **2012** the committee **recommended**:

“Some professionals refer to alcoholism and drug addiction as “substance abuse” or “chemical dependency.” Non-alcoholics are, therefore, sometimes introduced to A.A. and encouraged to attend A.A. meetings. Non-alcoholics may attend open A.A. meetings as **observers**, but only those with a drinking problem may attend closed A.A. meetings.” (updated from 2003)

In **2016** the committee **recommended** that:

A new section on A.A. and medications be added to the pamphlet “If You are a Professional...” with the following text for AA members and Medications: A.A. does not provide medical advice; all medical advice and treatment should come from a qualified physician. The suggestions provided in the pamphlet “The A.A. Member—Medications & Other Drugs” may help A.A. members minimize the risk of relapse

In **2017** the committee **recommended** that

The pamphlet “Three Talks to Medical Societies by Bill W.” be retired.

In **2019** the committee **recommended** that

The text "They may help arrange hospitalization" be removed from the section “What can you expect from A.A.?” in the pamphlet “Alcoholics Anonymous in Your Community.”

In **2021** the committee **recommended**:

The goals expressed in the 2018 Advisory Action establishing a dynamic A.A.W.S. LinkedIn page be implemented by G.S.O., to provide current and relevant content about A.A. to professionals in accordance with A.A. principles and Traditions; and that a progress report on the usefulness and effectiveness of implementing these updates on the A.A.W.S. LinkedIn page be brought back to the 2022 Conference Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community

Changing gears, allow me to cite the current composition, scope, and procedure of the committee:

Composition

There are not more than nine voting members of this committee and a non-voting secretary.

The new Panel members will be selected by lot geographically mid-December (at the time of the A.A.W.S. Board meeting) in the presence of two trustees or members of the trustees’ Conference Committee.

The members of the committee will include:

Not more than five delegates from the previous year’s panel (they continue to serve on this committee for their second year), and not more than five delegates from the current year’s panel.

The new chairperson and alternate chairperson are elected by written ballot at the final committee meeting during the Conference sessions from the first-year panel members and take office immediately following the Conference.

On this year’s committee we have from coast to coast

Commencing with **Panel 74**:

Alex W *	Area 9 South East California
Dan D**	Area 86 Western Ontario
Allen S	Area 28 Maine

Panel 75

Dan B	Area 59 East Pennsylvania
Beverley F	Area 54 Northeast Ohio
Jim L	Area 38 East Missouri
Denise M	Area 51 North Carolina

Scope

The committee has the responsibility of suggesting to the Conference such policies and recommending such activities as may help:

1. Further A.A.’s primary purpose of carrying the message to the sick alcoholic through sharing information about the A.A. program with those professional groups and

individuals who have contact with alcoholics.

2. Further mutual understanding and cooperation between Fellowship and others concerned about the problem of alcoholism and help for the alcoholic.
3. increased awareness of members and outside groups and organizations on ways of cooperating with everyone while affiliating with no one, within A.A. Traditions.

Procedure

1. To meet as a committee during the annual Meeting of the General Service Conference.
2. To meet jointly at least once with the trustees' Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community/Treatment Facilities during the annual Conference meeting.
3. To make recommendations, reached in committee by majority vote, to the entire Conference.
4. To present these recommendations to the Conference for approval, disapproval or amendment in a report given by the committee chairperson.
5. To maintain correspondence with committee secretary and other committee members during the year.

Recap of the 2024 CPC Conference Committee Meetings

Committee Considerations:

- The committee reviewed a progress report on the development of an outward facing pamphlet for mental health professionals and noted the continued work moving forward toward the production of the pamphlet. The committee requested that a progress report or draft pamphlet be brought back to the 2025 Conference Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community.
- The committee suggested the trustees' Cooperation with the Professional Community/Treatment-Accessibilities Committee (TCPC/TA) consider developing additional service materials as follows:
 - A "hard copy" service piece for local Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC) committees to provide to professionals in their face-to-face contact and when exhibiting or presenting at professional events.
 - That the service piece includes newly designed infographics gleaned from existing content in the draft pamphlet for mental health professionals.
 - That the service piece also includes a way to link to material for the mental health professional, such as the content of interviews already conducted and content from the draft pamphlet.
 - That the presentation of materials developed reflects a modern look and feel appealing to professionals.
- The committee requested that a progress report on the development of the service piece be brought to the 2025 Conference Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community
- The committee discussed the impact of the Comprehensive Media Plan (CMP) in carrying the message to the professional community and provided the following suggestions to be forwarded to the trustees' Public Information Committee regarding the CMP:
 - That the Conference Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community contribute annual input to the revision of the CMP and collaborate with the Trustees' Public Information Committee for effective use of technology in how we reach professionals using current industry standards and adapting to new and emerging technologies including, but not limited to:
 - o QR codes
 - o Infographics
 - o Templates for CPC outreach to professionals
 - o Audio
 - o Podcast features
 - The committee considered the request to develop a pamphlet for the unhoused alcoholic in A.A. and took no action. The committee felt that a pamphlet would not be an effective tool to carry the message to the unhoused community. The committee suggested that the trustees' Cooperation with the Professional Community/Treatment-Accessibilities Committee consider exploring methods of how to better serve the unhoused population.

- The committee reviewed the content and format of the Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC) Kit and Workbook and noted the updates that were suggested by the 2023 Conference Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community. The committee provided suggestions for updates to be included in the next printing of the Workbook; minor formatting updates to the list of the Kit contents, and recently updated CPC service material in the Kit. Minor editorial changes to CPC materials are to be forwarded to Publishing.
- The committee suggested considering CPC pamphlets as topics for podcasts or other formats to aid local committees in their service work.
- The committee reviewed the three existing Cooperation with the Professional Community videos for professionals available on aa.org and requested that the trustees' Cooperation with the Professional Community/Treatment and Accessibilities Committee explore the option of repurposing the videos, including updating the scripts with new voiceovers while also using stock footage and images to replace outdated video/images. The committee requested that a progress report be brought back to the 2025 Conference Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community.
- The committee reviewed the progress report on the LinkedIn page and received a verbal update from the Communication Services Department. The committee noted the formatting and content to include informing professionals in three languages within the limitations of the platform and best practices for posting to social media. The committee requested that a progress report be brought back to the 2025 Conference Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community.

