

# GENERAL MEETING

## TUESDAY, JANUARY 30, 2024 (hybrid meeting)

(These Minutes Unapproved by Floor Members)

The meeting convened at 8:00 p.m. with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. The Twelve Traditions were read by Glenn G. (East York Group).

### MEMBERS PRESENT:

**INTERGROUP REP/ALT:** Anniversary, Aurora, Beaches, Bloordale, Brampton Recovery, Church Street, Credit Valley, Deer Park, Dry on Danforth, Erin Mills, Fellowship, Fifth Tradition, Friendly, Gladstone, Keep It Simple, King City, Kipling, Living Sober, Midtown, Mississauga, Morning Discussion, North Toronto, One Paragraph at a Time, Open Hands, Pine Hills, Port Credit, Prince Edward, Rexdale United, River Drive Park, Rox Glen Traditional, Silverbirch, Sisters in Sobriety, Steps to Serenity, St. Clements, The Dogs, Welcome, Westmoreland, and Willowdale Shepherd.

**DISTRICT LIAISONS:** Districts 14 and 22.

**OPERATING COMMITTEE MEMBERS:** Bruce L. (Finance Chair), Eric S., Jomana A. (OC Chair), Kelli T. (OC Vice-Chair), Kelly L. (OC Secretary), Ky T., and LiJon G.

**SUBCOMMITTEES REPRESENTED:** ARCHIVES, COMMUNICATIONS, CPC/PI, FINANCE, GRAPEVINE, INFORMATION AA DAY 2024, ORC 2024, TWELFTH STEP, WINTER SEASON VIRTUAL ALKATHON.

**HOUSEKEEPING:** Jomana outlined the following: recording of the meeting.

### ADOPTION OF MINUTES – DECEMBER 2023

**ERRORS/OMISSIONS:** No errors/omissions were forthcoming. **Motion** to adopt Minutes as presented, was voted on and passed.

### CHAIRPERSON'S OPENING REMARKS – Jomana A. (Stepping Stones), Operating Committee Chair

"I am exceptionally thrilled and equally nervous to be doing this; considering the fact this is a hybrid meeting format. I'm particularly pleased because the attendees for the in-person portion were many more than I expected! Thank you so much, guys, for being here."

"The Operating Committee will continue to do its best for being of service to the fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous; we will be focusing on 2 main areas:

- We are aiming for a return to complete in-person operation for the Intergroup monthly meeting. We will continue to facilitate a hybrid meeting until members feel comfortable enough to return to this format. Ideally by the summer it will be fully in person; and
- In partnership with the 8 service districts and other committees, we have to search out effective ways to engage the members in service...in levels *other* than the Home Group. There are many wonderful people in this fellowship that have exceptional talents; they have great sobriety and want to be of service. We need to learn how to make this effort as accessible as possible."

At this point in the meeting, Jomana asked Operating Committee Members to introduce themselves to the Floor.

### Motion to Suspend Regular Business – Elections for new Operating Committee Members

MOTION to Suspend Regular Business to Facilitate Elections was moved and carried.

**Election for new Operating Committee Members:** Jomana outlined the qualifications and service commitments for this position, and asked if any there were any nominations/volunteers from Floor members. After volunteering for the position and then addressing the Floor when invited to do so, **David G. (Friendly) will serve as a new OC member** (by acclamation).

**An election for 2 more OC members will be held at February's General Meeting. Please announce to your groups members! (Please see flyer in these Minutes; Appendix I)**

### COLLECTION OF THE 7<sup>TH</sup> TRADITION:

- As per our literature and the 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition, we are self-supporting through our own contributions.
- In-person Collection: A 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition basket was passed; \$67.00 was collected.
- For Virtual attendees: The 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition link is as follows: <https://www.aatoronto.org/about/7th-tradition/>

## FINANCE REPORT – Bruce L. (Back to Basics), Finance Chairperson

	December 2023 (1 month)						
	Actual 2023	Budget 2023	Variance	%	Actual 2022	Variance	%
<b>Contributions</b>	21,894	25,838	(3,944)	(15%)	20,260	1,634	8%
<b>Literature Sales</b>	10,726	10,000	726	7%	10,753	(27)	(0%)
<b>= Total Revenues</b>	32,620	35,838	(3,218)	(9%)	31,013	1,607	5%
<b>- Cost of Sales</b>	5,590	6,500	(910)	(14%)	7,133	(1,543)	(22%)
<b>- Expenses</b>	18,497	17,792	705	4%	14,537	3,960	27%
<b>= Surplus / (Deficiency)</b>	8,533	11,546	(3,013)		9,343	(810)	

Contributions for December were below the budgeted amount by \$3,900 or 15% but still higher than 2022 by \$1,600 or 8%. Literature sales were \$700 above budget and consistent with last year.

