

GENERAL MEETING

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2024

(Hybrid Meeting)

(These Minutes Approved 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 Stacy V. (Royal York).

MEMBERS PRESENT:

INTERGROUP REPRESENTATIVES/ALTERNATES: Anniversary, Aurora, Bloordale, Brampton Recovery, Danforth, Dry on Danforth, Erin Mills, Farsi-Speaking, Fellowship, Fifth Tradition, Friendly, Gladstone, King City, Long Branch, Love & Tolerance, Markham Village, Melrose, Midtown, Mississauga, Morning Discussion, Noon Rap, One Paragraph at a Time, Open Hands, Parkway, Primary Purpose, Prince Edward, Responsibility, Rox Glen Traditional, Royal York, Silverbirch, Sisters in Sobriety, Six Points, St. Clements, Steps to Serenity, The Dogs, The Indian Road, Twelve Steps, Welcome, Westmoreland, Willowdale-Shepherd, Woodbridge.

(Please note: some online attendees may not have included their group name in their virtual screen name during the meeting; for this reason, some groups might have not been recorded as being in attendance in the above list. If you are a Rep and attending online, please include your group name and service position at the virtual meeting for accurate recording.)

DISTRICT LIAISONS: Districts 10, 14, and 22.

OPERATING COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Bruce L. (Finance Chair), Jenn F., Jomana A. (OC Chair), Kelli T. (OC Vice-Chair), Lijon G., and Sean L.

SUBCOMMITTEES REPRESENTED: ACCESSIBILITY, ARCHIVES, AREA 83 ALTERNATE DELEGATE, COMMUNICATIONS, FINANCE, GRAPEVINE, ONTARIO REGIONAL CONFERENCE 2025, S.A.F.P. AD HOC COMMITTEE, WINTER SEASON OPEN HOUSE 2024.

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

ADOPTION OF MINUTES –September 2024

Errors or Omissions: No errors or omissions were forthcoming.

Motion to adopt Minutes as presented moved by Nancy W.R. (Parkway) and seconded by Jimmy S. (Fifth Tradition). Motion carried.

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

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

Thom L. (Noon Rap), 2024 Alcathon Event Chair, has stepped down. I am bringing this to the Intergroup Floor for consideration. If we do not have another Chairperson in place to replace Thom, we will have to cancel the event. **Please bring this back to your groups and ask your group members if anyone is interested in the service role of 2024 Alcathon Chair.** If anyone has questions about this service role, or who wish to serve as Chair, please email me: oc.chair@aatoronto.org [See appendix for Alcathon Chairperson roles and responsibilities]

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

Motion moved by Violet C-M (Noon Rap) and seconded by Anastasia W. (Fellowship). Motion carried.

After this, Jomana outlined the qualifications and service commitments for this position [See OC members' roles and responsibilities document/page 3 of these minutes] and asked if any there were any nominations/volunteers from Floor members. No members stepped forward for the position(s) at this time.

An election for 4 more OC members will be held at the November General Meeting. Please announce to your group members!

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; \$33.66 was collected (after coffee/supply expenses).
- For Virtual attendees: The 7th Tradition link is as follows:
<https://www.aatoronto.org/about/7th-tradition/>

FINANCE REPORT

	September 2024 (1 month)						
	Actual 2024	Budget 2024	Variance	%	Actual 2023	Variance	%
Contributions	9,087	8,618	469	5%	10,818	(1,731)	(16%)
Literature Sales	13,222	11,320	1,902	17%	15,589	(2,367)	(15%)
= Total Revenues	22,309	19,938	2,371	12%	26,407	(4,098)	(16%)
- Cost of Sales	16,004	9,198	6,806	74%	12,427	3,577	29%
- Expenses	21,931	17,987	3,944	22%	17,888	4,043	23%
= Surplus / (Deficiency)	(15,626)	(7,247)	(8,379)		(3,908)	(11,718)	

Contributions and Literature Sales remain strong for the month. Literature is 17% over Budget and is consistent with last year when the 20% discount is accounted for. Contributions were 5% over budget.

Cost of Sales is 74% over Budget largely due to a \$5,200 Non – Recoverable HST charge. Expenses are also over Budget by 22% or \$3,944 due to some unbudgeted payroll expenses.

Overall Literature sales before discount was @128k with a total discount of \$24,500.
financechair@aatoronto.org

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

ARCHIVES: Glenn G. (East York), Chairperson **Verbal Report**

The upcoming Archives Breakfast is selling well! Tickets for the event (\$35) are still available to members. Glenn introduced both Eddy G. (Archivist) and David T. (assistant Archivist) to the Floor and mentioned both were continuing to fulfil their tasks in the Repository at 234.
archives@aatoronto.org

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

WEBSITE

- a. The Website is running smoothly.
- b. You will notice a new look of parts of it, please check it out.
- c. The Chat application is progressing, and we expect it could be operational in the New Year.
- d. There is ongoing internal housekeeping work on access to shared documents and DSN authentication within the communications committee emails.
- e. Medallions are regularly being listed on the website and in the Better Times.
- f. The Education and Participation Enhancement project has formed an ad hoc committee is expected to be reporting to the Communications and OC in due time.

BETTERTIMES

- a. Stories are still needed for publication.
- b. Lori the editor has suggested a return to coloured printing of the hard copies and there will be discussion of this and a vote at our next committee meeting. You're welcome to attend, the zoom details are provided through the calendar link.

The Operating Committee is looking for a chairperson for the Communications Committee please contact the Operating Committee.

