

GENERAL MEETING

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 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 Jeannine C. (Newmarket Group).

MEMBERS PRESENT:

INTERGROUP REP/ALT: AA Solution Seekers, Anniversary, Aurora, Beaches, Brampton Recovery, Church Street, Erin Mills, Fellowship, King City, Last Chance, Leslie, Long Branch, Love & Tolerance, Midtown, Morning Discussion, Mount Royal-York, Newmarket, North Toronto, One Paragraph at a Time, Open Hands, Pine Hills, Prince Edward, Principles Before Personalities, River Drive Park, Rox Glen Traditional, Royal York, See To It, Sisters in Sobriety, Six Points, Steps to Serenity, The Dogs, Twelve Steps, and Welcome.

DISTRICT LIAISONS: Districts 14, 18, and 22.

OPERATING COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Bruce L. (Finance Chair), Eric S., Jomana A. (OC Chair), Kelly L. (OC Secretary), and Lijon G.

SUBCOMMITTEES REPRESENTED: ARCHIVES, COMMUNICATIONS, FINANCE, GRAPEVINE, INFORMATION AA DAY 2024, IT SUBCOMMITTEE, ORC 2024, AND TREATMENT.

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

ADOPTION OF MINUTES – JANUARY 2024

ERRORS/OMISSIONS: Errors/omissions: Tricia G., Rep for AA Solution Seekers Group, wanted to amend the previous Minutes to reflect that she was present at the January General Meeting (online). With this amendment noted, **Motion** to adopt Minutes as amended moved by Richard M. (Pine Hills) and seconded by Jeannine C. (Newmarket). Motion carried.

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

It's really exciting to see 19 members present at the in-person portion of this meeting! We have 41 members online tonight. It's great to see so much participation.

The current Operating Committee members are already two months into their positions. We have been familiarizing ourselves with our service roles; also securing our logins and credentials needed. I've had the opportunity to meet almost all of the Subcommittee Chairpersons, and am grateful to have been invited to their subsequent monthly subcommittee meetings. We are experiencing a wonderful cooperation between Intergroup and the service districts to facilitate carrying the message to the still-suffering alcoholic.

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 moved by Mike S. (Beaches) and seconded by Carolyn O. (Last Chance). Motion 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 a brief address to the Floor, **Sean L. (Fellowship) will serve as a new OC member.**

Another member expressed interest in serving as an OC member; however, after Jomana explained that one cannot serve as both an OC member and a group rep, the individual agreed to withdraw their candidacy for now, and will consult with their home group on this item.

An election for 1 more OC member will be held at the March General Meeting. Please announce to your groups members! (Please see flyer in these Minutes; Appendix I)

COLLECTION OF THE 7TH TRADITION:

- As per our literature and the 7th Tradition, we are self-supporting through our own contributions.
- In-person Collection: A 7th Tradition basket was passed; \$58.00 was collected.
- For Virtual attendees: The 7th Tradition link is as follows: <https://www.aatoronto.org/about/7th-tradition/>

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

	January 2024 (1 month)						
	Actual 2024	Budget 2024	Variance	%	Actual 2023	Variance	%
Contributions	8,504	8,608	(104)	(1%)	8,739	(235)	(3%)
Literature Sales	12,260	11,320	940	8%	13,645	(1,385)	(10%)
= Total Revenues	20,764	19,928	836	4%	22,384	(1,620)	(7%)
- Cost of Sales	10,638	9,198	1,440	16%	8,441	2,197	26%
- Expenses	12,817	16,571	(3,754)	(23%)	12,847	(30)	(0%)
= Surplus / (Deficiency)	(2,691)	(5,841)	3,150		1,096	(3,787)	

Contributions for January are within \$100 of budget while Literature Sales are 8% higher than budgeted, giving total revenues of \$20,764. Note that \$12,260 Lit. Sales is net after the 20% discount was applied as per the 2024 budget.

Cost of Goods Sold is 16% higher than expected due to lower exchange rates and higher than expected shipping costs. However Expenses were 23% lower than budgeted giving an overall deficiency of \$2,691 better than budgeted.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

ARCHIVES: Glenn G. (East York), Chairperson

Hi Friends, I am an alcoholic, a member of the East York Group, having the honour, privilege and responsibility to serve as the Chair of the GTAI Archives Committee. My name is Glenn.