Total revenue for December was below budget by \$3,200 or 9% but overall for 2023 revenue was 21% higher than budgeted.

Cost of sales for December was \$5,600 off budget by \$900 or 14%. Expenses were also slightly higher than budgeted by \$700 or 4%.

Overall we finished December with a surplus of \$8,533, \$3,000 below the budgeted surplus of \$11,546. For 2023 Intergroup finished with a surplus of \$8,131 versus a budgeted surplus of \$70.

## SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

### ARCHIVES: Glenn G. (East York), Chairperson

Hi Friends, I'm an alcoholic, a member of the East York group, having the honour, privilege and responsibility to serve as the Chair of the Archives Committee for this Greater Toronto Area Intergroup; my name is Glenn.

Tonight's meeting is an example of historical moment. It has been almost four years since the Intergroup meeting has been held in person. One of the purposes of the Archives Committee is to document historical moments in AA history. Our Archivist, Eddy G., attends as many member medallions and group anniversaries as possible. He records many of these meetings. These recordings are added to others catalogued, in the Archives Repository located in the Intergroup offices, at 234 Eglinton Avenue East in Toronto. Eddy also collects gifts of deed on behalf of the Archives; donated artifacts and assorted documentation from members. He catalogues these items. David T., our assistant Archivist: assists Eddy in his duties, facilitates arrangements for our impressive oversized Archives display to attend events like the Ontario Regional Conference etc. David is also currently protecting member's anonymity by removing last names in historical group/district/area meeting minutes. This process is called "sanitizing" the minutes.

We have a very active committee comprised of: District Archives committee chairs, District Committee Members and their Alternates, Area 83 Eastern Ontario International Archives Committee Chair, volunteers interested in Archives, Archives Committee Chairs from other Areas/Districts/ Fellowships, and monthly visitors. Our email list is extensive. We stay in touch with both current and past committee members.

Our Archives Committee meets on the second Friday of each month at 7pm on zoom. With advance planning, members also have the opportunity to simultaneously meet in person in the Boardroom of the Intergroup offices. Everyone is

welcome and encouraged to attend our monthly meeting. We receive reports/updates from members about local Archives Service work. We answer Archives questions and provide support, guidance and encouragement regarding Archives tasks and service. We plan attendance at events; both local and out-of-town. We attend other Archives breakfasts with our displays. We host an annual GTAI Archives Breakfast, in November, highlighting a long-time member with historical connection. In cooperation with GTA Intergroup, 80 Years of AA in Ontario is now entering its second printing. Copies are available through the GTAI literature department.

Our Committee members are compiling both oral and group histories. We are asking members outside of the Committee for their assistance in both identifying and collecting these histories. Our fellowship has extensive historical information. If we do not record this information while members are alive, this information and experience is lost forever. We have a suggestion for you to take back to your groups. Please approach a long-time group member (30 years+) and ask if they have given an oral history. Find a group member with approximately one year and ask if they would like to participate in taking an oral history. Ask us to facilitate the oral history. We are especially interested in group members who have connections to the founders of the group.

We will be attending, with both displays and the 80 Years of AA in Ontario book, at the Ontario Regional Conference, being held at the Sheridan hotel, on Queen Street, across from Toronto City Hall on March 15th, 16<sup>th</sup> and 17th. Please drop by and say hi. Yours in loving service, Glenn G.

**COMMUNICATIONS:** Ted D. (Rox Glen Traditional), Chairperson

Our communications committee continues to expand to meet the evolving needs of the GTA Intergroup.

The first version of the “New Comer Page” was posted at [aatoronto.org](http://aatoronto.org) and you may expect to see minor changes to this page as we continue to ‘tweak’ it with improvements.

Further improvements will also be made to the WELCOME PAGE with the inclusion of a link to LITERATURE with office hours, contact info and a price list provided where it will be possible to place orders over the phone or PayPal.