As always if you have any concerns regarding the website and the better times publication or something you would like that involves communication please don't hesitate you contact us at communications@aatoronto.org

In service, Ted D., Communication Committee Chair, GTA Intergroup

Articles/Submissions/Medallion Announcements for the Better Times Newsletter:
bettertimes@aatoronto.org

INFORMATION AA DAY 2025: Chair not present. Jenn F., OC Liaison, gave a brief verbal report. The following report was emailed by 2025 Event Chair, De R.:

Hello friends, I'm an alcoholic, member of the Rexdale United Group and currently have the pleasure of serving as your 2025 Info AA Day Chair and my name is De.

We met last evening, Monday, October 28, 2024 with 11 in attendance. After vetting 4 venues, we voted to hold our event at the Native Canadian Centre Toronto where Birds of a Feather group meets. We wanted to use a venue that is centrally located for downtown Districts.

The event date is May 24, 2025.

There are two rooms available if we choose to use both for our event. There is also a screen for power point presentations. The location is on the subway line and parking is available. This venue is also accessible. Our Treasurer will visit the venue and make a deposit for our date.

We have asked our districts to contribute \$100 more this year to offset venue and food costs.

We have decided not to host a General Service Office speaker to keep costs down as it is expensive with the USD currency rate to fly someone in and pay two night's accommodation.

The one challenge will be for Culinary / Hospitality Coordinators, as we will not have kitchen use, however we felt this was manageable.

As incoming District Committee Members and District Committees join us in January, we will extend an invitation asking them to join us and provide the Guidelines for Info AA Day so they can be involved in the planning process as there is lots to do. Just a reminder that any AA member is welcome to join the committee and share their experience, interest, opinions and suggestions – everyone on the committee has a voice and vote.

More information to come as we plan further. Thank you for allowing me to be of service.

De R DCM D02, 2025 Info AA Day Chair

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

Meeting opened with a Moment of Silence and the Serenity Prayer. 12 Traditions were read by Sean L. Attendees: Brad, Sean David T

OLD BUSINESS

Winter season virtual alcathon has a chair.

Colin and OC Vice-Chair to test Help Chat.

Sean is working on evaluating all the email accounts and will update at next meeting.

Sean is running reports on the website using Google Analytics.

Next meeting will be 4 Nov 24.

Meeting closed with the responsibility declaration. it.chair@aatoronto.org

ONTARIO REGIONAL CONFERENCE 2025: Eddy G. (Beaches), 2025 Event Chairperson

Good evening, everyone, I am an alcoholic, a member of the Beaches Group & I have the honor of serving as your ORC 2025 Chair & my name is Eddy Gesicki.

The ORC will be held on Friday March 14 to Sunday March 16, 2025, at the Sheraton Centre Hotel.

The theme is "A New Happiness"

Registration is \$55

Banquet is \$115

Hotel Rate is \$245/night

The Flyers & Posters are here & ready for distribution. Please take a poster & a few flyers back to your home group. This was designed by Mary M. from the Erin Mills Group.

The ORC Website is up, but still under construction. Ed V. from the Deer Park Group is designing this. Hopefully pre-registration will be ready in approx. a week.

We are waiting for IRIS (the registration company) to update the registration form, the banquet form & provide us with their link.

Also we are waiting for the hotel to provide us with their link so members can book their room nights. Lynn E from the Golden Mile Group is coordinating with IRIS, the hotel & Ed V.

Our Registration Chair, Vivien C from the Saturday Morning Discussion Group is looking at some ways to improve the onsite registration.

The Audio-Visual Company "SAVI" has been booked. This company is recommended by the Sheraton Hotel. The sound & the extra equipment will be a big improvement. There will be closed caption on the screens.

Heidi F. from the Mississauga Group provided her A/V experience to let Jamie from SAVI know what our needs were.

The Interpreters who will be signing at the Conference in the Main Ballroom have been confirmed. We were able to get a good price. Two Interpreters on Friday, Three on Saturday & Two on Sunday.

Our Program Chair, Rick M from the Six Points Group has been booking out of town speakers & local speakers.

Our Hotel Coordinator, Scott M from the Bloordale Group is communicating with the hotel & with our committee members with our needs.

The Newcomers Room is being looked after by Gord H from the Bloordale Group. He is getting groups to fill in the time slots for open and/or discussion meetings.

Our Al-Anon Chair, Jordan H has stepped down. Hopefully this position will be filled very soon.

The Alateen Chair Maya T & the Al-anon Support Janet T are trying to find a local or out of the GTA Area an Alateen Speaker & a Guardian. This will help reduce travel expenses & their budget.

Our Treasurer, Dave S. from the Markham Third Tradition Group has put together a detailed ORC 2025 budget & has presented it to the ORC Advisory Committee three times. With some adjustments the budget looks good. Their only concern was that the Alateen budget has to be reduced. Our next meeting will be in January.

Our Secretary & Voice of the Conference, Anisa S from the Stepping Stones Group has been recording the minutes from our first two meetings & coordinating communication with the committee members.

The ORC 2026 Committee is shadowing our 2025 committee members learning the responsibilities of the positions for 2026. Laura S is the ORC 2026 Chair.