What you can do:

1. 1/Continued education videos for therapists and nurses who need credits after graduation
2. 2/Education fairs at schools, health and wellness shows i.e. like a roadshow
3. 4/AA open meetings for professionals who meet us, i.e. first responders
4. 5/Use LinkedIn to connect with professionals
5. 6/Print out QR code stickers and place them in big books
6. 7/Educate Professionals on how to find us

Moving on to the CPC agenda at the 2025 GSC we are slated to discuss the following:

1. Review progress report on AAWS LinkedIn page
2. Review progress report on the development of outward facing pamphlet for mental health professionals.
3. Review content and format of CPC Kit and Workbook.
4. Discuss effectiveness and relevance of CPC videos currently on aa.org.
5. Discuss shared experience in informing professionals how A.A. can serve as a resource for unhoused and neurodivergent alcoholics

Next Steps:

Discussion at the CPC meeting at the 2025 Conference
Thank you for allowing me the privilege to serve!

I remain:

Dan D

Delegate

CPC Committee

Area 86 Panel 74

D-6 REPORT FROM DELEGATE AREA 88

SUBJECT : CONFERENCE REPORT AND CHARTER COMMITTEE

I am here to speak to you about the **Conference Committee** I will be participating in at the upcoming Conference: the **Conference Report and Charter Committee**.

I will provide a brief history of its creation and evolution; an overview of its composition; and a summary of the various topics that have been discussed by this committee over time.

The General Service Conference process began in 1951

At the first General Service Conference meeting in 1951, four Conference committees were established: Budget, Agenda, Trustees, and Conference Report.

By the 1952 Conference, it became necessary to define and limit the responsibilities of this committee to cover only matters concerning the Conference.

The Conference Charter Committee was created primarily to review and refine the drafts of the Conference Report before finalizing it for distribution.

At the 1955 Conference, the Permanent Charter of the Conference was ratified. Then, in 1957, the committee's duties were expanded to include a continuous study and analysis of the Conference Charter and to approve recommended changes to this document. The committee was then renamed the Conference Report and Charter Committee.

In 1968, the committee was tasked with reviewing and approving a revision of the *Third Legacy Manual*, a process that lasted into 1969. The title of the manual was later changed to *The A.A. Service Manual*.

Over the years, numerous recommendations and proposals have been made, but due to time constraints, I will not detail them all in this report.

Composition of the Committee

The committee consists of nine voting members and one non-voting secretary (a staff member dedicated to this committee).

The new panel members are randomly selected by geographic region in mid-December during the AAWS Board meeting, in the presence of two Trustees or members of the Conference Committee of the Board.

The committee members are:

A maximum of five delegates from Panel 74 (who continue serving in their second year on this committee) and a maximum of five delegates from Panel 75 (new members for the current year).

The new Chair and Vice-Chair are elected by a written vote during the committee's last meeting at the Conference, from among the first-year Panel members, and take office immediately after the Conference.

Committee Responsibilities

The Conference Report and Charter Committee is responsible for:

- Considering any proposed changes to either *The A.A. Service Manual* (which includes the Conference Charter) or the Twelve Concepts for World Service, before they are discussed in the Conference plenary session.
- Proposing modifications and improvements to the format, presentation, style, or content of the Final Conference Report when deemed necessary.
- Reviewing drafts of the Final Conference Report to ensure all changes to *The A.A. Service Manual* are accurate and complete and include any necessary corrections.
- Setting deadlines for reviewing the Final Conference Report and *The A.A. Service Manual* and returning corrections or suggestions to the General Service Board within 14 days of receipt.

Proposed Items for the 2025 Conference by the Conference Charter and Bylaws Committee

A) Discussion on The A.A. Service Manual, 2026-2028 Edition:

- Review the list of editorial updates.
- Examine the progress report on creating a new section: Amendments, to be added to the Twelve Concepts for World Service.
- Consider a request to remove the phrase: "*A group may also decide not to hear the GSR's report*", found on page 10 of the 2021-2023 *A.A. Service Manual* and page 11 in the 2024-2026 edition. (APOJ 72)
- Consider a request to remove the word "*woman*" (translated in the French version as "*une employée-cadre*") from the Fourth Concept essay (APOJ 75, 124, page C13, 3rd paragraph).

B) Consider a request to extend Article Three of the Conference Charter to protect the writings of the co-founders. (APOJ 81, 15, 26, and 109).

C) Review the progress report on the possible creation of a corresponding board committee for the Conference Report and Charter Committee.

D) Discussion on the Final Report of the General Service Conference.

Committee Scope and Reflection Questions

The A.A. Service Manual:

- How familiar are you with *The A.A. Service Manual* and to what extent have you read and understood its contents?
- Do you review the Final Conference Report when it is sent to you?
- Do you follow and stay informed about the agenda items proposed at the Conference?
- Would you feel comfortable proposing an agenda item?
- In your own words, how would you describe the importance and role of the Report and Charter committee?
- Do you believe that labeling an item as "Adopted by a simple majority" (for those that did not receive the required two-thirds vote for full adoption) creates confusion? Why or why not?
- How does your group think items adopted by simple majority, but not by substantial unanimity, should be recorded in the Final Conference Report?

Jean-Yves M, Delegate for Area 88, Southeast Quebec, Panel 75

D-7 REPORT FROM DELEGATE AREA 89

SUBJECT : CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON TREATMENT AND ACCESSIBILITIES

2025 COMPOSITION

There are not more than nine voting members of this committee and a non-voting secretary. The new panel members will be selected by lot geographically in mid-December (at the time of the A.A.W.S. Board meeting) in the presence of two trustees or members of the Trustees' Conference Committee.

The members of the Committee will include four or five delegates from the previous year's panel (they continue to serve on this committee for their second year), and four or five delegates from the current year's panel.