A second initiative under development is a CENTRAL location for members and groups to place their medallion orders, provide celebration dates, etc. Medallions may be ordered by filling out and submitting the required form along with payment by phone or PayPal. Details are being worked out. Both Literature and Medallions can be posted or picked up at 234.

Finally, there has been much work over the past few years in the GTA Intergroup on the HELP/CHAT feature for the website with working groups, studies and a trial assessment in 2020. It is suggested that the Operating Committee strike a HELP/CHAT Committee consisting of 12 Step volunteers and IT personnel with liaison to the Communications Committee. The exact structure of this committee and functionality of the web feature can be realized in the next few months with the OC directive.

The Better Times continues to function smoothly. We are currently looking for a service volunteer with Canva experience to assist in layout. 400 copies of the February edition are being printed and can be picked up at 234 after Feb 1<sup>st</sup>. Next month the Better Times will be available for pick up from 234 and the OC Meeting at Timothy Eaton Church at the same time as it is distributed by Imran R. and the distribution crew. Thank you, Imran R. for the distribution and Alexx for the printing along with our contributors. As always, the coloured version will be available online and it looks great! Thank you for any of your valued input to the Comm. Committee.

I thank the Communications Committee for their attention to our web development, administration, meeting submissions and information vetting and the day to day maintenance. I also thank Alice N. for her editorial work on the Better Times and Luke G. for his past work in layout and wish him the best as he rotates out to other service positions.

In closing, I think it’s fair to say the GTA Intergroup communications is in good hands.

In love and service, Ted D. – Chair, Communications Committee

**INFORMATION AA DAY 2024:** De R. (Rexdale United), 2024 Event Alternate Chair

*De attended on behalf of this committee; the following report was sent in by Information AA Day Chair 2024, Julie G.:*

The info AA day committee met on Monday Jan 29th after a break in December, and plans are advancing well for the event in May. The date is set for Saturday May 25th, 9 am to 3 pm. The Venue is Bloordale United Church in Etobicoke. Our Area 83 Delegate, James O., will be giving his report after returning from the General Service Conference in April. Alt. Delegate, Amy L., will give a report on the service structure and how Districts and Intergroup co-operate as well as presenting on the topic "*Connecting Home Groups to the Conference Throughout the Year, to Better Inform the Group's Conscience.*" We are waiting on confirmation from the GSO for a speaker. The program is being drawn up and most committees have been contacted and confirmed attendance. Toronto Intergroup Chair, Jomana, has confirmed that she will give a presentation on Intergroup (up to 45 minutes).

We hope to approve promotional poster/flyer material and set the ticket price at the next meeting in February so that this information will be available to districts, committees, groups, The Better Times and the ORC, and so that tickets can be printed and distributed to districts. We will be promoting this event extensively and hope to attract newcomers and anyone who wants to learn more about the service structure and the third legacy of our program.

Our next meeting is on Monday Feb 26<sup>th</sup>. With much gratitude, Julie G. Information AA Day Chair

**I.T. SUBCOMMITTEE:** No report.

**ONTARIO REGIONAL CONFERENCE 2024:** Lisa W. (Port Credit), 2024 Event Chairperson

Good evening everyone, I'm Lisa, I'm an alcoholic, member of the Port Credit Group & the 2024 ORC chair.

We are now 6 weeks away from the ORC.

Things are moving ahead very well:

- 1064 registrations
- 603 banquet – we are almost sold out so anyone that wants to attend the banquet should purchase their tickets asap

Our hotel room block is now sold out. Anyone interested in a room can check the Sheraton Hotel website or a travel website, such as Expedia or Trivago.

We will have tables available for Intergroup Committees at the ORC. Please contact our hotel chair at [2025ORC.Hotel@gmail.com](mailto:2025ORC.Hotel@gmail.com) if you are interested in having a table. I have already forwarded the contact information for groups that expressed an interest in having a table at the ORC.

We are still looking for literature donations for the Newcomer Room. Contact Kathy S. at [newcomers24room@gmail.com](mailto:newcomers24room@gmail.com) if you will be making a donation.

We are also looking for greeters. Anyone interested can contact Adam at [adam@adamwilson.com](mailto:adam@adamwilson.com).