Thank you, yours in service, Eddy G., ORC 2025 Chair, Beaches Group

TWELFTH STEP: Kelli T. (The Hill), OC Liaison **Verbal Report**

A new phone shift has been created: 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Any members interested in volunteering for this shift can contact Kelli for more information:

oc.vicechair@aatoronto.org

For those wishing to volunteer for our phone hotline, please email 12step@aatoronto.org (1 year of continuous sobriety needed to volunteer)

Twelfth Step Committee Chair: 12step.chair@aatoronto.org

WINTER SEASON OPEN HOUSE 2024 – Zobie G. (Bloordale), 2024 Event Chair

Winter Season Open House 2024:

December 25th 2024 10am-4pm

Timothy Eaton Memorial Church

230 St Clair Ave W Toronto ON M4V1R5

Entrance off Dunvegan Rd. *Fully Accessible*

In Attendance: Zobie, Danielle, Candice, Bri, Ross, Brian, Gowresh, Chris, Mehrab, Louise, Carl, Tony M, Tony Z, Martin

Venue: Dec 25: Timothy Eaton Memorial Church 230 St Clair Ave W Dunvegan entrance.

Set up: Dec 24th: main dining area (we cannot go upstairs as the Church has a function.)

Menu (Brian)

Menu may be pared down

19 turkeys so far,

Goal is for 25 turkeys, 10 hams

Turkeys need to be cooked and dropped off at the Church on the 25th

Danielle has a cooler in Oakville that we can use to store cooked turkeys. Depending on how much is stored, Danielle may need help on loading her car the morning of the 25th

Talk to Dave on volunteers

Purchasing (Tony Z)

Tony needs the grocery list by latest December 19th. Brian and Bri will provide it well ahead of time

Beard nets required

Coffee cups

Inventory from Roncesvalles (Bri)

120 coffee cups

200 takeout containers

300 plates

4,000 napkins

Half a container of coffee

3 boxes of assorted decorations

Heaters and chaffers are required from Roncesvalles

7 full heating pucks, 6 half pucks

Warming tray (4) and 15 (holders)

25 recycling bags

To be confirmed on hand sanitizer

Need a minimum of 11 full sets for serving food

2 rough sets of meeting literature

Brian's work will donate paper plates, tinfoil, foil containers, garbage containers

Walk through recap

Elevator

Security and blocking off

Security

G and Chris will help with security

Meetings

Tony M is working on the new formats and times

First meeting is at 10:30

10-minute gap between meetings

We have chalkboards that we can use from prior years to write on for the meeting list

Tony M has 1 chairperson already

Al-Anon is Maria

Ross and Candice have another whiteboard we can use

We will need a few more whiteboards. Idea floated around of buying Bristol boards from Staples

Desserts/Drinks and Coffee

We ran out of pop last year; people were taking them to go
Have someone at the drink station this year
Bri can bring a big cooler
We need someone to bring ice
Candice will do a Costco run on the 24th
Chris will talk to his contact at Coca Cola to get donations

Garbage

Martin is looking for people to volunteer on the 24th and 25th

Greeters

There will be 1 entrance which has 3 doors

Setup

Slice, dice and peel will occur in the auditorium on the 24th
We will buy some ribbon for the utensil's rollups
Table setup to be determined on the 24th.

Decorations

Carlos will get table clothes. Needs to know the measurements

Welcome Table/Literature

Welcome table will be set up in the main room
Louise is going to talk to Intergroup for additional literature
Louise is adding name tags to her shopping list

Volunteer Coordination

Sign up board for servers and greeters
Danielle and Ross will look into setting up a hand washing station for food serving volunteers with a water jug, bucket, and soap

Supplies

Since we are at a new venue, we are going to need supplies
We have 28 knives, 11 peelers
Rent 10 chefs knives and buy 10 paring knives for \$50 total / Tony Z knows
Danielle is going to see what she can get from her work
Zobie talked to a catering company that will let us know by the end of the month if we can use some of their supplies
Where are we going to store all the supplies? Bloordale has a bit of space that we may have access to.

Next committee meeting: Sunday Nov 17th at 9am-11am Bloordale United Church 4258 Bloor St W Toronto

WINTER SEASON VIRTUAL ALKATHON 2024: Violet C-M. (Noon Rap), Committee Member

Thom has stepped down as chair. We are looking for a new chair. If no one steps up, the event cannot happen.

Violet is able to assist but cannot be chair. She has the logins and posters are circulated. 50% hour slots already filled.

We need 14 more slots filled and tech hosts 4 hr slots filled + training sessions.

Everything is booked and ready to go, on noon rap zoom.

Any questions please email alcathon@aatoronto.org.

DISTRICT REPORTS

ACCESSIBILITIES: Greg R. (Markham Village), Chairperson

Good evening Friends, as a grateful member of the Markham Village Group and District 18, I currently serve as your GTA Intergroup Accessibilities Chair. I am an alcoholic and my name is Greg.

In our last monthly Accessibilities Committee meeting which was held last October 20, 2024 at 11 am on Zoom we had 4 attending members. We've been having anywhere from 4 to 6 committee members attend regularly. The good news is there is close to 100 years of Sobriety and Service to AA in the committee.

We held our Accessibilities Committee Officers elections for the upcoming 2 year term.

We had 2 members stand for the position of Chair. After discussion and Committee consciousness, one member stepped back and the other, Johnny B was elected as the new incoming Chair. The member that stepped down, Marvyn W stood for the Alternative Chair position and was elected. Yours truly stood for the Secretary position and I was elected for that position. I'm personally excited to remain on the Accessibilities Committee to continue to help with the Committee efforts.

We also spent some time speaking about Autism. We are working on creating a primer detailing what Autism is and how it relates within AA, and suggestions on best practices when situations arise that require special attention in the group setting.

We are also reaching out to the Groups in the GTA to ask them to please fill out an Accessibilities Checklist. Once filled out, this checklist determines if your meeting is accessible, and then it's posted in The Meeting Guide. This is important because members with mobility issues rely on this info so they know they can get into the meeting room and if necessary, use the washrooms. I'm sending the Accessibilities Checklist along with this report to be attached to the Minutes. Please take this Checklist back to your group. There are instructions on what to do. It's super easy to fill out.