The new chairperson and alternate chairperson are elected by written ballot at the final committee meeting during the Conference session from the first-year panel members and take office immediately following the Conference. **SCOPE**

The purpose of a Treatment and Accessibilities committee is to coordinate the work of individual A.A. members and groups interested in carrying our message of recovery to alcoholics in a wide variety of treatment settings, and to set up means of "bridging the gap" from the treatment setting to the A.A. Fellowship.

In addition, the committee supports the work of individual A.A. members and groups serving those who experience barriers to accessing the A.A. message and participating in A.A.'s Three Legacies – Recovery, Unity, and Service.

Finally, the committee supports the work of individual A.A. members and groups striving to ensure that A.A. members who live in underserved or remote communities — communities difficult to reach because of geography, language or culture — have access to the A.A. message.

The committee will review all aspects of service to A.A. groups/meetings in non-correctional in-patient and out-patient treatment settings, as well as to A.A.s who experience access barriers, and make recommendations for changes

2025 PROCEDURE

1. To meet jointly at least once with the Trustees' Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community/Treatment and Accessibilities during the annual Conference meeting.
2. To make recommendations, reached in committee by majority vote, to the entire Conference.
3. To present these recommendations to the Conference for approval, disapproval or amendment in a report given by the committee chairperson.
4. To maintain correspondence with committee secretary and other committee members during the year.

2026 AGENDA ITEMS

These items include standing items for each committee, ongoing items carried over from the previous Conference, and new items submitted to the Conference.

The final list of agenda items, which includes the new items submitted to the Conference as well as the distribution among committees as part of the fair workload distribution, will be available by the end of February 2025 after the General Service Board meeting, once translation is complete.

Below is the preliminary list of agenda items for the Treatment and Accessibility Committee:

- A. Review progress report on Military Outreach Project.
- B. Review progress report on shared experience from Fellowship on outreach efforts to A.A. members in the military and veterans.
- C. Review progress report on the Accessibilities Resources flyer made available on aa.org.
- D. Review progress report on the update of service material with shared experience from neurodivergent alcoholics.
- E. Review revision of the conference-approved flyer “Where do I go from here” (F-4).
- F. Review contents and format of Treatment Kit and Workbook.
- G. Review contents and format of Accessibilities Kit and Workbook.
- H. Review resource lists for Remote Communities and Cooperation with Elder Community.

Related Resources for Military

A.A. AND THE ARMED SERVICES
GRAPEVINE'S AA IN THE MILITARY
GRAPEVINE PODCAST
MILITARY STORIES ON YOUTUBE

The term "neurodivergent" encompasses all coherent and structured ways in which the brain functions differently from the norm, such as ADHD, dyslexia, obsessive compulsive disorder, down syndrome, autism, high intellectual potential, and learning disorders.

**Jocelyne C, Delegate
Area 89, Panel 75**

SUBJECT : CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON TRUSTEES

75TH GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE
APRIL 27-MAY 3, 2025, NEW YORK HILTON -MIDTOWN, NY
“WORKING TOGETHER, INCREASING TRUST”

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON TRUSTEES

UNDERSTANDING THE ROLE OF THE CONFERENCE
COMMITTEE ON TRUSTEES

"ENSURING TRUSTED SERVANTS IS THE ROLE OF THE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON TRUSTEES"

THIS WORKSHOP EXPLORES THE VITAL ROLE OF THE **CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON TRUSTEES** IN ENSURING STRONG AND ACCOUNTABLE LEADERSHIP WITHIN A.A. PARTICIPANTS WILL GAIN INSIGHT INTO THE COMMITTEE'S **COMPOSITION, RESPONSIBILITIES, AND PROCEDURES**, INCLUDING THE SELECTION AND REVIEW PROCESS FOR TRUSTEES AND CORPORATE BOARD DIRECTORS. THROUGH DISCUSSION, WE WILL EXAMINE THE CHALLENGES OF MAINTAINING FAIR AND EFFECTIVE LEADERSHIP AND THE IMPACT OF THIS WORK ON THE FUTURE OF A.A. THIS SESSION IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO DEEPEN OUR UNDERSTANDING OF TRUSTED SERVICE AND ITS ROLE IN STRENGTHENING OUR FELLOWSHIP.

"WHY ARE TRUSTEES IMPORTANT" AND WHAT ROLE
DOES THE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON TRUSTEES PLAY

THE COMMITTEE PLAYS A CRUCIAL ROLE IN ENSURING THE INTEGRITY OF A.A.'S LEADERSHIP BY REVIEWING RESUMES FOR NEWLY NOMINATED CLASS A AND CLASS B TRUSTEES, CORPORATE BOARD DIRECTORS, AND APPOINTED COMMITTEE MEMBERS. IT ALSO ASSESSES SLATES OF BOARD MEMBERS AND OFFICERS BEFORE THE CONFERENCE, PRESENTING THEM FOR POTENTIAL DISAPPROVAL BEFORE ELECTIONS. ADDITIONALLY, THE COMMITTEE COLLABORATES WITH THE TRUSTEES' NOMINATING COMMITTEE, REVIEWS PROCEDURES FOR TRUSTEE ELECTIONS, AND PROVIDES RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE CONFERENCE FOR APPROVAL, DISAPPROVAL, OR AMENDMENT. THROUGHOUT THE YEAR, THE COMMITTEE MAINTAINS COMMUNICATION AMONG ITS MEMBERS TO ENSURE CONTINUITY AND ADHERENCE TO A.A.'S GOVERNANCE PRINCIPLES.

UNDERSTANDING THE COMMITTEE'S COMPOSITION



THE **CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON TRUSTEES** IS RESPONSIBLE FOR OVERSEEING THE SELECTION, QUALIFICATIONS, AND ELECTION PROCEDURES OF TRUSTEES AND CORPORATE BOARD DIRECTORS WITHIN A.A. ITS COMPOSITION INCLUDES AT LEAST NINE VOTING MEMBERS AND A NON-VOTING SECRETARY. EACH YEAR, NEW PANEL MEMBERS ARE RANDOMLY SELECTED GEOGRAPHICALLY IN MID-DECEMBER, WITH UP TO FIVE DELEGATES CONTINUING FROM THE PREVIOUS YEAR AND UP TO FIVE FROM THE CURRENT PANEL. LEADERSHIP IS DETERMINED THROUGH A WRITTEN BALLOT AT THE FINAL COMMITTEE MEETING DURING THE CONFERENCE, WHERE A CHAIRPERSON AND AN ALTERNATE CHAIRPERSON FROM THE FIRST-YEAR PANEL ARE ELECTED TO SERVE IMMEDIATELY.