YILS, Lisa

**TWELFTH STEP:** Laura V. (Mount-Royal-York), Chairperson

In our never-ending quest to keep our Help Line available 24/7, we have decided to implement a plan proposed by one of our new young committee members, Mira. We will be doing a test run, and probably poll the existing phone greeters to get their feedback. Currently, we have 9- 1, 1-5, 5-9:30 and 9:30 until 9:00 am the following morning. We are going to keep the first two shifts the same, reducing the third one to 5:00 to 9:00 pm, which would reduce the overnight from 12 hours duration to 8 hours from 1:00 am to 9:00 am.

There are several reasons why we think this might just float. First of all, since most people finish their workday at 5:00, they are not available to do the third shift at present. Plus, the majority of our GTA meetings are from 8:00 to 9:00 pm, which would theoretically make many of our fellows available to do the 9:00 to 1:00 am shift. We are also presuming

that a lot of us don't go to bed much before 1:00 am anyway so possibly fired up from their attendance at a meeting, they might be just in the right mindset to want to carry the message by answering the phones.

We will be setting up a testing situation in the near future to see if it flies. In advance, we will poll our greeters for their input, hoping that many of them will see the merits in the plan and maybe even want to sign up for the new shift. We also welcome feedback from all of you and your home group members.

Further to that, we will be ramping up to participate in the upcoming ORC, and continue to work on our 12 Stepper list to improve our overall service.

*Help Line Calls for January (on file): Laura talked about call stats; someone with Excel spreadsheet knowledge that could translate the csv files would be helpful to illustrate these statistics for committee interest/future initiatives.*

Thank you for allowing me to serve. *Laura V.*

**WINTER SEASON OPEN HOUSE 2023:** No report.

**WINTER SEASON VIRTUAL ALKATHON 2023:** David P. (Birds of a Feather), Event Chairperson

During the first meeting of our committee last August, it was suggested this might be the final Winter Season Virtual Alkathon ever. Most GTA home groups have returned to in-person meetings, committees are doing the same and Intergroup is just beginning to contact local online meetings which continue, despite a widespread belief COVID is behind us. What did we do? The committee ignored the comment, buckled down and we pulled off another successful event.

Forty-four meetings over four days, including Al-anon, while accommodating the Winter Season Open House, with an average attendance of 25-30 people per meeting, and most importantly – multiple service opportunities for alcoholics in the home groups of the GTA. Some of them voiced their own opinions shortly afterward.

"This is AA at its best. They helped this alcoholic to step outside my comfort zone while fulfilling a worthwhile service role. Thank you."

"I enjoyed being a Tech Host. I got to attend other meetings, see different formats and hear new speakers, all within the convenient location of my living room! What an awesome way to give back what was so freely given to me."

"AA is growing and learning new and creative ways to carry its message while still maintaining its common ground: The Virtual Alkathon demonstrates this."

"The whole thing ran like clockwork. It was an awesome experience, so great to provide a meeting for newcomers, those who struggle during the holidays, and of course, it kept us sober."

That's it, in a nutshell. But it was something someone shared as I chaired the midnight meeting on New Year's Eve which struck me most of all. This fellow had hopped on a few hours earlier and stayed, meeting after meeting, because he was about to go to a bar. Then he thanked us for the Alkathon. That's why we do it. As I have heard often in these rooms, "that's the juice."

Sure, with this event we help carry the message to the still suffering alcoholic at a difficult time of year. We meet the challenge set out in the 5th Tradition of A.A. But perhaps most importantly, the Alkathon provides too many service opportunities for alcoholics in the GTA who are in recovery to be ended. It will be up to Intergroup to decide moving forward. In my opinion, much like our disease, the Winter Season Virtual Alkathon continues to evolve, and it should never go away.

Having said that, with this report I have finished my commitment as Chair of the Winter Season Virtual Alkathon. Thank you for letting me be of service.

David P., W.S.V.A. Outgoing Chair



## DISTRICT REPORTS

**ACCESSIBILITIES:** No Report.

**CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES:** No Report.

**COOPERATION with the PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY/PUBLIC INFORMATION:** Dorothy A. (Credit Valley), CPC/PI Chair

No formal subcommittee report submitted; the Chairperson gave a verbal report to Floor members. Inquiries about specific subcommittee activities: please email [cpc@aatoronto.org](mailto:cpc@aatoronto.org)

**GRAPEVINE:** Mike S. (Beaches), D22 Grapevine Chair

Had a meeting Jan 21 with District 6 and 22; the following items were discussed:

- discussed how best to go forward with interdistrict
- both district 6 and 22 have GV displays available for medallions and group anniversaries
- if your group has a GV rep please let us know so that they can be informed of the interdistrict meeting and the area 83 meeting
- also had discussions about displays at the ORC and at Info AA Day
- Next meeting is February 18

Yours in Service, Mike S. -GV District 22

**SELF SUPPORT:** No report.

Former Self-Support Chair, David T., mentioned that GSO is experiencing a shortfall in contributions.