That's all to report. Thank you for allowing me to be of Service, Greg R. GTAI Accessibilities Chair

CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES: Chair not present. The following report was emailed by the Chair, Rob F.:

September 3, 2024 – In person and via Zoom

Chair: Rob F (Area 83 Corrections Chair) (On Line)

Attendees: In Person – Jim R (D06-Corrections Chair), Tom P (D12), Cameron B (D12)

On Line – Lynn E (D22-Corrections Chair); Tony D (D02-Corrections Chair), Tony F (D14-DCM),

Minutes: Eric G (D10)

Meeting commenced at approximately 7:00 PM

Reports

Tony D (D02)

Meetings restarted at Ontario Correctional Institute (OCI) as of July 28, 2024. New temporary Volunteer Coordinator. Meetings on Sundays and Mondays currently coordinated by Eddie G. Tony is seeking clearance, has also been asked to speak at a Sunday meeting. Meetings are small at the moment so do not need too many volunteers.

Lynn E (D22)

Participated in AA Service Day hosted by District 22. Coordinating for Toronto East Detention Centre (TEDC). Meetings going well and no reported lockdowns. No Bridging the Gap requests. Two new volunteers in and two more waiting for orientation etc.

Brief discussion re: length of time for new volunteers before they are able to begin service, time required for police checks, orientations etc. Depends on institution. Generally 6 months to 1 year.

Tony F (D14)

ADCM. Resupplying pamphlets to District police stations, parole offices, courts etc. Bringing 48 Big Books to fall assembly in Kingston. District 14 has its elections this month so it is possible there will be a change in who attends Corrections Committee meetings as Tony may become DCM.

Jim, Cameron and Tom obtained access to 234 Eglinton and joined the meeting.

Eric G (D10)

Continuing to volunteer at TEDC. Thanks to Lynn E for coordinating. Last shift with Tom P went well.

Jim R (D06)

Coordinating for Toronto South Detention Centre (TSDC). Orientation taking place for new volunteers but during daytime, Wednesday October 9 at 1 to 4 p.m., making it difficult for some members with jobs to attend. Attended at TSDC today for meetings, no Volunteer Coordinator, meetings went ahead and all 3 volunteers had meetings. Literature in good supply. Meetings are generally going well with lots of interest.

Cameron B (D12)

Second Corrections Committee meeting. Continuing to work through clearance process. Will be speaking further with Lynn E re: TEDC.

Tom P (D12)

Now participating in meetings at TEDC. Has noted some Big Books are in Spanish, good to check to ensure clients receive preferred language.

Rob F (Area 83)

Attended AA Service Day at District 22. Positive reactions. Appreciated new Corrections display. Upcoming Better Times (GTA newsletter) will include Corrections Committee meeting date/time and new Zoom coordinates. Current Zoom coordinates are through Rob F from Area 83. Rob will be rotating from Area Corrections Chair position at the end of December and new coordinates may be needed. Rob will discuss with incoming Area Corrections Chair. May also be possible to

again use GTA Intergroup Zoom coordinates depending on scheduling of other Intergroup meetings and time of Corrections Committee meeting, e.g. possibly completing meeting by 7:45 p.m. when previously Intergroup meetings started.

Area 83 Assembly Meeting coming at end of October. Rob F is preparing a spreadsheet consolidating information regarding all institutions/correctional facilities. Will circulate shortly for review by Corrections Committee members and would appreciate prompt feedback if needed.

Cameron B asked to be added to the Corrections Committee email list currently maintained by Rob F.

Meeting concluded at approximately 7:40 PM.

Next meeting Tuesday, November 5, 2024 at 7 p.m. in person at 234 Eglinton Avenue and on Zoom (hybrid). All are welcome.

New Zoom Meeting ID 885 4649 3562 Password 559493 correctionsarea83@gmail.com

CPC/PI: No Report

GRAPEVINE: Imran R. (Port Credit), Chairperson Verbal Report

Imran mentioned about the importance of groups having a Grapevine Rep.

Inquiries about specific subcommittee activities: please email imrashid_3@yahoo.com

SELF SUPPORT: No Report

TREATMENT – Brendan O. (FOTS), Chairperson

Meeting held October 20th at 4pm

Reports:

D02

- Things are status quo
- 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
- Elections being held to see if a new Treatment Chair

D06

District 6 Service Commitments:

- Jean Tweed Cawthra
- Oct 20 – Erin Mills Oct – Open Hands
- Nov 17 – HadEnuffYet Nov - HadEnuffYet
- Dec 08 – Open Hands
- Jean Tweed's residential facility had some unexpected facility issues leading to last-minute cancellations of both July and September commitments. I want to thank Six Points and Erin Mills members for the patience as we discovered what happened.
- As of August 2024 we have created 6 additional duo-tangs that contain the meeting format, readings and A.A. safety statement information. Care was taken for the selection including the size of the font for accessibility reasons. There was an expression by residents to have access to look at the material while the meeting is happening. We made that happen. There are enough protective sleeves that moving forward – if possible – flyers can be rotated within

the binders or updated meeting lists under the discretion of Treatment Committee to maintain. These expenses at Dollarama for duo tangs, printer paper, protective sleeves and Staples for the ink were not included because I just absorbed them as they are routine items I typically purchase. If you would like to help... (excerpt from Bridging the Gap Pamphlet) If you would like to help in this very important Twelfth Step work and have at least one year of continuous sobriety in the A.A. program please complete the following information and give it to your group's treatment representative, general service representative (G.S.R.).