Tonight, I wish to focus on both the summary of, and importance of attending, upcoming AA events. The Archives committee will be at The Ontario Regional Conference (ORC) being held March 15th through 17th, 2024 at the Sheraton hotel, located across the street from Toronto City Hall. Please visit us there to: view the extensive display, meet our Archivist Eddy G., Assistant Archivist David T., and our other committee members. I suspect that you will want to oouu and aww appropriately as well. We will also have copies of the recently published book 80 Years of AA in Ontario for sale. The Area 83 Eastern Ontario International Assembly takes place at St. Lawrence College, in Kingston, Ontario April 5th through 7th. GTAI Archives will be represented with both display and attendance at the Area 83 Archives Committee meeting. Along with many other committee presentations, there is an Archives panel presentation as part of the Service Day program. Please either visit the Area 83 website or ask your Group Service Representative for details on both the events and how to attend. Our GTAI committee and display, through invitation, will attend The East Toronto Archives Breakfast (ETAB) being held on Sunday April 28th at the Qssis banquet hall, corner of Kingston and Markham Roads. Joyce S., currently serving as a Class B Trustee for the General Service Office (GSO), will be sharing her story whilst intertwining it with AA historical experience. Tickets are \$35. Please see me after tonight's meeting to purchase same. On Saturday May 11th, 2024, some Archives Committee Members will be traveling to the 22nd Hamilton Archives breakfast with both display and books for sale. Please ask to join us. Information AA Day is happening on May 25th at

Bloordale United Church. Tickets are \$10 and include both lunch and more AA Service information and opportunities than you can shake a stick at. We don't want to miss hearing from both our Area 83 Delegate and the General Service Office designate (psst, they're being flown in at the Information AA Day Committee's expense from New York). Yes, The GTAI Archives committee will also be there with both display and brief presentation. The Eastern Canada Regional Forum will be held at Delta Hotels in Ottawa, Ontario August 23rd to the 25th. A microcosm snapshot of the General Service Office will appear, as if teleported, to update attendees on world service initiatives and current details regarding all elements of committee work. Ask me for my input any time after this meeting.

We are still encouraging groups to both identify and schedule oral histories with long timers facilitated by both group members (suggesting around a year of sobriety) and a guiding member of our committee. Please contact us to get started.

I had the privilege to do an oral history with a long-time member. I think he has celebrated more than 60 years of sobriety. In the old days, it was common to gather up a car load of alcoholics and drive two hours or more to a meeting. We are fortunate to have hundreds of meetings in Toronto each month. I do enjoy filling my car with members and going on a road trip though. The list of events from above creates extra opportunities. From "AA's Twelve and Twelve" The Joy of Living ... and Action is the keyword. Please consider hitting the road with us.

I attended many meetings whilst in Italy in 2012. I found it interesting to note that attending members having long time sobriety held current service positions. I don't think that this is a coincidence. Thank you all for being here! Yours in loving service, Glenn G.

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

Our communication committee continues to serve the needs of the GTA Intergroup.

Work is ongoing with the Webmaster and web volunteers in the development and implementation of the LITERATURE page with office hours, contact info and a price list provided where it will be possible to place orders over the phone or PayPal. We are currently working out details for online payments. We have committed to the development is the 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. Once again, details are being worked out. Both Literature and Medallions can be posted or picked up at 234.

Work continues in the realization of the HELP/CHAT feature for the website. Most recently, we are reviewing the materials from San Francisco on their Help/Chat along with the volume of materials on hand to the GTA Intergroup. It is expected the exact structure of this committee and functionality of the web feature can be realized in the next few months with the OC directive. It must be said that volunteers are most important and something we must work to increase when positions are defined, SF may have had an advantage with the pool of expertise within the Silicon Valley community.

The Better Times is producing very good material as you will see from the latest March edition available here tonight, please pass them out at your group and support out GTA voice in print. We continue looking for a service volunteer with Canva experience to assist in layout. Thank you, Imran R. for the distribution along with your crew, I would ask any group or subcommittee reps who can assist in the distribution of the BT to speak with Imran. Alexx thanks for the printing. We may expect extra copies this month to distribute at the ORC.

The Communications Committee will be staffing a table at the ORC. Please drop by and say hello. We hope to be able to illustrate our Website at <https://www.aatoronto.org/> to any one of the three thousand or so expected attendees and provide pass and current copies of the BT. We expect to conduct a survey on the services we provide and to solicit new volunteers to the Intergroup Sub-committee of choice.