XI. TRUSTEES PRELIMINARY AGENDA 75TH GSC

A. REVIEW RESUMES OF CANDIDATES FOR:

- 1. SOUTHEAST REGIONAL TRUSTEE
- 2. EAST CENTRAL REGIONAL TRUSTEE
- 3. TRUSTEE-AT-LARGE/U.S.

B. REVIEW SLATE OF TRUSTEES AND OFFICERS OF THE GENERAL SERVICE BOARD OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, INC.

C. REVIEW SLATE OF DIRECTORS OF A.A. WORLD SERVICES, INC.

D. REVIEW SLATE OF DIRECTORS OF A.A. GRAPEVINE, INC.

E. REVIEW PROGRESS REPORT OR DRAFT OF THE REVISED PAMPHLET "DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DIFFERENT (E.D.W.)"

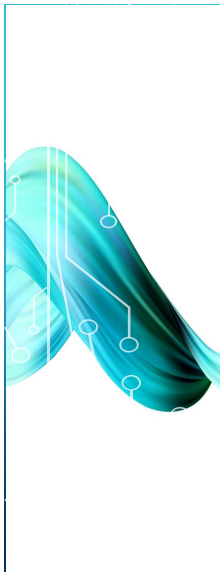
OUR WORK AS A CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

Our work focuses on the **selection, qualifications, and approval process** for trustees and corporate board members, ensuring that those who guide A.A. uphold the principles of our fellowship.

Each year, we review **resumes and nominations** for Class A and Class B trustees, General Service Board officers, and directors of A.A. World Services and the A.A. Grapevine. We assess these candidates based on established guidelines, ensuring fair representation and effective leadership.

Additionally, we oversee **procedures for regional trustee elections**, review **appointed committee member resumes**, and collaborate with the Trustees' Nominating Committee to maintain continuity in leadership.

Our committee's decisions impact the future of A.A. by safeguarding **transparency, accountability, and unity** at all levels of service. Through careful deliberation and adherence to A.A.'s traditions, we strive to support a leadership structure that continues to serve and guide our fellowship effectively.



Q & A

1. HOW DOES THE WORK OF THIS COMMITTEE AFFECT THE FUTURE OF A.A.
2. WHY DO YOU THINK IT IS IMPORTANT TO HAVE A STRUCTURED SELECTION PROCESS FOR TRUSTEES AND BOARD DIRECTORS IN A.A.?
3. WHAT CHALLENGES MIGHT ARISE WHEN SELECTING TRUSTEES AND CORPORATE BOARD MEMBERS, AND HOW CAN THE COMMITTEE ENSURE FAIR AND EFFECTIVE DECISION-MAKING?
4. HOW DOES THE WORK OF THIS COMMITTEE AFFECT THE FUTURE OF A.A. AT BOTH THE GROUP LEVEL AND THE BROADER SERVICE STRUCTURE?

THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION AND THOUGHTFUL INSIGHTS IN TODAY'S WORKSHOP. THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON TRUSTEES IS CRUCIAL IN MAINTAINING THE INTEGRITY AND STRENGTH OF A.A.'S LEADERSHIP. AS TRUSTED SERVANTS, WE HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY TO ENSURE THAT THOSE WHO GUIDE OUR FELLOWSHIP ARE WELL-EQUIPPED TO SERVE.

I HOPE THIS SESSION HAS DEEPEINED YOUR UNDERSTANDING OF THE SELECTION PROCESS AND THE IMPACT IT HAS ON A.A.'S FUTURE. LET'S CONTINUE TO SUPPORT AND UPHOLD THE PRINCIPLES OF SERVICE, ENSURING THAT A.A. REMAINS STRONG FOR THOSE WHO SEEK IT. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE!

**DEBBIE LEBLANC , DELEGATE PANEL 74
AREA 90 NORTH WEST QC
CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON TRUSTEES**



Workshop: The Role of the Conference Committee on Trustees

This workshop explores the vital role of the **Conference Committee on Trustees** in ensuring strong and accountable leadership within A.A. Participants will gain insight into the committee's **composition, responsibilities, and procedures**, including the selection and review process for trustees and corporate board directors. Through discussion, we will examine the challenges of maintaining fair and effective leadership and the impact of this work on the future of A.A. This session is an opportunity to deepen our understanding of trusted service and its role in strengthening our fellowship.

Debbie L
Delegate P74 A90 North Werst QC
Conference Committee on Trustees

E- BUSINESS MEETING OF CERAASA 2025

E-1 BUSINESS MEETING - AGENDA

- 1) Open the meeting with a moment of silence and the Responsibility Declaration
- 2) Guidelines for the meeting:
 - All matters of policy require substantial unanimity, that is a two-thirds majority
 - Every motion must be moved and seconded before discussion
 - Each person may speak for two minutes
- 3) Reading and acceptance of the agenda.
- 4) Reading and acceptance of the minutes from CERAASA 2023
- 5) Reading and acceptance of the financial report from CERAASA 2023
- 6) Notices of Motions
- 7) Old Business:
- 8) Bids for CERAASA 2027
- 9) New Business:
 - i) Recommendations from CERAASA Steering Committee to be presented as moved and seconded motions:
 - a. Everything to be presented orally at CERAASA will be submitted in advance to allow translation by a translator. Translation priority given to summary of the delegate workshops.
 - b. Each area is responsible for printing and disseminating flyers for CERAASA.
 - c. Include in the CERAASA Guidelines: Information on the CERAASA Website should be available in English, French and Spanish.
 - d. The CERAASA Steering Committee recommends to the body that the CERAASA Guidelines to be updated to say that all translation services at CERAASA assemblies be professional in nature.
 - e. The cost of the professional interpretation services at CERAASA assemblies be covered by the registration fee.
 - f. The CERAASA guidelines to be updated to indicate that both the Eastern Canada Regional Trustee and the Trustee at Large Canada should be invited and reimbursed to attend each CERAASA.
- 10) Adjourn

E-2 BUSINESS MEETING - REPORT

1. **Opening.** Debbie L., Delegate P74 Area 90 and Co-Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:05 PM and opened with a moment of silence, followed by the Serenity Prayer.
The Anonymity Statement was read in English by Steve B, DCM District 2 Area 83, and in French by Annie R., DCM District 13 Area 90.
The Co-Chairs, Debbie L., Delegate P74 Area 90, and Dan D., Delegate P74 Area 86, introduced themselves and welcomed participants.