This subcommittee currently needs a Chairperson; please contact Jomana at [oc.chair@aatoronto.org](mailto:oc.chair@aatoronto.org) for more information.

## TREATMENT:

Brendan O. (Fellowship of the Spirit), Chairperson, could not attend the meeting due to illness; however, he sent in the following report for inclusion in these Minutes:

### District 02

There has been some success in groups taking the meetings for detox. The Bad Boys Group has volunteered to be responsible for The Wednesday meeting at ART. Living and Learning Group is responsible for the St. Leonard's Tuesday night meeting. Masks are now required to be worn at the detox. The detox had been temporarily closed due to COVID outbreaks. It has since been reopened.

- Brampton Detox: Thursday at 8pm – Speaker meeting, Saturday at 1:30pm – Closed discussion meeting, Sunday at 8pm – Speaker meeting
  - St Leonard's: Tuesday at 8pm – Closed discussion
  - Addictions Rehab Toronto: Every Third Wednesday at 7:30pm – Speaker meeting
- \*note all facilities continue to be closed to the public only one chair and one speaker allowed in at a time
- York Region Withdrawal Management looking for an in person meeting once a month.

### District 06

- Jean Tweed waiting for new contact to set up when we are back in.
- Cawthra Shelter meetings being put on but residents not attending, Treatment Chair to meet with facility.

### District 10

No Report as the Treatment Chair has resigned.

### District 12

- Women's Homestead Wed Noon Third Thursday of the Month 7pm (women only)
- CAMH new meetings started Sunday and Tuesday Night 7:30 open to all members to attend. To be listed on the [aatoronto.org](http://aatoronto.org) site. If meetings go well we can add more meetings and more locations.
- St Joe's Withdrawal Management meeting discussed getting back in for our meeting. Dannah to join the D12 Treatment committee.
- Discussed D12 working with D10 to help cover the many potential meetings, to discuss further.

#### District 14

- Welcome to Charlie D the new D14 Treatment Chair
- Blue Door Meeting: There has been discussion of lack of attendance. District 14 will be discussing potentially discontinuing the meeting. We have a meeting with them set up for Feb 13, GTAI Chair Brendan will attend as well.
- Southlake Hospital: left a message with the head of Psychiatric care, regarding a meeting, but have not received a response as of time of writing.

#### District 16 (Spanish)

Does not attend or sends reports

#### District 18

Does not attend or sends reports

#### District 22

- Met Dec 17th, Peter H joined committee
- No groups willing to host January, February and March Treatment Committee hosting for (705 Progress Ave (Bellamy/Progress, Building F, Mondays, 7 pm) and (Homes First/City of Toronto Shelter (c/o the Delta Hotel, 401/Kennedy, Thursdays, 6 pm)
- It was suggested by the GTAI Treatment Chair that District 22 decide that the groups will support the meetings or shut them down as the meetings are voted on by the District to support and it is their responsibility to support it not the Treatment Committee who is supposed to be educating and training the facilities about AA
- Neither service meeting site has accepted repeated invitations for follow up staff presentations about AA.
- Approached a new warming center and some community centers.
- Planning to attend meetings with a Treatment Display to try to drum up support.

#### Area 83 Report

Please send your monthly reports to Maria M., Area Treatment Chair. Will be meeting with the Area Treatment Chairs for Area 84 and 86 soon, There will be a Treatment Presentation for the PCAS at the Area Spring Assembly and she may ask for input.

#### GTAI Treatment Chair Report

Discussed the need to define the purpose of the committee and suggested we all focus on the direction suggested in the Treatment Workbook to reach out to Hospitals, Treatment Centres, Withdrawal Management Facilities, Homeless Shelters, Sober Living Houses, Addiction counseling locations, senior's facilities and half houses etc. to educate them on what AA is. We can then provide information about local meetings in the area, provide information and pamphlets and hopefully the facilities will direct individuals to AA, promote the important Bridging The Gap Program and they may even request an on-site meeting which can be taken back to the District Table for them to decide. Once again, the importance of creating a Treatment Committee within each District to help with the contacting and training at existing and newly approached facilities. It has been our experience that when attendance at treatment meetings falls off either we have not made our commitment consistently or we have not been in the facility working with staff for some time.