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.

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

An Info AA day Committee meeting was held yesterday on Feb 26th at 7 pm via Zoom.

Our committee has been working hard to organize a great event this year for Saturday, May 25th at Bloordale United Church. This is a great opportunity for our members to learn about the greater service structure of AA and how to get involved. Please tell your group members to pencil this date in their calendars.

Our theme this year is "Our Great Responsibility". We hope this reflects how important service is in our program of recovery and that it inspires people to come along and find out more about it.

Ticket price has been set to 10 dollars. This price not only helps us cover our costs but includes a great lunch. Tickets will be printed soon and be available through your GSR's.

We are still looking for volunteers to help greet at the doors on the day.

Please look for Info AA Day flyers at the ORC, and there will also be more information available soon on the Intergroup website. Email infoaaday@aatoronto.org for more information.

I.T. SUBCOMMITTEE: David T. (St. Clements), interim Chairperson

February meeting opened with a Moment of Silence and Serenity Prayer at 7:00 PM on Feb. 12.

Attendees: Brad. Bart. Jomana, David T. Meeting held to establish working arrangements of GTA IT Committee.

David advised meeting he was requested to chair the meeting by the current Operating Committee Chair.

David polled the participants to determine their experience and what they would like to concentrate on for this committee.

As there were not outstanding Projects Jomana was asked if she had anything she needed the committee to work on.

Only outstanding issue was the equipment needed for Hybrid Meetings at Timothy Eaton Church. – David will attend

next meeting and bring portable speakers for the Secretary to test. Upcoming items: The committee will work on

Google/Google Workspace issues. **IT Committee volunteers needed!** (See appendix of these minutes) **For more**

information please email David at it.chair@aatoronto.org

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

The Conference is fast-approaching; we are just two weeks out from it happening! The ORC will be held March 15, 16, and 17 at the Sheraton Hotel, Toronto. Tickets are \$55.

Our Hotel block sold out in January. Our banquet (Saturday night) is now sold out. As of a few hours ago, we have 1,531 people registered for attendance at the event. We are in good shape as we head into the Conference.

Pre-registration closes this Friday at midnight. If you want to avoid long lineups, please buy your tickets now! There will be on-site registration, starting at 11 a.m. on Friday, March 15.

We are still looking for literature donations for the Newcomer's Room. You can contact Kathy S. if your group would like to make a donation: newcomers24room@gmail.com

Regarding announcements being made at groups about free tickets for the ORC event: There are no free tickets for the ORC. We have to pay to attend the Conference. The Conference – while it is part of AA – is not an 'AA meeting'; we have to cover all our costs for being at the Sheraton Hotel, registration services, etc. Please do not send people to Registration asking for [free] tickets. However everyone is welcome in the Newcomer Room at the event; whether they have an event badge or not. Entrance to other meeting rooms, karaoke on Friday night, the dance on Saturday night, etc. requires an event badge [proof of paid admission]. We are all set for greeters that weekend.

A member announced that Birds of a Feather Group is hosting a hospitality suite at the event.

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

TWELFTH STEP: No Report.

WINTER SEASON OPEN HOUSE 2024: No report. The committee commences meeting activities in autumn.

Jomana announced that a **2024 Event Chair is needed!** Please email oc.chair@aatoronto.org with service resumes or inquiries. **Deadline for resumes:** March 31, 2024.

WINTER SEASON VIRTUAL ALKATHON 2024: No report. The committee commences meeting activities in autumn.

Jomana announced that a **2024 Event Chair is needed!** Please email oc.chair@aatoronto.org with service resumes or inquiries. **Deadline for resumes:** March 31, 2024.

DISTRICT REPORTS

ACCESSIBILITIES: No Report.

CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES: No Report.

COOPERATION with the PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY/PUBLIC INFORMATION: No Report.

GRAPEVINE: Imran R. (Port Credit), D06 Grapevine Chair

- Meeting held on Feb 18th
- Attended by D06, D22, D14, D02
- Discussed setup for upcoming ORC
- Discussed setup for upcoming AA Info Day – setup will be done by Area (Christine)
- Shared ideas on how to expand the current GV work
- Discussed the need to connect with Group GV reps

If your group has a GV rep, please let us know so that they can be included. Next meeting is March 24.