- I will share this information with our Intergroup contact as well as update the list for the next Treatment Chair to have access to updated Bridging the Gap Contacts we receive. Please include the date, name, address, city, province, postal code. Day and/or evening phone numbers.

The Group Treatment Representative

The group Treatment representative is a "messenger" for his or her A.A. group, bringing information to and from the local Treatment Committee meeting. The representative informs the group of openings for speakers and chairpersons of meetings in treatment settings and also reports on the needs and activities of the committee.

- In addition, Tara the D06 Treatment Rep has asked the GSR's to bring the following back to the group in order to have one group member be the Treatment Rep for the Group. I think this is an excellent idea for every district.
- Please bring this communication to your group for consideration at your next business meeting.
- Please consider a service position at your group level - The Group Treatment Representative. Treatment Chairs across other districts, including our District, have been working on creating a master outreach list for A.A. We are ready to welcome committee members to help reach out and offer information that A.A. is here with a solution. The objective of outreach is often mistaken as solely to create more meetings. Getting literature and staying on-top of our local contacts is valuable work that you can be part of. We need your help!

Qualifications for Committee Members:

Experience suggests that solid sobriety, a knowledge of the Traditions and absolute dependability are the qualifications needed to serve on Treatment Committees

- The commitment is to meet via zoom (frequency to be determined by how the District responds to this opportunity for a new group role)
- Opportunity to learn how A.A. carries the message to hospitals and institutions and the resources A.A. uses
- Work with other committee members to reach out to institutions in the area offering information, pamphlets, books etc.
- The group Treatment representative is a "messenger" for his or her A.A. group, bringing information to and from the local Treatment Committee meeting.

If you would like to help... (excerpt from Bridging the Gap Pamphlet)

If you would like to help in this very important Twelfth Step work and have at least one year of continuous sobriety in the A.A. program please complete the following information and give it to your group's treatment representative, general service representative (G.S.R.).

- I will share this information with our Intergroup contact as well as update the list for the next Treatment Chair to have access to updated Bridging the Gap Contacts we receive. Please include the date, name, address, city, province, postal code. Day and/or evening phone numbers.

D10

- No Report or attendance for at least 6 months.
- Walter from D12 let us know that a new meeting has started at women's meeting

D12

- CAMH both Sunday and Tuesday meetings are well attended, although with more outside attendees than facility guests
- Saturday Nooner good attendance (since it has a dedicated committee as well as District Hosting, also takes 7th and is self-sustaining)
- Women's Homestead Wednesday Noons and third Thursday at 7:30 report good Attendance. These meetings are going very well.
- Walter shared his frustration that there are so-called 'Treatment meetings'

D14

Not much to report, District meeting was postponed. No one has stepped up to take December for the Blue Door Passage House and one of the days required is Christmas Day.

D16 Spanish

Does not attend or send reports.

D18

Lynn is the Alt DCM covering D18 and is hoping that a new Treatment Chair will be elected. Has been covering the Edward Village shelter on her own and is trying to get the meeting back on track. November and December are covered as well.

D22

- There is not too much new to report since the last District meeting in terms of Treatment Committee happenings.
- Service meetings rotating between two shelter sites continue, Thursdays, 6:30 pm. The City of Toronto Progress Shelter (tel. 416 396 4612) 705 Progress Avenue (Bellamy/Progress area) Building F (south west corner of the complex) remains open to any community AA-ers who wish to support it. These meetings are listed on aatoronto.org website. Dates we will be there are Oct 17, 31, Nov 14 & 28.
- The Holiday Inn/Salvation Army Shelter 50 Estate Drive (Progress/Markham Road), has restricted access (for residents of the shelter and/or staff only, along with Treatment Committee rep(s) and the Host group Chairs/Speakers). It is therefore not listed on aatoronto.org. The dates we'll be there are Oct 10, 24, Nov 7, 21.
- Thanks to the Fellowship Group (host group-October) and to James D (Keep It Simple/Treatment Committee Rep-October). Saturday Night Main Street has offered to host November meetings. We are seeking a Treatment Committee Reps for November or December to set up and support the meetings. Will your home group host the December rotation? Please contact the Treatment Chair ASAP.
- No further progress re Scarborough Health Network's Community Mental Health Clinic (1940 Eglinton Ave E. at Warden).
- Thanks to Jason L (Anniversary Group/Treatment Committee) for supporting the Treatment Booth and giving an overview at last month's D22 Service Day, September 21.
- No additional Literature orders were placed nor Bridging the Gap requests received for this service period.
- The next D22 Treatment Committee meeting is October 20, 4 pm, ID: 853 9263 4979; passcode: 808085.
- Reminder: my service term as Chair of this Committee ends soon, so why not come out and meet other committee members to find out more how this type of service role can enhance your recovery program?

Area 83 Report No Report.

GTAI Treatment Chair Report

Focus to the end of the year on the following:

- Try to work with DCM's to update the description of Treatment Chair in District Procedures;

- Keep working on the Master list of Treatment Target facilities & provide any background.
- Continue to develop guides and scripts on how to approach targets to discuss AA
- Get as many resources as possible and history of work done on to Google drive to be accessed for all future District and Intergroup Chairs
- Also, Kelli the new 12 Step Chair is trying to meet with Treatment and Corrections to consolidate 12 Step contacts and Bridging The Gap volunteers.