The GTAI Treatment chair has offered to attend District meetings to discuss the role of the Treatment Committee.

#### Old Business

Meeting Target List and what to do with it. Identify every possible treatment target for current and future use and try to provide information on current and past efforts.

#### New Business

- Treatment Booth at the ORC: 2024 ORC (March 15-17) Sheraton Tickets \$55. We voted to proceed with the table and 5 or the districts committed to covering at least one 3-4 hour shift. Our contact is Scott M. 647-573-3234 [2025orc.hotel@gmail.com](mailto:2025orc.hotel@gmail.com)
- Information AA Day May 25th 2024: Treatment Presentation 10-10:15 room B. We voted that we would participate and Walter from District 12 would take the lead being supported by the rest of the committee.

- Frequency this committee should meet. After discussion, we decided we would continue to meet monthly but change from our Traditional Thursday time to Sundays at 4pm. However we would suspend the meetings for July and August but continue email reports from each district, In addition, we would try to go over the Treatment Workbook Presentation.

#### AREA 83 REPORT: Amy L., Area 83 Alternate Delegate

##### Area 83, General Service-related Items: Report for February 6, 2024 - GTA Intergroup meeting

- **SAVE THE DATE:** Exciting opportunity (free of charge)!! The 2024 Eastern Canada Regional Forum will be hosted by Area 83, IN OTTAWA!! On **August 23-25, 2024** in the Delta Hotels by Marriott. This will be an In-Person Event. See flyer below and I welcome you to post it in your meeting space please.
- Forums are weekend-long sharing and informational sessions that provide unique opportunities to share and exchange valuable experience, ask questions and spark new ideas. They are also intended to help the General Service Board, A.A. World Services, and AA Grapevine, and G.S.O. and Grapevine staff members stay in touch with A.A. members, trusted servants and newcomers throughout the A.A. service structure. Regional Forums carry A.A.'s message of love and service by improving communication at all levels of our Fellowship.
- **SAVE THE DATE: March 17, 2024** Eastern Canada Delegates' Orientation. Online Event.

The purpose of this event is to prepare Delegates for the General Service Conference (GSC) which will be held April 24-30, 2022. The Alternate Delegates will also be taking part in this event. We are striving to develop greater unity among the members, groups and areas of the Eastern Canada Region; to encourage the participation of our members with their input for their Delegate to attend the General Service Conference with the voice of their Area, fostering the Recovery, Unity and Service legacies of A.A. *All members of A.A. are welcome to attend!*

Translation will be available.

- **SAVE THE DATE: Area 83's Service Information Day** that usually is a 1-day event of Service-related workshops on the day before the Spring Assembly will take place as an ONLINE event on **February 10, 2024** from 8:45 am- 5pm. Link for the agenda of presentation found on [Area83aa.org](http://Area83aa.org)

1. **The Pre-Conference Agenda Sharing session-** will take place on **April 6, 2024** of the Assembly weekend. We will discuss Agenda items for the 74<sup>th</sup> General Service Conference. The full list of Agenda items with background information should be coming out in about 7-10 days.

Area 83 will be preparing summaries for the Agenda items, and we hope that you will look them over. Look for PCAS logo on the Home page of [Area83aa.org](http://Area83aa.org).



will look

Please talk about these items with members at your group. The PCAS sessions are where we can participate in the discussion and hear varied opinions of Area 83. These discussions are very helpful to the delegate in his deliberations at the Conference. FYI: Our delegate is sitting on the Literature Committee and Archives Committee.

2. **The GSR Workshops** that meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 8 pm. Upcoming topics will include:

- **February 20<sup>th</sup>, Preparing to Participate in Pre-Conference Agenda Sharing(PCAS)**
  - What are the hot agenda items?
  - How do you keep your group informed?
  - How does your voice go to the Conference?
- **March 19th, Preparing to attend the Spring Assembly weekend**
  - **Area 83 Website and other useful tools**  
*These sessions are open to anyone interested in General Service.*

3. **Quarterly Report from G.S.O. Came out on January 31, 2024.** You can quickly access this and other communications from GSO via the Meeting Guide App.