Debbie L., Co-Chair, asked the Parliamentarians, Thomas G., Past Delegate P66 Area 87, and Percy G., Past Delegate P62 Area 86, to introduce themselves. Debbie L. explained their role, emphasizing that, when called upon to resolve a matter of procedure, their rulings are non-debatable.

Debbie L., Co-Chair, then introduced the secretary for this meeting, Jean-Marc B., Alternate Chair P74 Area 90, and the timekeeper, Tammy S, Alternate Delegate P74 Area 86.

2. **Guidelines.** Debbie L., Co-Chair, explained the general guidelines for this meeting:

- All matters of policy require substantial unanimity, that is a two-thirds majority.
- Every motion must be moved and seconded, except for recommendations from the CERAASA Steering Committee, at **New Business**, which have already been moved and seconded by members of the Steering Committee.
- Each person is asked to limit their intervention to two minutes, allowing others a chance to voice their opinion before intervening again.

3. **Agenda.** Debbie L., Co-Chair, added at **Old Business** (item 7 a.), Acceptance of the French version of the CERAASA Guidelines, which had not been approved by the CERAASA 2023 Business Meeting due to the quality of the translation. No other item was added.

Moved by Nadine C., Publications Committee Chair A90, to adopt the agenda as amended.

Seconded by Jeff C., Grapevine Sub-Committee Chair A86.

4. **Adoption of the CERAASA 2023 Business Meeting Minutes.** Debbie L., Co-Chair, asked if there were omissions or if corrections were required to the CERAASA 2023 Business Meeting Minutes as read by Dan D., Co-Chair.

André D., Delegate P74 Area 87, requested that the name Réjeanne B, who seconded the motion to call the question on the French Translation of the Guidelines (at page 3 of the minutes) be changed to Réjean B. No other corrections or omissions were mentioned.

Moved by Nicole, Helpline Coordinator Area 87, to adopt the minutes with the noted correction.

Seconded by Danielle S., Area Secretary Area 90.

Adopted unanimously.

5. **Financial Report.** Dan D., Co-Chair, presented the financial report prepared by the CERAASA 2023 Organizing Committee.

Serge M., Treasurer Area 90, asked whether the “Balance” from one CERAASA becomes the “Start-up Fund” for the following CERAASA. Percy G., Past-Delegate P62 Area 82, explained that it depends on results: as the 2021 CERAASA ended in a shortfall, each of the 10 Areas that make up the Eastern Canada Region voluntary contributed \$250 to provide the 2023 CERAASA Organizing Committee with a “Start-up Fund” which served to cover costs that can occur before registration fees are collected from participants. Debbie L., Co-Chair, then briefly explained the financial provisions of the CERAASA Guidelines regarding the “Start-up Fund,” the “Prudent Reserve” and the disbursement of any shortfall which is divided equally among all 10 Areas.

Moved by Doug P., DCM District 11 Area 86, to adopt the CERAASA 2023 Financial Report.

Seconded by Bill S., Alternate Delegate P75 Area 83.

Adopted unanimously.

6. **Notice of Motions.** Debbie L., Co-Chair, explained that, per the Guidelines adopted at the CERAASA 2023 Business Meeting, motions must be presented, in their entirety with rational and background information, at least two weeks before CERAASA to allow time for the agenda to be shared and foster informed discussions on motions.

No motions were submitted.

7. **Old Business.**

- a. ***French version of the CERAASA Guidelines.*** Debbie L., Co-Chair, confirmed that the French version of the CERAASA Guidelines underwent additional review following CERAASA 2023 and that the version shared with participants for adoption during this meeting is a faithful rendition of the English version.

Moved by André D., Delegate P74 Area 87, to adopt the French version of the CERAASA Guidelines.

Seconded by Karine F., DCM District 3 Area 86.

Adopted unanimously. **Item concluded**

8. **Bids for CERAASA 2027.** Debbie L., Co-Chair, briefly explained the Host Area provisions of the CERAASA Guidelines and called for Areas that wish to host CERAASA 2027 to come forward and present their bids.

Jocelyne C., Delegate P75 Area 89, presented Area 89's bid to host CERAASA 2027 in Québec City in February 2027, to loud applause. Several Area 89 members have volunteered for the Organizing Committee. She presented a financial forecast outlining expected revenues and expenditures for the three-day event to be held in late February or early March 2027, outside of the Quebec Winter Carnaval timeline.

No other bids were presented.

Moved by Michel C., Alternate Delegate Area 89, that Area 89 be the Host Area for CERAASA 2027.

Seconded by Dwayne M., Delegate P75 Area 82.

Debbie L., Co-Chair, opened the floor to discussion.

Karine F., DCM District 3 Area 86, mentioned that the balance on the financial forecast does not appear to reflect the total revenues minus the total expenditures. Serge M., Treasurer Area 90, asked whether a CERAASA can plan for a shortfall. Percy G., Past Delegate P62 Area 86, answered that the CERAASA Guidelines require the Host Area set registration fees so that the activity is self-supporting, noting however that the financial forecast versus the actuals can differ greatly since attendance at the event may vary from the Organizing Committee's planning assumptions.

