

GENERAL MEETING

TUESDAY, MAY 28, 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 Deborah P. (St. Clements Group).

MEMBERS PRESENT:

INTERGROUP REPRESENTATIVES/ALTERNATES:

Aurora, Back to Basics, Big Chunks of Truth, Birds of a Feather, Bloordale, Church Street, Deer Park, Erin Mills, Fellowship, High Park, Hill, Keep It Simple, King City, Kipling, Last Chance, Leslie, Lighthouse, Meadowvale Fellowship, Midtown, Mississauga, Morning Discussion, North Toronto, One Paragraph at a Time, Port Credit, Primary Purpose, Prince Edward, Queensville, Responsibility, Rox Glen Traditional, Silverbirch, Sisters in Sobriety, Six Points, St. Clements, Stepping Stones, Steps to Serenity, Streetsville St. Andrews, That Gay Crowd, and Welcome.

(Please note: some online attendees may not have included their group name in their Zoom 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 for accurate recording.)

DISTRICT LIAISONS: Districts 14, 18, and 22.

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

SUBCOMMITTEES REPRESENTED: ACCESSIBILITIES, ARCHIVES, COMMUNICATIONS, FINANCE, GRAPEVINE, IT SUBCOMMITTEE, AND TWELFTH STEP.

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

ADOPTION OF MINUTES – Because no regular business was conducted at the April Workshop Meeting, no adoption of these minutes were required.

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

- Jomana attended the recent Information AA Day Event and gave a presentation on behalf of the Operating Committee in an effort to inform/enlighten event goers about the roles/responsibilities of the Operating Committee and the importance of Intergroup Subcommittees in cooperation with the local district subcommittees in carrying the message of hope throughout the GTA. It was a well-attended event, with positive feedback given by attendees
- In an effort to keep this meeting timely and to one hour in duration, Jomana reminded all subcommittee chairs to keep their reports to the Floor members to two minutes; full reports can be submitted to Alexx (recording secretary) at admin@aatoronto.org and put into the body of the monthly General Meeting minutes in their entirety. We need to leave discussion at the end of the meeting for potential discussions in Unfinished Business and New Business. oc.chair@aatoronto.org

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

Motion to Suspend Regular Business – Elections for new Operating Committee Members
Motion moved by Kat M. (Six Points) and seconded by John L. (Fellowship). Motion carried.

Jomana outlined the qualifications and service commitments for this position, and asked if any there were any nominations/volunteers from Floor members. No new Operating Committee member stepped forward for the position at this time. **An election for 4 more OC members will be held at the June General Meeting. Please announce to your groups 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; \$45.00 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

	April 2024 (1 month)						
	Actual 2024	Budget 2024	Variance	%	Actual 2023	Variance	%
Contributions	10,051	8,608	1,443	17%	10,151	(100)	(1%)
Literature Sales	10,074	11,320	(1,246)	(11%)	14,802	(4,728)	(32%)
= Total Revenues	20,125	19,928	197	1%	24,953	(4,828)	(19%)
- Cost of Sales	9,037	9,198	(161)	(2%)	9,282	(245)	(3%)
- Expenses	18,281	19,413	(1,132)	(6%)	30,800	(12,519)	(41%)
= Surplus / (Deficiency)	(7,193)	(8,683)	1,490		(15,129)	7,936	

Contributions are 17% higher than budgeted while literature sales are 11% below budget. Overall total revenue is within 1% or \$197 of budget. This is also consistent with 2023 when 20% literature discount is taken into account. That discount is \$2,478 for April and \$11,040 YTD.

Cost of sales for April is within 2% of budget while expenses are also 6% lower than budgeted. This leaves a deficit of \$7,193, \$1490 less than budgeted.

As of April 30, 2024, our Prudent Reserve is \$316 k.

Also, here are two items that were not mentioned during my report as I ran out of time:

The new engraving machine has arrived at 234 and training is complete. Alexx and Shareena are diligently working their way through the back log of orders. This will take some time and your continued patience is appreciated.