Yours in Service, Imran R-GV District 06

SELF SUPPORT: No report.

This subcommittee currently needs a Chairperson; please contact Jomana at oc.chair@aatoronto.org for more information.

TREATMENT: Brendan O. (Fellowship of the Spirit), Chairperson

Past Minutes

- Discussed purpose and direction of the Intergroup Treatment Committee in helping the District Treatment Committees.
- Decided to participate as a committee at the Ontario Regional Conference March 15-17
- Decided to participate as a committee at Information AA day May 25th
- Agreed to meet monthly on the third Sunday at 4pm each month but break for July & August

REPORTS

D02

It has been requested by **York Region Withdrawal Management Centre** that AA bring a meeting into their facility the 2nd Thursday of each month.

There was a Brampton Round Up and we donated three big books. We have also ordered 1 month chips for the detox, they were requested by several clients of the detox.

We have begun to form a small treatment committee to support the Saturday detox meeting.

Masks are now required to be worn at the detox.

BRIDGING THE GAP: There was 2 Bridging The Gap Request this month.

DISTRICT 02 TREATMENT FACILITIES UPDATE:

- **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**

D06

- **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 the facility.

D10

Welcome to Curtis the new Treatment Chair for District 10

D12

- **Womens 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 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 10 and 12 will discuss working together to cover the Treatment meetings in both districts.

D14

Conferred with George B, who has been looking after treatment in District 14 temporarily, regarding **Southlake Health Centre, CHIRS and Blue Door**. He provided me with the contacts he has been in touch with. He had an idea to switch the night of the Blue Door meeting because there is a conflicting meeting that some residents attend. George has generously agreed to continue to help with treatment.

Attended district meeting Monday Feb. 12, 2024. Went over some of the expectations the district has for the treatment committee. We outlined some responsibilities for the district and groups regarding meetings, along with what is expected from the treatment committee in terms of coordination and liaison with the facilities.

The change in the **Blue Door** meeting night from Tuesday to Wednesday was voted on and passed. There was a positive reaction to having groups be responsible for one month at a time. George B graciously volunteered to take the first month while the GSR's took the idea back to their groups.

I agreed to create a "calendar" and to coordinate with the GSR's in regard to signing groups up for service at Blue Door. The meeting between Brendan O'S., myself (Charlie D) and Blue Door that was scheduled for February 13, 2024, had to be pushed back until February 27, 2024. Brendan O'S provided me with a list of some potential facilities to contact for meetings. I reached out to Belinda's Place and Sandgate on February 15 and will update any responses at the meeting on February 18.

D16 Spanish

Does not attend or send reports.

D18

Michael Garron Withdrawal Management running smoothly and going through a lot of books. The Unionville group sent money just for Big Books (as did FOTS but I didn't make it to self-support)

Edward Village Hotel Shelter is not running smoothly and attendance has not been good. Treatment to meet with them in March.

Jean Tweed is once a month but we have had trouble coordinating with the staff to have things run smoothly. More groups getting involved and looking to attend more service meetings.

D22

Progress Shelter Monday 7pm **Delta Shelter** Thursday 6pm both are starting to have residents attend.

Working to get more home groups to take meetings, committee asking groups to let them attend their business meeting to extol the virtues of treatment.

Have approached a few new warming centers in community centers about AA.

Trying to attend 'service' meetings being put on by groups or individuals to try to get them to work with the Treatment Committee.

Area 83 Report

No Report.

GTAI Treatment Chair Report

Mandate for the Treatment Committee using the Treatment Workbook as a guide as far as educating them on AA, offering info on local AA, offering literature, promoting Bridging the Gap before even considering putting a meeting on there. Importance of having a committee and approaching the groups directly to get them involved. Attendance at Treatment meetings are tied to how much time we spend working with the facility to educate/ remind them of what AA does. Staff turnover and changes in priorities means we need to go in at least 3 times a year. We should not assume that everyone knows about or has a positive view of AA. The importance of working with other committees such as Cooperation with Professionals/Public Information, Self-Support etc. It is an exciting time for Treatment as there is a new commitment and energy of working together and we will work to come up with letters, emails and presentations that can be used by all the districts. We should try to bring all the Service Meetings that fall under the Treatment umbrella on the same page and update our Treatment Target list. I will be doing a Treatment Workshop for the newer Treatment Chairs if there's interest moving forward.