Joe, Treasurer District 12 Area 83, suggested that the registration fee include all costs so that the activity be truly self-supporting as much as possible and not require Areas provide additional funding. Steve B, DCM District 2 Area 83, provided similar input, adding that Areas were also asked to provide funds for translation for CERAASA 2025 and that these costs should be paid by the members who benefit from this service as part of their attendance, not the Areas. Dwayne M., Delegate P74 Area 82, the Host Area for CERAASA 2025, shared their experience with less than anticipated participation

and higher costs, commenting that while they strived for self-support and a balance allowing for a “Start-up Fund,” their current projections show they will not achieve this.

André G., Alternate DCM, District 5 Area 90, suggests that the Organizing Committee for CERAASA 2027 provide for voluntary contributions for the shuttle, to help with self-support, since this service is offered in lieu of taxis and represents a savings to participants.

Nathalie R., Chair Area 90, highlighted a calculation error in the financial forecast that should show a planned positive balance of \$2,050. She questioned the proposed timing of either late February or early March 2027, as the CERAASA Guidelines provide that it is to be held during the last weekend of February, pointing out that Areas plan their service activities and rentals accordingly. Michel C., Alternate Delegate P75 Area 89, indicated that they wanted to ensure there was no conflict with the annual Quebec Carnaval. Thomas G., Parliamentarian, was asked to weigh in and confirmed that, per the CERAASA Guidelines, it must be held on the last weekend of February of every odd year.

Call – Moved by Steve B, DCM District 2 Area 83, to call the question.

Point of Order - Dale S., Past Delegate P68 Area 86, pointed out that Steve B. had already intervened previously, and others had raised their hands. The Co-Chair, Debbie L. consequently did not call the question.

Jocelyne C. Delegate P75 Area 89, stated that, after verifying the Quebec carnival’s timeframe, there should not be a conflict and thus CERAASA 2027 would be held in Québec City from Friday, February 26th to Sunday, February 28th, 2027.

Call – Moved by Dave N., DCM District 2 Area 86, to call the question.

Seconded by Marietta M., Delegate P74 Area 81.

Motion to call **adopted** by the majority with 1 against. Minority did not exercise right.

On the primary **motion** to accept Area 89’s bid to host CERAASA 2027

Adopted unanimously. **Item concluded**

9. New Business.

i) **Recommendations from the CERAASA Steering Committee.** Debbie L., Co-Chair, explained the process leading to these recommendations and mentioned that, for each recommendation, the Steering Committee member who moved a motion to adopt will be invited to provide background information and then the floor will be open for discussion.

- a. Everything to be presented orally at CERAASA will be submitted in advance to allow translation by a translator. Translation priority given to summary of the delegate workshops. **Moved** by James O., Delegate P75 Area 83, **Seconded** by Debbie L., Delegate P74 Area 90.

Due to James O’s absence, Debbie L. provided the background on this issue highlighting that advance translation of presentations given orally allows for better translation in the other official language during oral presentations.

Dave N., DCM District 2 Area 86, supported this and mentioned that it should also apply to acronyms of service functions and highlighted that this is unfortunately only provided for presentations in the “main hall,” not the workshops, which may prevent participation by members. He believed all presentation material should be translated. Jocelyne C., Delegate P75 Area 89 is of the same view. Debbie L. explained that all material is translated, but while event and workshop material is translated by volunteer AA members, the material for

presentations is translated by the company that provides simultaneous translation during the event, and this helps provide a better-quality service. Hence the request that material be provided enough in advance to allow them sufficient time to translate.

Mélicia S., Alternate DCM District 3 Area 90, asked about simultaneous translation of questions or discussions during presentations which seemed to be less “flowing.” André D., Delegate P74 Area 87, explained that simultaneous translation from a written presentation prepared in advance, where there might be some small deviations, presents less of a challenge and that technical difficulties with the equipment, such having to speak directly into the microphone, can result in translators not being able to hear properly and translate as well or fast enough. He also explained that the workshops are given in either language, and the material is generally prepared in that language, although each workshop chair could ensure the material is translated for those who may wish to attend a workshop in the other official language.

Isabelle, Area 87, asked why the presentations projected on screen were only in the official language of the presenter, not in both official languages. Debbie L., Co-Chair, explained that it depends on the audio-visual equipment available at the venue. Unlike Regional Forums where the GSO is responsible and can book larger and better equipped venues, the CERAASA Host Area may be limited in options.

Point of Order by Dwayne M., Delegate P75 Area 82, that discussions deviated from the substance and suggested discussions resume on the motion at hand.

Lucien J., Chair Area 87, mentioned that since CERAASA 2027 will be hosted by a francophone area, the Business Meeting and more workshop presentations may be in French as with previous Regional Forums held in Québec.

Jeff S., Past Delegate P72 Area 86, questioned translation of material for oral presentations in the main hall only, and not all workshops so that members can assist independent of the language. Debbie L., Co-Chair reminded members that translation of the oral presentations is to ensure better simultaneous translation which is not offered in all workshops.

Pam S., Area 86, mentioned remembering voting at a previous CERAASA to add the costs of translation to the registration fee per the self-supporting principle, as some Areas have fewer financial means. She highlighted that the costs of many attendants are not covered by their Groups, Districts or Areas and paying our own way supports our primary purpose.

Daniel B., Area Registrar Area 90 mentioned that it would be preferable that the material for all workshops be translated to allow full participation by those who wish to attend a workshop in their second language.

Mélanie C., Alt Delegate P74 Area 90, mentioned that, while Areas may be called upon to cover a shortfall post CERAASA, adding to the registration fee per the self-supporting principle ensures those who benefited from services are those who have paid for it.

Danielle S., Area Secretary Area 90, mentioned that agreement that professional translation is the right thing to do, but discussions on how costs seemed to steer the debate in the other direction.

Allen W., Delegate P74 Area 84, mentioned that by not being fully self-supporting from registration fees, CERAASA puts additional burden on the service structure of Areas with fewer financial means.

Gilles F., Alt Chair A87, asked a question pertaining to translation costs per the CERAASA Guidelines given that Areas each contributed to the translation costs for CERAASA 2025. Debbie L., Co-Chair, explained the background leading this contribution.

Sam S., Area 86, reminded members that the reason for this motion is to ensure better simultaneous translation for those attending oral presentations no matter the language.

After discussions ended, the vote was called.