Please pass the following information to your group treasurer: if you are making a cheque out to Intergroup for any reason (Literature payment, Donation, Etc.) make sure that it is made out to "Toronto Intergroup". TD Bank is extremely fussy about this and will reject any

cheque that does not have "Toronto Intergroup" in the pay to the order of line. We have had several cheques rejected by the bank recently and this has caused problems.

financechair@aatoronto.org

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

ARCHIVES: Glenn G. (East York), Chairperson – **verbal report**

No formal subcommittee report submitted to recording secretary; the Chairperson gave a verbal report to Floor members. Inquiries about specific subcommittee activities: please email

archives@aatoronto.org

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

No formal subcommittee report submitted to recording secretary; the Chairperson gave a verbal report to Floor members. Inquiries about specific subcommittee activities: please email

cc.chair@aatoronto.org

Articles/Submissions/Medallion Announcements for the Better Times Newsletter:

bettertimes@aatoronto.org

INFORMATION AA DAY 2024: No report.

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

I.T. MEETING – 6 MAY 2024

Meeting open at 7:00 PM

In Attendance: David Sean Ken M

Meeting opened with a moment of silence and the serenity prayer

12 Traditions read by Sean

As there was not enough for the regular meeting, we had a general discussion and Ken introduced himself as a new committee member. Efforts continue on creating documentation on committee protocols, etc. Sean L. OC liaison, is assisting in this effort.

Meeting closed with Responsibility Statement at 7:30 PM it.chair@aatoronto.org

ONTARIO REGIONAL CONFERENCE 2025: No report.

Jomana shared that the ORC 2024 committee will be holding their wrap-up meeting on May 29. A final ORC 2024 report will be given to the Floor at the June General Meeting.

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

Twelfth Step Chair Report to GTA Intergroup for Tuesday, May 28, 2024

1. The OC will be deciding on the next Chairperson of the Twelfth Step Committee by mid-June, to be announced at the next Intergroup meeting.
2. Chelsea P continues to monitor the 12step@aatoronto.org inbox. Besides re-directing all email queries to the appropriate committee, she initiates the training process for members who express an interest in becoming a Phone Greeter.
3. Lijon G continues to input the data into the Unite call forwarding platform to ensure the right greeters are receiving Help Line calls when scheduled.
4. Rodney D has taken on the task of reaching out to the 12 Stepper and Buddies Lists to maximize the use of these two invaluable assets for carrying the message and "getting them to a meeting".

5. Mira H continues to be an energizer to the entire committee, performing as our secretary and constantly injecting new initiatives into our discussions, as well as training with all of the aforementioned members so as to know how to fill every position. It is our intention to have all members of the committee able to fill in at any position to ensure our consistency and expansion.
6. Woody continues to manage the overnight shift and is hoping to train someone to replace him. He also follows up with the 12 Steppers based on the information submitted on the Blue Form.
7. Kelli is a hands-on Liaison member and is very much involved in the resumption of greeters operating at 234 Eglinton.
8. I am the current Greeter Coordinator responsible for making the schedule every 28 days and making sure all shifts have at least one greeter answering the phone around the clock. There is a constant flow of greeters rotating out and new ones joining the fold. We are actively seeking an Assistant Greeter Coordinator to lighten the load. It has been my absolute pleasure and honour to have served as the Chair of this committee since COVID-19 struck us down and I won't be going away, just stepping down. I enjoy performing any of the many tasks so essential to fulfilling the promise of the Responsibility Declaration. Thank you for entrusting this labour of love to me.

Yours in Service, Laura V., Mt. Royal/York Group 12step.chair@aatoronto.org

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

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

DISTRICT REPORTS

ACCESSIBILITIES: Greg R. (Markham Village), Chairperson

GTAI Accessibilities Chair Report, May 28, 2024

Good evening Friends,

Our Accessibilities Committee has a lot to do and we need more committee members to help. Last year we had as many as 10 regular committee attendees. This year we only have 2 regular attendees and a visitor from Peterborough. Please spread the word that we very much need more members to join our committee. We meet on the 3rd Sunday of each month on Zoom at 11 am.

Even though we low in numbers, we are tackling many tasks and working on various initiatives.

Meetings To Go is active as we are coordinating Home Bound meetings with volunteers on our Buddy List. Please keep us in mind if someone needs a Home-bound meeting.

We are working with Zobie and the WSOH Committee on the search for a fully accessible large capacity venue for this year's WSOH. We have helped with a few venue ideas and hopefully things will work out so we can have a fully accessible venue this Christmas. Wheelchair bound members were literally carried up the stairs in the past years. Not good for one's dignity.