4. If anyone knows about online or in-person meetings available in other languages, I would be grateful to hear about them. It would be good to create a list of these meeting in other languages for our friends who would be more comfortable receiving the program in a language other than English. Please let me know ([Alt.delegate@area83aa.org](mailto:Alt.delegate@area83aa.org))



5. **flyer for a Chinese online meeting** (link to flyer is [here](#)):

Bridge to Hope AA Meeting 希望之橋嗜酒者互誠協會

Wednesdays and Saturdays:

8pm Pacific Daylight Time (March to November) **11 pm EST**

7pm Pacific Standard Time (November to March) **10 pm EST**



## Eastern Canada Regional Forum

**August 23-25, 2024**

**Delta Hotels by Marriott**

**Ottawa, Ontario**



Please join us for a weekend full of AA  
information and fellowship with Trusted  
Servants and GSO Staff!

Interested in Volunteering? Please email  
[ecrf2024@area83aa.org](mailto:ecrf2024@area83aa.org)

More information available on the Area 83 website at the QR  
code above or at <https://www.aa.org/regional-and-local-forums>

### RECEPTION:

**Virtual Attendance:** Present were 25 Reps, 9 Alternate Reps, 2 OC Members, 7 Subcommittee Chairs, 2 District Liaisons and 6 Visitors, for a total attendance of 51 members.

**In-Person Attendance:** Present were 6 Reps, 3 Alternate Reps, 1 Chairperson, 6 OC members, and 1 visitor for a total attendance of 17 members.

**TOTAL ATTENDANCE: 68 members.**

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No Unfinished Business was forthcoming.

WE NEED YOUR HELP TO FULFILL THE SERVICE SIDE OF YOUR RECOVERY TRIANGLE:



[Phone Greeters/12 Step Volunteers](#)

[ORC 2026 Chairperson](#)

[Bilingual Member Resource \(12 Step Calls\)](#)

[Workshop Chairperson](#)

[Operating Committee Members \(2\)](#)

## NEW BUSINESS

Jomana announced the need for an **ORC 2026 Chairperson** (*please see service position description in Appendix II*).

**CHAIRPERSON'S CLOSING REMARKS:** Jomana thanked everyone for their participation and dedication to service.

There was a Motion to adjourn and it was carried. The meeting adjourned with the Responsibility Declaration.

**NEXT GENERAL MEETING:** A hybrid meeting will be held on **Tuesday, February 27, 2024 at 8 p.m.**

# Two OC MEMBERS NEEDED!

## SERVING ON THE GTAI OPERATING COMMITTEE: WHAT'S INVOLVED?



### The Operating Committee ('OC') is composed of ten persons:

- Chairperson and Vice Chairperson
- Treasurer (a.k.a. - the Chair of the Finance Committee)
- Secretary
- Six committee members, (will be assigned the role of OC Liaison to a Subcommittee)

### Qualifications of Members of the Operating Committee

- Members of the EC must have a minimum of two years of sobriety.
- Experience in various service positions within one's home group and in General Service are helpful.
- Helpful to be familiar with GTAI's Operating Procedures and Guidelines manual in tandem with Twelve Steps and Twelve Concepts.

### Terms of Office for Members of the Operating Committee

- Members of the OC are nominated and elected as necessary when vacancies occur. They are elected by the voting members of the Intergroup Floor from the total membership of Alcoholics Anonymous in the Greater Toronto Area, including serving Intergroup Reps and/or Alternate Reps.
- The term for a member of the OC is one year; this term may be renewed annually, for up to 2 more years, to a maximum of 3 continuous years.
- Term for OC Chair and OC Vice-Chair is 2 years for each position.
- If an OC member is elected as Vice Chair or Chair, the maximum term for continuous service on the OC may be extended for the terms of those positions only, to a maximum of 6 years.
- At the end of their term of office, members of the OC are ineligible to serve on the OC for a period of 24 months.