Adopted by the majority with 1 against. Minority did not exercise right. **Item concluded: TO BE ADDED TO THE CERASAA GUIDELINES**

- b. Each area is responsible for printing and disseminating flyers for CERAASA. ***Moved*** by Tammy S., Delegate P74 Area 86, ***Seconded*** by André D., Delegate P74 Area 87.

Tammy S., Delegate P74 Area 86, explained this is to reduce costs primarily due to mailing, recommending that Areas print and distribute the CERAASA flyer.

Nicole, Area 87, asked a question pertaining to CERAASA banners which was answered by Dale S., Past Delegate P68 Area 86.

Adopted unanimously. - **Item concluded: TO BE ADDED TO THE CERASAA GUIDELINES**

- c. Include in the CERAASA Guidelines: Information on the CERAASA Website should be available in English, French and Spanish. ***Moved*** by Amy L., Alt Delegate P75 Area 83, ***Seconded*** by Marietta M., Delegate P74 Area 81.

Amy L., Alt Delegate P75 Area 83, explained that currently there are two separate websites, English and French, which are handed over from one organising committee to the other, complicating their maintenance, translation and other issues. The proposal is to move to one web site with language options than can make better use of website translation tools.

Dan. D., Delegate P74 Area 88, mentioned that it was a great idea, but asked who would be responsible to maintain it.

Philippe, Alt DCM District 7 Area 86, mentioned recurring issues with the French site that were resolved only much later, and this would hopefully avoid recurrence of this irritant.

André G., Alt DCM District 5 Area 90, agreed with a single website with three languages as long as the translation is of sufficient quality. He noted that corrections to the CERAASA 2023 site in French had been made, but for CERAASA 2025, it appears to be the older version with errors which was reactivated.

Jocelyne C., Delegate P75 Area 89, mentioned that the motion speaks of Spanish, yet the discussion regarded English and French only. Amy L. said the same would apply for Spanish.

Dwayne M., Delegate P74 Area 82, mentioned that this proposal does not discuss costs to maintain such site, including for a Spanish language package. Although those are the three languages of the North America Conference, he asked if the need is there to justify this. Before going ahead, we should investigate the costs and come back to the membership.

Joyce S., Eastern Canada Regional Trustee, suggested that if a need for Spanish on the CERAASA website had not been formally expressed, we should not pursue.

Moved by Joyce S., Eastern Canada Regional Trustee, to amend the motion to for the CERAASA website to be in English and French only.

Seconded by Pam S, Area 86.

Point of order – Dwayne M., Delegate P74 Area 82, mentioned that his earlier intervention was a request to table the issue for further consideration. Debbie L. accepted that his intervention may not have been understood as such and open voting on the motion to table.

Moved by Dwayne M., Delegate P74 Area 82, to table this motion.

Seconded by Cathy B., District 6 Area 87.

Adopted by the majority with 33 against. Minority did not exercise right. **Item concluded: TO BE ADDED TO THE CERASAA GUIDELINES**

- d. The CERAASA Steering Committee recommends to the body that the CERAASA Guidelines to be updated to say that all translation services at CERAASA assemblies be professional in nature. **Moved** by Dan D., Delegate P74 Area 88. **Seconded** by James O., Delegate Past Delegate P73 Area 83.

Dan D., Delegate P74 Area 88 explained the background to this motion and emphasized that we should get it right in carrying the message which requires accurate translation of CERAASA material.

Steeve B., DCM District 2 Area 83 agreed with the need for accurate translation but asked if a cost estimate has been developed for this.

Dan N, DCM District 2 Area 86, mentioned reports of technical difficulties with the translation. He also believed it is important for all members to be able to fully participate independent of their official language and noted that not all workshop topics were covered in both official languages, which is unfair to Francophones if they cannot fully benefit from CERAASA discussions. He supported that all material should be professionally translated.

Thomas G., Past Delegate P66 Area 87, mentioned that the translation services for CERAASA 2025 are provided by the same company which supports the General Service Conference, as translators familiar with the AA lingo and structure are rare.

André D., Delegate P74 Area 87, mentioned that translation and simultaneous translation for CERAASA 2025 cost \$3,300 that were shared between the 10 Areas equally.

Debbie L., Co-Chair mentioned that the translation is for presentation material, other material such as the flyer, the agenda, etc ..., is translated by members from the Areas and invited anyone who wished to volunteer their translation skills to make their interest known to their delegate, who sit on the CERAASA Steering Committee.

André G., Alt DCM District 5 Area 90, mentioned that he is a retired translator and has volunteered his time although he was not always called on. He found the hint that costs of translating everything could be prohibitive does not respect the fact that francophones pay the same amount to partake in CERAASA; it's a matter of respect for all.

Sandy W., Past Delegate P70 Area 86, discussed translation issues faced by CERAASA 2023, diminishing the quality of this service experience for francophones and resulting in the CERAASA Guidelines in French having to be reviewed again after. She congratulated the CERAASA 2025 Organising Committee for all the effort deployed to provide better quality translation.

Afte Karen F., DCM District 3 Area 86, asked to identify clearly which translation services this motion involved.

André D., Delegate P74 Area 87, refocussed the discussion on the issue that the need for professional translation was to address the quality of simultaneous translation during presentations.

Moved by Andre D. Delegate P74 Area 87, that the motion be amended to read "... that the CERAASA Guidelines to be updated to say that all simultaneous translation services at CERAASA assemblies be professional in nature.

Seconded by Karen F., DCM District 3 Area 86.

Motion to amend Adopted by the majority with 2 against. Minority voice: Dave N., DCM District 2 Area 86, simply reiterated that he believed that professional translation should be of all workshop material. No motion to reconsider the vote.

Main motion Adopted unanimously. **Item concluded: TO BE ADDED TO THE CERASAA GUIDELINES**

- e. The cost of the professional interpretation services at CERAASA assemblies be covered by the registration fee. **Moved** by Marietta M., Delegate P74 Area 81, **seconded** by Dwayne M., Delegate P75 Area 82.

Marietta M., Delegate P74 Area 81, provided the background, including the provision that CERAASA is to be self-supporting and the fact that the Areas were asked to pay in equal shares for the costs of translation for CERAASA 2025.