Our committee updated the Accessibilities Checklist for the Groups to review and submit back to us (*see appendix in these Minutes*). If the GSRs can please take this checklist back to their groups and survey their meeting place to see if their meeting is fully accessible, that would be great. Our goal is to make sure the Meeting Guide accurately states if a meeting is fully accessible. I've included the checklist with my report.

Another initiative we have is to have our Webpage updated with resources. We are currently in that process. In the future, you will be able to access the Hybrid Meeting Guide, The Accessibilities Checklist, The Meetings To Go Tool Kit, and other resources.

Lastly, I was grateful to attend and present on Accessibilities at last Saturday's Info AA Day. Two attending members came up and said that they would join our Accessibilities committee, which is fantastic. Thanks for allowing me to be of service, Greg R., GTAI Accessibilities Chair accessibility@atoronto.org

CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES: David G. (Friendly), Operating Committee Liaison - **verbal report**

No formal subcommittee report submitted to recording secretary; the Chairperson gave a verbal report to Floor members. Inquiries about specific subcommittee activities: please email David corrections.liaison@atoronto.org

CPC/PI: No report.
cpc@atoronto.org

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

Report to the GTAI from the Grapevine Subcommittee

Happy to report that the GV subcommittees remain active in the GTA with setting up displays during the month at our home groups and medallions when invited. We recently setup at the Info AA day and our Area Chair gave a presentation on GV.

We meet once a month to discuss how to spread the word about the Grapevine among our members and learn from each other. Ultimately, we need the help of all the intergroup reps to help us spread the message about Grapevine.

Intergroup reps can help spread the message by:

1. Inviting us to your group medallions and anniversaries
2. Checking with your home groups and asking them to get a few GV subscriptions and creating a GV rep service position which would be a great way to get newcomers into service
3. At a personal level, getting a GV subscription for yourself, it only costs \$3 (USD) a month (\$36 USD/yr.), so for the price of a coffee you can get access to this great resource and with the app you can listen to podcasts and current or archived issues

If your group has a GV rep, please connect them with us so we can include them in our monthly meetings. In Gratitude and Service, Imran R (D06 GV Chair) grapevine@atoronto.org

SELF SUPPORT: No report.

TREATMENT: Chair nor present. The following report was submitted by the Chair:

GTAI Treatment Report May 2024

Meeting canceled as most of the Treatment Chairs indicated they would not be participating.

Reports

D02

No changes to report in District 02

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

D06

I have no formal report to submit - no new updates - I tried to email the person from last meeting related to the literature - email bounced back - hoping conversations circle back regarding the literature they were advising they could provide (I'm interested in bridging the gap, safety cards, easy read big books).

D10: No Report

D12

- Women's Homestead Wed Noon Third Thursday of the Month 7pm women only
- CAMH meetings Sunday and Tuesday Night 7:30 open to all members to attend. Need to work with individual locations to get them on board. Have met with staff for training and it went really well and attendance has really improved.
- Discussed D12 working with D10 to help cover the many potential meetings, to discuss further.
- Walter the district treatment chair has attended multiple groups business meetings to discuss the role of Treatment

D14

- Contacted Sutton Youth Shelter and dropped off some pamphlets. I hope to be in further contact with them to do a sit down with staff in the near future.
- The Zoom part of the CHIRS has not been accessible the last three times I tried to join. I have not yet contacted them regarding this.
- Talked with staff at The Ranch Treatment Centre to discuss how we can help them. They would appreciate any literature that can be provided, particularly Big Books and pamphlets that focus on specific groups of people like youth or LGBTQ.
- Discussed implementing Bridging the Gap program.
- I have gone through the pamphlets George provided. Some of them are quite old, and not necessarily focused on the potential AA member but the friends or family of an alcoholic. I will be contacting some local places to see if some of them can be placed there. We now only need groups to cover Blue Door for August, November and December.

D16 Spanish: Does not attend meeting or send reports

D18: No Report

D22

Two service meeting sites continue:

- The City of Toronto Shelter (705 Progress Ave (at Bellamy, Building F, Mondays, 7 pm) and the Homes First/City of Toronto Shelter (c/o the Delta Hotel, 401/Kennedy, Thursdays, 6 pm).
- A potential presentation about AA (date TBD) is being explored at another local shelter (Holiday InnExpress at Markham/Progress, affiliated with the Salvation Army/City of Toronto), to be given jointly with Amanda (CPC/PI) and myself. This site may also be interested in service meeting offerings, but the Treatment Committee is not sure we can meet this request, given our resources. If we decide to put one or two of the other sites on

hold or reduce the meeting frequencies, we may be able to accommodate this request. Stay tuned.