### Monthly Responsibilities as an OC Member

- Attends the monthly OC Meeting (held on the Wednesday before the monthly General Meeting – **Currently meeting online at 8:00 p.m.**)
- Attends one monthly (or bi-monthly) subcommittee meeting, as part of OC Liaison duties
- Attends of monthly General Meeting (last Tuesday of each month at 8 p.m. **Currently meeting online**)
- All members of the OC may attend meetings of the Finance Subcommittee. Only the Chairperson of the OC may have a voice and a formal vote at the meetings.
- Attend the quarterly meetings held with District Reps ('Joint Sharing Meeting') where members of each service level share information about current activities

### Monthly Responsibilities as an OC Liaison to GTAI Subcommittees

- Attends monthly meetings of subcommittee(s) as an assigned OC Liaison in a non-voting capacity unless requested by the subcommittee to take an active part in its operations.
- Observe activities of subcommittee
- Report on committee's activities

- Prepare a brief (point-form) written Liaison report for the monthly OC meetings
- The Intergroup Liaison for a committee may be required, in the absence of the Committee Chair, to present the committee report about committee activities at the General Intergroup General Monthly meeting and take questions back to the committee to be answered at a later meeting.

## **FAQ ABOUT SERVING ON THE OPERATING COMMITTEE**

### **Q: What is GTA Intergroup's Mission?**

**A:** Greater Toronto Area Intergroup is a coordinating body that supports the 12-step work of AA groups in the Toronto area, providing a point of contact between individual groups, our members, the public and the still suffering alcoholic.

### **Q: Can I still serve as the Intergroup Rep. for my Home Group and serve on the Operating Committee?**

**A:** No. If you are elected to the Operating Committee, you must resign as your Intergroup Rep.

### **Q: What are some of the attributes that may be desirable for those considering this position?**

**A:** As our Second Tradition states -- our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern. The Operating Committee does not govern, but it is in a position of authority in its recommendations and decision-making on behalf of Greater Toronto Area Intergroup.

Those considering serving on this committee may on occasion deal with sensitive and contentious issues. Maturity, attention to detail, discretion and dedication to the good of the organization are desired.

### **Q: As a Committee member, would I be personally liable in the event of bankruptcy/lawsuits?**

**A:** No. As a charitable organization, AA Greater Toronto Area Intergroup has insurance coverage for committee members.

### **Q: Who can I talk to about serving on the Operating Committee?**

**A:** You may speak with anyone on the Operating Committee or former Operating Committee members for further information. You may be nominated to serve, or you can nominate yourself.

More detailed information about the role and responsibilities of Operating Committee Members can be found in the *GTAI Operating Procedures and Guidelines*, which can be accessed online at [aatoronto.org](http://aatoronto.org) -- under About Us: Link: <https://www.aatoronto.org/about/policies-and-procedures> or feel free to send an email with your questions to [oc.chair@aatoronto.org](mailto:oc.chair@aatoronto.org)

## Service Opportunity

### Position Description: Chair, Ontario Regional Conference (ORC) of Alcoholics Anonymous

The Ontario Regional Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous is a 3-day event held annually (generally in March). Traditionally, the ORC has 2500-3000 attendees and is held at a suitable downtown Toronto Hotel, lately the Sheraton Hotel. The conference is 3 days of fellowship and meetings with speakers from all over North America, including local speakers and panelists.

The role of Chair for the ORC is a 3-year service commitment – one year as Shadow Chair, one year as Chair, and one year as Member without Portfolio. As Chair, you are responsible for the selection of an appropriate committee to run the event, plan and deliver a great conference, and report back to the ORC Advisory Sub-Committee and fellowship with the results.

#### Responsibilities

- Select Committee
- Shadow current ORC Chair and committee for a full year, attending all committee meetings (along with your committee), and assist in running the conference the year prior to yours– Opportunity for you and your committee to learn your roles
- Present proposed conference budget to ORC Advisory Sub-Committee for review and feedback (as per provided formats)
- Attend monthly Toronto Intergroup meeting on an ad hoc basis to provide updates on conference progress
- Conduct monthly meetings with committee leading up to conference to ensure key milestones are met
- Deliver ORC
- Provide final financial breakdown to ORC Advisory Sub-Committee and discuss the favourable and unfavourable variances
- Deliver final report to the Toronto Intergroup floor

#### Qualifications/ Skills

- 10 years of continuous sobriety
- Past member of the ORC committee
- History of service beyond the group level
- Has not been Chair of ORC in the past 10 years
- Enjoys working in a collaborative team environment

**Interested Candidates can refer their questions to/submit service resumes to:**

[orcadvisory@aatoronto.org](mailto:orcadvisory@aatoronto.org) and/or [oc.chair@aatoronto.org](mailto:oc.chair@aatoronto.org)