Next meeting is scheduled for Sunday November 17th 4pm but we can discuss changing the time as this seems to be part of the lack of attendance. Meeting ID: 868 2207 4860 Passcode: 787289

Yours in Gratitude and Service, Brendan O., GTAI Treatment Chair 416-737-3193
treatment@aatoronto.org

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

1. **AREA 83 ASSEMBLY**, Nov 1-3. All are encouraged to attend. It will be a hybrid event. Please encourage GSRs to attend, as they have been elected to serve your group
Saturday, Service Information Day- [AGENDA](#)-includes some great workshops
Sunday, The Assembly (Business meeting): Link to [AGENDA](#): will include Election of the Area Officers (Delegate, Alternate Delegate, Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, and Registrar)
2. **REMOTE COMMUNITIES FORUM**, December 1: 3 topics: 9 speakers in 3 hours. It will be offered with simultaneous translation in English, French, Spanish and ASL. Link to Flyer in [ENGLISH](#), [FRENCH](#), [SPANISH](#)
3. **GSR WORKSHOP**, Link to [FLYER](#) and [AGENDA](#):
 Topic is **Rotation and Service Sponsorship- What Next?**
4. **AREA 83 WEBSITE**: is continuing to develop the Area Website.
 There is a security login to access all of the service-related material
Login: Service83
Password: GiveBack
5. Don't forget to check the **NEWS ICON** on the Meeting Guide App for communications directly from GSO.
 - **Quarterly Report** (October 22, 2024)
 - Plain Language Big Book: a tool for Reading alcoholics Anonymous,
 - Message on International Convention Registration: October 7, 2024

Inquiries about specific activities in Area 83: please email alternate.delegate83@gmail.org



Ad Hoc SAEP Committee Update: Violet C-M. (Noon Rap), Co-Chairperson

(SAEP = Service Accessibility Education and Participation)

Ad hoc committee report for motion to support service accessibility, education & participation

Violet Spoke with both NYC and Great Britain. Interesting feedback from them.

GB - membership consultation was not conducted. Took 2 years to refresh.

London North and South are separate entities and not associated with GB- it's kind of the GSO there. (The only link is a one-way API for meeting finders). I will be meeting with London N&S in the New Year.

Chat feature is well used and successful.

NYC - uses WordPress and gravity forms to great success for many automated process, including group updates and nomination forms. The service page seems to have limitations, where it does not store info for future opportunities. Based on form completion, it simply shoots emails off to the relevant contacts. Which is not ideal, because the person may not have the requirements, or they could have expressed interest in many areas and get multiple people reaching out at once. There's no ability to see and then select your opportunity.

Chat feature no longer in use there, it was started during pandemic but no volunteers stepped forward to continue it

Thom has stepped down as co-chair. Based on this, Violet will be taking a quick break to regroup. In the New Year, she will work closely with communications and IT to see the ad hoc committee through.

Thank you for your patience and understanding.

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



Opportunities In Service:

- Phone Greeters/12 Step Volunteers:
- Bilingual Member Resource (12 Step Calls):
- **Alcathon Chairperson ASAP!!!**
- Operating Committee Members (**4**):
- Finance Chairperson
- Finance Committee Member
- Communications Chairperson

Please Contact:

12step@aatoronto.org
12step@aatoronto.org
oc.chair@aatoronto.org
oc.chair@aatoronto.org
oc.chair@aatoronto.org
financechair@aatoronto.org
cc.chair@aatoronto.org

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No Unfinished Business was forthcoming.

NEW BUSINESS

No New Business was forthcoming.

HelpChat Update: Kelli T. (The Hill), OC Liaison to Twelfth Step Committee

We will be adding a chat button to our site in the coming month where visitors can chat with another alcoholic. Initially, our goal is to encourage the chat guests to give us a

call. We already have a 12 Step committee with volunteers that work very well with people who call us.

We will be using software 'tawk' too that can be downloaded onto a device and allow for volunteers to sign in to chat anytime our chat lines are open.

We are actively recruiting our AA members to volunteer to get involved with this amazing addition to our web site and AA outreach.

3 ways to access info:

There is a link on the aatoronto.org front page and we are currently putting the pdf in the chat for those of you at home to download, print, display and talk up at your business meetings.

For those in the room, we have these flyers printed up for you to do the same. [\[See flyer in appendix of these minutes\]](#)

All training will be provided and take place initially in November. Intergroup is providing this opportunity. Its launch will depend on the response of our members so please support this initiative and spread the word.

Reception Report: (OC Vice- Chairperson provides a count of how many members were in the meeting: Zoom and in-person.) In-person attendance: 23. Online attendance: 40. **TOTAL HYBRID ATTENDANCE: 63.**

CHAIRPERSON'S CLOSING REMARKS:

- "On behalf of the Intergroup Operating Committee, thank you all for attending and continuing to be interested in serving a fellowship that has given us our lives back."
- "If you are able and willing, please help clean up and tear down the meeting. Please stack chairs and put them away at the back of the room using a dolly."

The meeting adjourned with the Responsibility Declaration.

Next GTAI Monthly General Meeting: (held on the last Tuesday of each month at 8 p.m.)
A **hybrid meeting** will be held on **Tuesday, November 26, 2024** at 8 p.m.



GREATER TORONTO AREA
INTERGROUP

ONLINE HELP CHAT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



✦ **ONLINE HELP FOR ALCOHOLICS** ✦

GTA Intergroup is looking for
members to operate our new online
website help chat tool.



All Training Provided. Training Starts Soon!

HELP WANTED IMMEDIATELY!