Area 83 Report: No Report treatment@aatoronto.org

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

Report on General Service from the Alternate Delegate, Area 83. Amy L.

For Monthly GTAI meeting, May 28, 2024.

Delegate’s report backs, 2 down, 3 to go. The next one on **June 1** is a Hybrid event See the inset for the day’s program

- Delegate is scheduled for 2:15-3:30, but there is a whole day of events and presentation. Zoom ID: 905 447 824 (no password required)
- Two additional dates for in-person Report backs:
- **June 15** (Ottawa) & June 16 (Eaganville),

What’s Up A.A.?	
Zone 4-D42, D48 and D50 in cooperation with D66	
Saturday, June 1, 2024	
19 Lakeshore Drive, Morrisburg	
Zoom ID: 905 447 824 (no password needed)	
10-10:50am	Panel Meeting- Bringing The Traditions into Life
11-11:15am	Archives Presentation
11:30-12:30pm	Game: Stump the Thumper
1-2pm	Potluck Lunch
2:15-3:30pm	Delegate’s Report back from General Service Conference
3:45-3pm	Self Support Presentation

- **June 5**, Area Committee Meeting. We are going to hear about Area 83’s upcoming Inventory and rolling out guidelines for Area 83’s Technology Committee.

- I want to remind you to consider attending the Eastern Canada Regional Forum in Ottawa on **August 23-25**. Link to Details is [HERE](#) and lots of opportunities to volunteer. There will be simultaneous translation into French.

Rooms rates are being held at the Delta Hotel, until July 22. Please check out the details What is a Regional Forum?? Check out this quick video from GSO. [Regional Forum Video | Alcoholics Anonymous \(aa.org\)](#)

- Area 83 has a new Website, [Home - Area 83 Alcoholics Anonymous \(area83aa.org\)](http://area83aa.org) It is easy to navigate and is getting populated with lots of great information. There will be a service portion of the website that will allow us to place documents useful to Trusted Servants in Area 83. We will be hearing an update on this at the ACM.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No Unfinished Business was discussed.

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):
- Workshop Chairperson:
- Twelfth Step Chairperson:
- IT Subcommittee Members:
- Operating Committee Members (4):

Please Contact:

- 12step.chair@aatoronto.org
- 12step.chair@aatoronto.org
- oc.chair@aatoronto.org
- oc.vicechair@aatoronto.org
- it.chair@aatoronto.org
- oc.chair@aatoronto.org

NEW BUSINESS

No New Business was discussed.

CHAIRPERSON'S CLOSING REMARKS:

- **Reception Report:** (Chairperson provides a count of how many members were in the meeting: Zoom and in-person.) **TOTAL HYBRID ATTENDANCE: 61.**
- "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 eight high and put them away at the back of the room using a dolly."

Motion to adjourn moved by John L. (Fellowship) and seconded by Antonio C. (Silverbirch). Motion carried.

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, June 25, 2024** at 8 p.m.



Twelfth Step Chair Needed

Description and Qualifications

PURPOSE	<p><i>The Twelfth Step Subcommittee is responsible for answering the help line at Greater Toronto Intergroup, and for carrying the message to the still-suffering alcoholic. The mandate for the Twelfth Step Committee is to ensure that there is someone always there.</i></p>
RESPONSIBILITIES	<p>The Chairperson is to be the Coordinator of the Twelfth Step Subcommittee assumes responsibility for its overall activities, which include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manage the Twelfth Step Committee, facilitate the monthly Twelfth Step Subcommittee meeting (held every 2nd Wed. of the month at 7 p.m.) and attend special meetings as required. • Report to the Intergroup Floor on the last Tues. of the month at the GTAI Monthly General Meeting. • Responsible for overseeing recruitment, training, selection, and assignments of Phone Greeter volunteers. • Manage and maintain Guidelines and Procedures for the Twelfth Step Subcommittee. • Work with other Subcommittee Chairpersons to collaborate on carrying the message.
QUALIFICATIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> √ 2 years of continuous sobriety √ Ideally, you might have some experience as a Phone Greeter and/or has had experience as a Twelfth Step volunteer.

Service Resumes are requested to be received before June 19, 2024. Please forward any questions or resumes to oc.vicechair@aatonto.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: _____