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.
- Treatment Booth at the ORC 2024 ORC (March 15-17) Sheraton Tickets \$55.

Friday	3pm to 6 pm
Friday	6pm to 9pm
Saturday	9am to 12:30pm
Saturday	10:30 to 2pm
Saturday	1:30 to 4:45pm
Sunday	9am to 1pm

 Our contact is Scott M. 647-573-3234 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. We can defer working out the Details

New Business: Our next GTAI Treatment meeting will be moved to Sunday March 10 as the ORC is on at the same time as our scheduled meeting on the 17th.

AREA 83 REPORT: No Report.

RECEPTION:

Virtual Attendance: Present were 26 Reps, 7 Alternate Reps, 0 OC Members, 3 Subcommittee Chairs, 2 District Liaisons and 3 Visitors, for a total attendance of 41 members.

In-Person Attendance: Present were 6 Reps, 2 Alternate Reps, 4 Chairpersons, 5 OC members, and 2 visitors for a total attendance of 19 members.

TOTAL HYBRID ATTENDANCE: 60 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](#)
[Winter Season Open House 2024 Chairperson](#)
[Winter Season Virtual Alkathon 2024 Chairperson](#)
[Bilingual Member Resource \(12 Step Calls\)](#)
[Workshop Chairperson](#)
[IT Subcommittee Members](#)
[Operating Committee Member \(1\)](#)

NEW BUSINESS

Before opening the Floor for New Business, Jomana reminded those present that any formal Motions presented:

- Must have a member to second the Motion in order to facilitate discussion; and
- If discussion on the Floor becomes too time-consuming (as we are at the end of the meeting), discussion on the Motion presented will be deferred until the next General Meeting.

Jomana then inquired if there were any items of New Business from the Floor.

Phone Helpline Query re: Dropped Calls

Michael S. (Prince Edward) was following up on his previous question regarding our local phone helpline (416-487-5591) regarding call stats; he was concerned specifically about dropped calls which he experienced previously while calling the helpline. He wanted to know stats of dropped calls and the frequency of these incurred by our current phone system, and whether he needed to put emphasis on the need for more phone greeters to his group members. Jomana suggested he reach out to our current Twelfth Step Chair, Laura V. at 12step.chair@aatoronto.org for further concrete data/updates on this item.

Woman AA Volunteers Needed

David L. (See To It) had an announcement: Women driver volunteers are needed to escort clients from the local withdrawal management centre (women) to local AA meetings (Saturdays) in his district. Jomana directed David to contact his group's GSR and have their GSR contact with the Treatment Chair of their district table. Also, Brendan O., InterDistrict Treatment Chair treatment@aatoronto.org can offer some insight on this initiative.

Motion from the Floor

Bryan W., Rox Glen Traditional Group (who was attending in person), approached the microphone and asked the OC secretary to screen share a particular website to attendees, in aide of the Motion his group was presenting this evening (see below).

Bryan shared: "A quick little history: I'm a founding member of my Home Group; I've been sober over 30 years. I served on the Public Information Subcommittee for more than 5 years."

[Referring to the website currently screen shared] "I came upon this website purely by accident. **I typed in 'AA Toronto' [Google.ca] and this particular website popped up:**



[This appears as a listing]:

Results for **Toronto, ON** · Choose area

211 Central
<https://211central.ca/record>

Alcoholics Anonymous (GTA) - Greater Toronto Area ...

Jun 16, 2022 — Greater Toronto Area Intergroup · Address: 234 Eglinton Ave E, Suite 202
Toronto, ON, M4P 1K5 · Hours of Operation: Open 24/7 · Help Line ...

Alcoholics Anonymous
<https://www.aa.org/find-aa>

Find A.A. Near You

The app helps people find A.A. meetings and resources near them. A.A. service entities provide the meeting data for the app. Meeting Guide is available for ...