Winter Season Virtual Alkathon 2024 Event Chairperson

PURPOSE of the Winter Season Virtual Alkathon Committee	<p>The Winter Season Virtual Alkathon Event took the place of the Winter Season Open House In-Person Event in 2020. That event was so well-received that GTAI held the event again in 2021, and will continue in 2024.</p> <p>The WSWA is held over four (4) days, from December 24 at noon until noon on December 25, and again from December 31 at noon until noon on January 1. GTAI Home Groups host 1-hour virtual meetings and 4 AI Anon Virtual Meetings.</p> <p>Due to an unexpected Chairperson vacancy, we are looking WSWA 2024 Event Chairperson <u>ASAP</u> to organize a committee to create, plan, and host the four (4)-day event.</p>
RESPONSIBILITIES	<p>The Chairperson is to be the Coordinator of the WSWA Subcommittee will have assistance from an assigned Operating Committee Liaison to aide in the transition of Chairing duties, some of which include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chair monthly GTAI Zoom Account Committee Meetings to December 2024• Create a monthly Meeting Agenda• Monthly reporting to the GTAI Floor at the monthly General Meeting held on the last Tuesday of each month• Work with GTAI OC Liaison to meet guidelines set by the GTAI Operating Committee• Coordinate Committee & WSWA Event Meeting times from GTAI Zoom Account• Responsible to Oversee Committee Member Recruitment:<ul style="list-style-type: none">-Secretary-Communications Volunteer-AI Anon Meeting Coordinator-Two A.A. Meeting Coordinators-Tech Host Chairperson-Three-member Tech Hosting Team
QUALIFICATIONS	<p>1 year of continuous sobriety is required for this service commitment and a team spirit!</p>

Please submit Service Resume AS SOON AS POSSIBLE to: oc.vicechair@aatoronto.org

**IF NO MEMBER STEPS FORWARD TO FILL THE POSITION,
WE WILL HAVE TO CANCEL THE EVENT.**

If you should have any questions, please contact Jomana at oc.chair@aatoronto.org

Description and Requirement

<p>PURPOSE of the Finance Subcommittee</p>	<p>The Finance Subcommittee serves the Operating Committee, subcommittees, and the Intergroup Office located at 234 Eglinton Ave. East, Toronto. This subcommittee is responsible for ‘the financial soundness and well-being of the operations of the Intergroup Office’ (GTAI Procedures and Guidelines, 6.4.3)</p>
<p>RESPONSIBILITIES of Finance Chairperson</p>	<p>The Finance Subcommittee structure is as follows (as stated in GTAI Procedures and Guidelines, 6.4.3):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [composed of] four members with a minimum of five years [of] continuous sobriety and a business or accounting background • And the OC Chairperson [also is a member of the Finance Subcommittee] • At least one member of the Finance Committee must be a designated accountant • The Chairperson and the Vice-Chairperson of the OC may attend the meetings of the Finance Subcommittee and take part in the deliberations. Other members of the OC may also attend the meetings <p>As stated in the GTAI Procedures and Guidelines, 6.4.3 ‘Term and Appointment’ regarding Finance Committee members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each year the Operating Committee appoints two A.A. members to the Finance Subcommittee to serve a term of two years. The Operating Committee considers the recommendations of the current members of the Finance Subcommittee in making these appointments, and annually calls for resumes and reviews the qualifications for persons seeking the office <p>Monthly service commitments of members of the Finance Subcommittee include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend the monthly Finance Subcommittee meeting (held the Wednesday before the monthly General Meeting, which is held on the last Tuesday of each month) • Attend the Intergroup monthly General Meeting (when needed) • One Finance Subcommittee member shall serve as Secretary of the Committee <p>Responsibilities of the Finance Chairperson include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation to the OC for approval of a draft annual budget for the Intergroup Office • Presentation of the Proposed Budget (approved by the OC) to the Intergroup Floor for approval/vote • Presentation of monthly statements of income and expenses/monthly balance sheet reports to the Intergroup Floor • Presentation of quarterly budget variance reports to the Intergroup Floor • Implementation of Gratitude Month on an annual basis • Obtaining an audit by independent external accountants every four years • Obtaining a review by independent external accountants every year • Serves as Treasurer of GTAI • Oversees the Central Office (operations and/or employees) • Serves as a signing officer for all cheques • Serves as a signing officer at the bank

To apply to serve as the Finance Subcommittee Chairperson please submit an A.A. Service Resume to the Operating Committee Secretary at oc.secretary@aatoronto.org

For further information please contact the Operating Committee Chairperson at oc.chair@aatoronto.org and the current Finance Subcommittee Chairperson at financechair@aatoronto.org

Description and Requirement

<p>PURPOSE of the Finance Subcommittee</p>	<p>The Finance Subcommittee serves the Operating Committee, subcommittees, and the Intergroup Office located at 234 Eglinton Ave. East, Toronto. This subcommittee is responsible for ‘the financial soundness and well-being of the operations of the Intergroup Office’ (GTAI Procedures and Guidelines, 6.4.3)</p>
<p>RESPONSIBILITIES of members of the Finance Subcommittee</p>	<p>The Finance Subcommittee structure is as follows (as stated in GTAI Procedures and Guidelines, 6.4.3):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [composed of] four members with a minimum of five years [of] continuous sobriety and a business or accounting background • And the OC Chairperson [also is a member of the Finance Subcommittee] • At least one member of the Finance Committee must be a designated accountant • The Chairperson and the Vice-Chairperson of the OC may attend the meetings of the Finance Subcommittee and take part in the deliberations. Other members of the OC may also attend the meetings <p>As stated in the GTAI Procedures and Guidelines, 6.4.3 ‘Term and Appointment’ regarding Finance Committee members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each year the Operating Committee appoints two A.A. members to the Finance Subcommittee to serve a term of two years. The Operating Committee considers the recommendations of the current members of the Finance Subcommittee in making these appointments, and annually calls for resumes and reviews the qualifications for persons seeking the office <p>Monthly service commitments of members of the Finance Subcommittee include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend the monthly Finance Subcommittee meeting (held the Wednesday before the monthly General Meeting, which is held on the last Tuesday of each month) • Attend the Intergroup monthly General Meeting (when needed) • One Finance Subcommittee member shall serve as Secretary of the Committee
<p>QUALIFICATIONS to serve on the Finance Subcommittee</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 years of continuous sobriety is required for this service commitment • An accounting designation OR equivalent in work experience (business/accounting) • Be familiar and comfortable with the Excel program