Dwayne M., Delegate P75 Area 82., mentioned that this proposal goes back to the principle of CERAASA being self-supporting.

Percy G., Past Delegate P62 Area 86, in line with previous discussion above, specified that we are still speaking of the cost for simultaneous translation.

Moved by Percy G., Past Delegate P62 Area 86, to amend the motion to read "The cost of the professional simultaneous translation services at CERAASA assemblies be covered by the registration fee."

In French read as: "Que les coûts des services professionnels de traduction simultanée aux assemblées de l'ASTECAA soient inclus dans les frais d'inscription."

Seconded by Jake C., District 1 Area 86.

A discussion on the meaning of the word interpretation versus translation in both official languages ensued with André G., Alternate DCM District 5 Area 90., mentioned that interpretation is less ambiguous than simultaneous translation.

Defeated with 23 in favour and 49 against.

Minority voices:

Michel C., Alternate Delegate Area 89, mentioned that while not wanting to get bogged down in the details, we had discussed the issue of simultaneous translation earlier.

Alain, GSR Area 87, felt that we seem to have spent a lot of time discussing this, and we should be consistent in our wording.

Pam S., Area 86, questioned the definition of interpretation versus translation.

Nancy, GSR Area 87, wondered if interpretation had the same meaning in French. It was pointed out that interpretation relates to the spoken word, whereas translation refers to the written word, which is not necessarily well understood.

Cathy B., District 6 Area 87, opined that interpretation could imply to many changing what was said, versus translating what is said.

Motion to reconsider the vote by Dale S., Past Delegate P68 Area 86.

Seconded by Pam S, Area 86.

Adopted with 49 in favour and 39 against.

Amendment adopted with 64 in favour, 30 against.

On the amended motion.

Steve B, DCM District 2 Area 83, expressed his view that the registration fee was already high, when added to travel and hotel costs, and while many Groups, Districts and Areas already pay for the trusted servants attending, some attend at their cost.

André D., Delegate P74 Area 87, mentioned that it could be difficult to predict exactly what the costs of simultaneous translation could be when setting the price of registration almost a year before. An equal contribution by each Area simplifies the matter.

Louise, Area 87, mentioned that the Areas can plan to support such service activities.

Joe, Treasurer District 12 Area 83, mentioned that, in addition to forecasting accurately to truly favour self-support, adding the costs may increase the registration fee to a point of dissuading participation by those who pay their own way, risking reducing attendance and lead to a shortfall that would have to be covered by the Areas.

Tim M., Past Delegate Area 82, reiterated that not all trusted servants attending CERAASA have their expenses reimbursed by their Group, District or Area. Adding to the registration fee could impact attendance.

Gundrum M., Alternate DCM District 11 Area 86, also discussed the potential impact on individual participation with increased registration fees.

Dave N., DCM District 2 Area 86, mentions that trusted servants can plan accordingly and maybe contribute accordingly during the year to cover higher registration fees.

Nathalie R., Chair Area 90., mentioned that consideration should be given to the notion of "reasonably priced" per the CERAASA Guidelines.

Melissa S., Alternate DCM District 3 Area 90, noted that attendance varied a lot by Area, and that the registration fee should favour participation by keeping costs to individual members affordable.

Defeated with 32 in favour and 65 against.

Minority voice: Dwayne M., Delegate P75 Area 82, reminded members that the service triangle is inverted and stated that, having voted to provide professional translation services but not including the costs in the registration fees, thus requiring Areas pay equal shares, resulted in this assembly effectively imposing on or deciding for his Area.

No motion to reconsider the vote. ***The item was deferred back to the steering committee to review. Brought back to 2027 business meeting***

- f. The CERAASA guidelines to be updated to indicate that both the Eastern Canada Regional Trustee and the Trustee at Large Canada should be invited and reimbursed to attend each CERAASA.

Moved by Tim M., Past Delegate P67 Area 82, to postpone this item to the CERAASA 2027 Business Meeting.

Seconded by Amy L., Alt Delegate P75 Area 83

Adopted by the majority with 4 against. Minority did not exercise right. **Deferred to 2027**

10. Adjournment.

Moved by Nathalie Reid, Chair Area 90 to adjourn the Business Meeting.

Seconded by Tim M., Past Delegate Area 82.

Adopted unanimously.

Meeting **adjourned** at 3:43 PM.

Submitted in Humble Service

Jean-Marc B.

Alternate Chair Area 90

Secretary to the CERAASA 2023 Business Meeting

ADDENDUM

Upon resumption of the assembly on Sunday, February 23rd, 2025, Area 89 informed members that, upon further investigation, they were informed Québec City will host the Canada Winter Games in late February 2027. A quick call with potential hosting venues indicated it is unlikely they would have sufficient hotel rooms to accommodate a large group. As such, Area 89 could not host CERAASA 2027 during the last weekend of February. The business meeting was reconvened to seek new Area bids to host CERAASA 2027.

Debbie L. Co-Chair invited other Areas who may wish to host CERAASA 2027 to come forward.

Jean-Yves M., delegate P75 Area 88, presented Area 88's bid to host CERAASA 2027 in Drummondville, Québec, from Friday, February 26th to Sunday, February 28th, 2027.

Jean-Yves M. mentioned that the Area had not developed a detailed plan given Area 89 had indicated their intended to submit a bid, but that they have support of the Area 89 Regional Committee and volunteers ready to organize the event.

Moved by Lucien J., Chair Area 87, that Area 88 be the Host Area for CERAASA 2027.

Seconded by Michel C., Alternate Delegate Area 89.

Adopted unanimously. **Item concluded**

Addendum Notes taken by André D., Delegate P74 Area 87.

F- THANKS TO THE 2025 TEAM

THANK YOU to Trudy D, who chaired, coordinated, and carried out the 2025 event. She managed to do everything on her own, a testament to her ingenuity, dedication, and total commitment to AA affairs, particularly those of ASTECAA.

THANK YOU to the delegates and alternate delegates for preparing all these reports and delivering them with such panache.

THANK YOU to all the participants who attended this weekend and spoke at the business meeting.