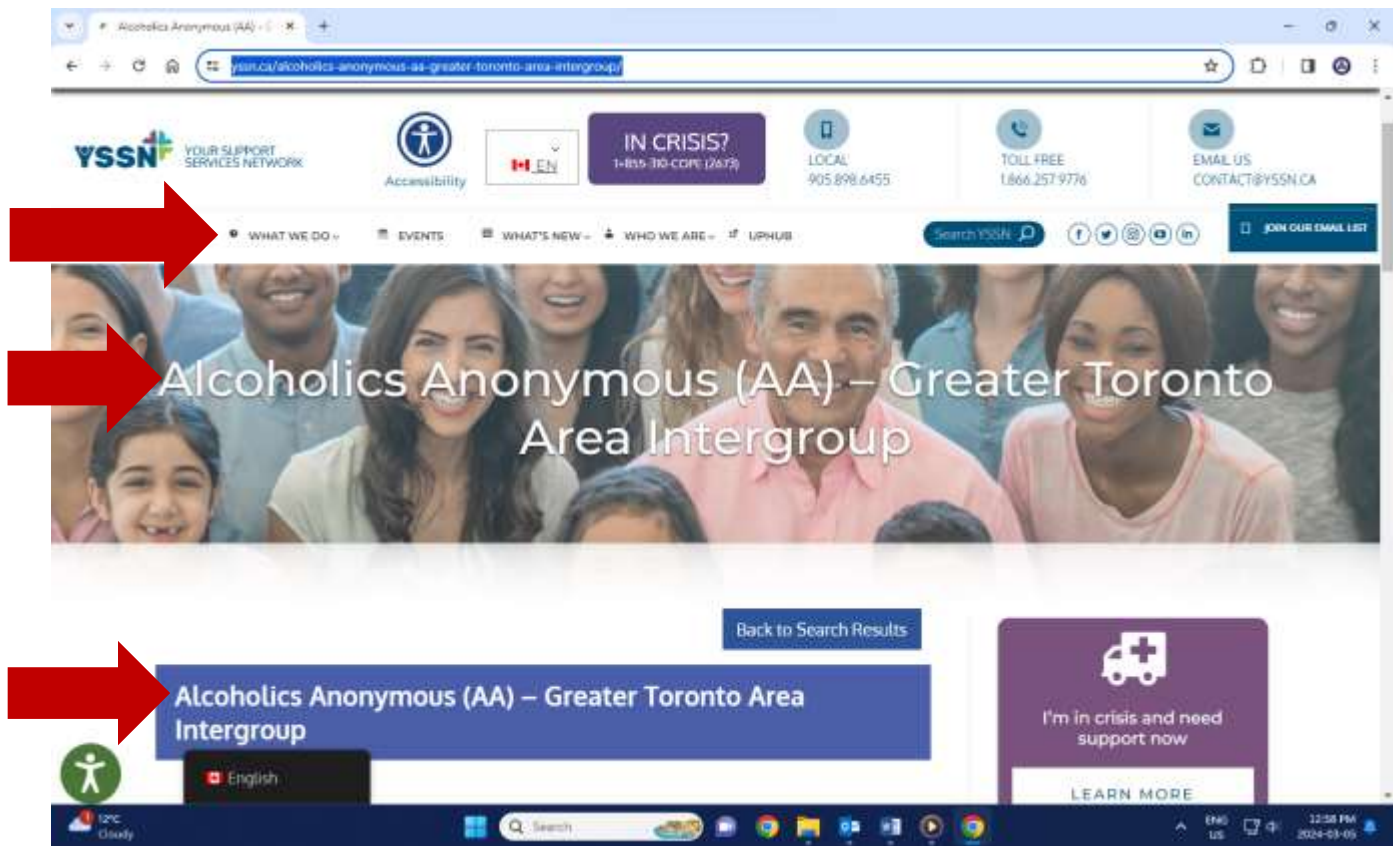
Your Support Services Network
<https://yssh.ca/alcoholics-anonymous-aa-greater-toronto>

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Greater Toronto Area ...

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) – Greater Toronto Area Intergroup, Address: ON, Canada
Phone: 416-487-5591. Email: info@aatoronto.org. Website: <http://www.aa.org>



[When you click on the Your Support Services Network <https://yssn.ca/alcoholics-anonymous-aa-greater-toronto-area-intergroup/> the following site pops up]:



“I clicked on the link. I was looking for Intergroup. I was shocked. This site isn’t Intergroup, and it’s not AA. As a long-time member, I was very disappointed when I saw this because it’s aligned with all these agencies. In AA, we don’t do that; we don’t do what all these other agencies listed [on this site] do. For the newcomer that wants to look up AA and check out what A.A. is all about [by clicking on this link] they could think ‘oh A.A. does this and AA does that’. There is a button at the top that says ‘What We Do’. When you click that button, you get a list of all these options...but we [A.A.] don’t do them. This is extremely misleading. Another button says ‘Who We Are’. We are not these different agencies; we are Alcoholics Anonymous. We do one thing and one thing only: we help the alcoholic that still suffers.”

