

GREATER VANCOUVER INTERGROUP SOCIETY

PASS IT ON

# ***A.A. Newsletter***

## **PUBLIC INFORMATION**

Serving on the Public Information Sub-committee is giving this alcoholic not only the chance to experience the joy of being there for the still-suffering alcoholic but is also re-igniting that old AA flame. Remember "When all else fails working with another alcoholic will surely save the day."

Public Information is a committee dedicated to carrying the message of recovery to the still-suffering alcoholic by informing the general public about the program and fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous. We get in touch with the media, schools, and other organizations, and respond to their requests for information. PI work can take many forms. A sign saying *A.A. Meeting Here Tonight*, a donation of literature to a library, a talk at a school, or a media public service announcement are all forms of PI work.

Sometimes a person's first contact with AA is when a member shares their experience, strength and hope in a school. A student may not be aware that they will need our program someday but the seed is planted. The memory of what seemed a kind and non-judgmental individual comes to mind when they are ready. Possibly another life has been spared the "incomprehensible demoralization" that we all know too well.

Stocking the library with our literature may not seem important. But our shame around our condition often keeps us from making a phone call or talking to someone. So, keeping those libraries stocked could be life or death to a fellow drunk in need of some encouraging words.

Come check us out. We meet at the Intergroup office on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month at 7: pm. Hope to see you there.

### **Office Hours of Operation**

**Mon - Fri.....8:00 am to 6:30 pm**

**Saturday & Sunday.....9:30 am to 1:00 pm**

***Central Office will be closed for group services on***

***December 25 & 26; January 1st. Telephones will be answered as usual.***

### **Contact us:**

**3457 Kingsway, Vancouver, B.C. V5R 5L5**

**Phone 604-434-3933 or Email: [staff@vancouveraa.ca](mailto:staff@vancouveraa.ca)**

# INTERGROUP CORNER

staff@vancouveraa.ca

Unity

Recovery

My name is Doug G., and I am an alcoholic. I also am honoured to be serving as your Operating Committee chair for this year.

I hear members saying that they have no idea what Intergroup is, or what Intergroup is doing. At a recent workshop on the Future of the Phones, I heard people saying that they had no idea how desperate the phone situation was, and suggesting that Intergroup should be working harder to communicate what is happening to the groups.

Tradition Five: Each group has but one primary purpose—to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers. This is the reason the AA group exists. From AA Guidelines – Central or Intergroup Offices: *A central or intergroup office is an A.A. service office that involves partnership among groups in a community — just as A.A. groups themselves are partnerships of individuals. A central/intergroup office is established to carry out certain functions common to all the groups — functions which are best handled by a centralized office — and it is usually maintained, supervised, and supported by these groups in their general interest. It exists to aid the groups in their common purpose of carrying the A.A. message to the alcoholic who still suffers.*

In the Lower Mainland, for this purpose, The Greater Vancouver Intergroup Society (Intergroup) was founded for the purpose of facilitating the 12 Step work that is the lifeblood of the AA Group. With hundreds of AA groups, how would alcoholics find a meeting if it were not for a central office to keep our meeting listings, print directories and web page? If a drunk wanted to connect with AA, what number would they phone if we did not have a central office phone number with volunteers waiting to answer the phone? Central office plays a vital function in each group's 12 Step work. Intergroup is responsible for this office and our 12 step activities in the region.

There are three types of voting representatives at Intergroup:

## **Your Group's Intergroup Representative**

The Intergroup representative is the voice and vote for your group. Sending a well-informed representative ensures that your group is well represented by Intergroup. Your intergroup representative will be making decisions that affect AA here, and will be voting on an annual budget exceeding \$300,000.00, so this is a position of responsibility and your representative should be chosen accordingly. Your elected representative should be reporting back to your group on the work of Intergroup. If you are unaware of what Intergroup is doing, or if you have questions or issues with what is happening, sending a strong intergroup

representative that can speak for your group and report back to your group is the best solution.