To apply to serve as a member of the Finance Subcommittee please submit an A.A. Service Resume to the Operating Committee Secretary at oc.secretary@atoronto.org

For further information please contact the Operating Committee Chairperson at oc.chair@atoronto.org and the Finance Subcommittee Chairperson at financechair@atoronto.org

HELP WANTED

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE Chairperson Jan 2025

Description and Qualifications

<p>PURPOSE</p>	<p>We are looking for a Communications Subcommittee Chairperson to lead our team.</p> <p><i>The Communications Team is responsible for ensuring a smooth flow of information between our membership – as well as the general public – in the Greater Toronto Area. Our channels for this type of communication is via our website aatoronto.org and our monthly Newsletter, ‘Better Times’.</i></p>
<p>RESPONSIBILITIES</p>	<p><i>As Communications Subcommittee Chair, you will have an Operating Committee Liaison to assist you in this service role transition.</i></p> <p>You will lead your committee in the following ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitate monthly committee meetings • Publish the monthly Better Times newsletter, both on the website and physical copies to be distributed at the monthly GTAI General Meeting • Maintain the www.aatoronto.org website • Maintain the GTAI Meeting Database for use on the website and other forms of distribution <p>Future website capabilities for aatoronto.org include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Online Storefront (future) for the Literature Department • Online Help Chat (future)
<p>QUALIFICATIONS</p>	<p>2 years of continuous sobriety is required for this service commitment and a team spirit!</p>

Please submit Service Resume to: oc.vicechair@aatoronto.org

If you should have any questions, please contact Jomana at oc.chair@aatoronto.org

ACCESSIBILITIES CHECKLIST FOR MEETINGS AND GROUPS

PRESERVING DIGNITY AND OFFERING INCLUSIVENESS: ACCESSIBILITIES IN AA

How accessible is your meeting? This is a guide to help reduce the physical access barriers that a person may encounter when attending meetings in your location.

Introduction

The meeting location should be physically accessible so that anyone may arrive on site, approach the building, and enter the meeting without barriers. The following are some questions your group can answer to determine the overall accessibility of your meeting space. With Group Conscience please consider making changes that will address any issues so your meeting is fully accessible to all alcoholics.

Please fill out this checklist. Please forward the checklist to the Accessibilities Committee at the email listed at the bottom of the checklist. The Meeting Guide will be Updated reflected whether your meeting is Accessible or not.

Priority of Important Accessibilities concerns:

• 1. BUILDING ENTRANCE

- Is there a clear flat path, a ramp, or elevator, to provide an accessible entrance?
- If there is an elevator operated by a key, does someone on location have possession of the key or know where the key is kept? Is there a Group member contact for easy coordination? Please add phone number of contacts: _____
- Is there signage indicating the location of the accessible entrance with elevator?
- Does the entrance door have adequate width (40") and clearance to accommodate a wheelchair?
- Do the doors have push button door entry? Is it activated? This is important for members in wheelchairs.

• 2. INSIDE THE BUILDING

- Is the meeting room accessible? Is there a clear, flat path to the Meeting Room?

• 3. GROUP MEETING ROOM

- Set up the chairs with adequate aisle space for a wheelchair (40").
- Is the lighting adequate?
- Is A.A. literature available that addresses the needs of individuals with diverse disabilities?

• 4. WASHROOMS

- Is there at least one fully accessible washroom available?
- Are there push button door entries and exit to and from the washroom?
- Are there grab bars on the walls behind and to the side nearest the toilet?
- Can the faucet be operated without grasping, twisting, or turning?
- Is there a raised accessible toilet seat? 17" to 19" height from floor.

IF YOU CANNOT MEET THE ABOVE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE FIRST 4 TOPICS LISTED ABOVE YOUR ROOM IS NOT ACCESSIBLE.

• **5. ROUTE OF TRAVEL**

Is the meeting place accessible to public transportation?

If the meeting is at night, is the pathway well lit?

• **6. PARKING**

Are an adequate number of accessible parking spaces available? (9 feet wide for car, plus 5-foot-wide access aisle, including adequate signage.)

• **7. AUDIO**

Is it easy to hear in the back of the room? Consider adding a microphone and speaker.

In addition, the following accessibility service materials are available on our A.A. website at www.aa.org. 1. A.A. Guidelines — Accessibility for All Alcoholics (MG-16) 2. A.A. Guidelines — Sharing the A.A. Message with the Alcoholic Who Is Deaf (MG-13) 3. Serving All Alcoholics (F-107)

THANK YOU

GTAI ACCESSIBILITIES COMMITTEE

accessibility@aatoronto.org

Group Name: _____ District: ____ Meeting Fully Accessible: Yes ____ No ____

Contact: _____