“I’m going to read you the Tradition that speaks to this. Tradition Six: ‘A.A. ought never endorse, finance, or lend the A.A. name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property, and prestige divert us from our primary purpose’ which is helping the still-suffering alcoholic. I’m going to quote the last paragraph of that Tradition [Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, page 159]: ‘Concerning endorsements, our dear friend said it all. We saw as never before we could not lend the A.A. name to any other cause other than our own.’ This is extremely important.”

“I understand that we can’t approach this group and ask them to take this [our listing] down; therefore...”

Motion to have the GTAI Operating Committee request an audience with the Executive of Y.S.S.N. [Your Support Services Network] and ask – not demand – that this group of people take this thing [A.A. Toronto Intergroup listing] down moved by Bryan W. (Rox Glen Traditional) and seconded by Richard M. (Pine Hills).

Jomana then asked OC Secretary, Kelly L., to retrace Bryan’s steps on the Internet and screen share for all to see (see above screen shots).

Once the site was up and screen shared to all, Jomana shared: “The reason that Alcoholics Anonymous Greater Toronto Area [A.A.] is mentioned on this website is as a resource for people who are struggling with alcoholism and addictions.

The 'buttons' [What We Do] is referring to the Y.S.S.N.; they are talking about themselves and not Toronto Intergroup. I just want to make sure that I'm understanding your group's Motion. They are mentioning us as a resource, which would be completely legitimate. We have [tape unclear] mentioning us as a resource for help with alcoholism and addiction. So this website is not pretending to be A.A. Intergroup; and it's also quite clear so as not to confuse people to think that this is A.A. Intergroup." Brian still felt that it is very misleading.

Jomana mentioned that it is currently 9:15 p.m.; she wanted to get a sense of the Floor as to whether to continue discussion tonight, or defer this Motion until the March General Meeting.

A sense of the Floor/show of hands was taken at this time. **Discussion/Vote on Motion deferred until the March 26, 2024 General Meeting.**

CHAIRPERSON'S CLOSING REMARKS: Jomana thanked everyone for their participation and dedication to service; adding: "Come and find me at the ORC!"

Motion to adjourn moved by Mitch G. (River Drive Park) and seconded by Ted D. (Rox Glen Traditional). Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned with the Responsibility Declaration.

NEXT GENERAL MEETING: A hybrid meeting will be held on **Tuesday, March 26, 2024 at 8 p.m.**

ONE OC MEMBER 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 -- 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

IT Subcommittee MEMBERS WANTED

Description and Qualifications	
PURPOSE	<p><i>The IT Subcommittee is an advisory body that liaises with the Operating Committee, Subcommittees, and the Intergroup Office. The committee will be responsible for researching and recommending cost-effective IT solutions.</i></p>
RESPONSIBILITIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guidance, recommendation, and implementation of solutions on technology to the OC, subcommittees, and the Intergroup Office • Guidance on cost-effective IT solutions for the Intergroup Office, to include software, hardware, networking, telecommunications, Internet and third-party providers • Aiding in creating and maintaining frameworks, including complex or critical systems for third-party service providers • Reviewing statements of work, price quotes, and contracts to recommend to the Operating Committee • Create and maintain all technical documentation of the Intergroup Office and aatoronto.org website <p><i>The subcommittee will not be responsible for the daily IT support duties of the Intergroup Office. The day-to-day IT support is managed by a service provider. However, they may provide direction and support if IT committee expertise is required.</i></p>
QUALIFICATIONS	<p>IT Professionals(s) with degrees in computer science, college diplomas in computer science, and/or various highly technical certifications or equivalent (such as A+, CCNP, CCIE, MCSE, CISSP, AWS, Linux).</p> <p>The committee should be primarily composed of IT Professionals with a minimum 4 to 5 years of work experience in one of the following: field systems administration, AWS, VOIP, Linux, Apache, PHP, Database (MySQL MSSQL), network administration, desktop computer technician, web application development, information security, IT project management.</p>

FOR FURTHER INFO, PLEASE CONTACT: it.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 and/or oc.chair@aatoronto.org