- It is suggested that the Intergroup representative be elected by their group to a one-year term from date of election.

- For this position, it is suggested the member have at least one year of sobriety.

## **The Outreach Subcommittee Chairperson**

To coordinate the 12 Step work AA groups are doing in the region and the public face of our fellowship, Intergroup has selected to organize Outreach Subcommittees.

These include:

- Accessibility Committee
- Cooperation With The Professional Community Committee (CPC)
- Correction Facilities Committee
- Detox Committee
- Hospital Committee
- Public Information Committee (PI)
- Telephone Committee
- Treatment Facilities Committee

Each subcommittee has an elected chairperson. The Subcommittee Chairperson is the voice and vote of the subcommittee members at Intergroup. If you are elected to chair a subcommittee you are responsible to further the mandate of your subcommittee, working with Intergroup and the Operating Committee to carry the AA message from our groups into the appropriate facilities and communities.

- For this position, it is suggested the person have no less than one year of sobriety.

- This person will also serve as an active member of the Intergroup Committee with a vote and a voice.

In coming months we will elaborate on each of these subcommittees.

## **The Operating Committee members**

The Operating Committee members are the legal directors of the Greater Vancouver Intergroup Society. The Committee consists of nine elected members of Alcoholics Anonymous including three officers (Chair, 1st & 2nd Vice Chairs), plus the office manager. The Operating Committee is responsible to ensure the day-to-day needs of the fellowship are met by paying the bills, hiring the staff and carrying out the requests of Intergroup.

- It is suggested the member have at least two years of sobriety and preferably having served one full term on the Intergroup Committee.

- If you have served, past or present, as a Greater Vancouver Intergroup Representative or outreach subcommit-

tee chair, you are encouraged to put your name forward as a member of the Operating Committee.

### Into Action

How effectively AA in the Lower Mainland reaches out to the suffering alcoholic depends on how active and involved our Intergroup members are. Achieving our primary purpose depends on healthy participation. If you are not currently involved in service, or it is time to rotate, why not consider becoming a part of the 12<sup>th</sup> step work in the region and get involved in Intergroup? If your group's intergroup representative is not reporting back to your business meetings, start asking questions and encouraging their active involvement. If your group hosts a detox panel, or a hospital or treatment facility meeting, or has a regular phone shift, make sure that you have a representative

### SUB-COMMITTEE TIME CHANGES:

Public Information, 7:00 pm, 4th Wednesday  
Accessibility: 6:45 pm, 1st Thursday  
Telephone 11:00 AM, 3rd Saturday  
Treatment/Detox 10:00 AM, 2nd Saturday  
Corrections, 7:00 pm, 1st Wednesday

Groups for the spare list to take phone shifts  
**URGENTLY needed.**

## DIRECTORY UPDATES

### December 2017

### NEW MEETING DIRECTORY AVAILABLE NOW

#### New Meetings

**Sunday:** "Aloha Spirit" John Lawson Park, 750-17 St. In the gazebo. West Vancouver -8:00 am

**Sunday:** "Sunday Night Speaker" as of Oct 1, NSAC

176 E. 2nd St., North Vancouver—6:30 pm

**Monday:** "Shaughnessy Men's Step/Big Book" 1550 W. 33rd Ave., Vancouver -7:30 pm

**Monday:** "The Meeting" reinstated at new location VGH, Segal Centre room 326. Vancouver -7:00 pm

**Wednesday:** "Lion's Group Beginners" church, 7260 St. Albans Rd., Richmond -7:00 pm

**Saturday:** "Over the Hill" 15869 Pacific Ave., White Rock -6:30 pm

#### Meeting Deletions

**Sunday:** "Archway to Freedom" NSAC, 176 E. 2nd St., North Vancouver -7:00 pm

**Monday:** "West End Group" 1002 - 5th Ave. New Westminster -8:00 pm

**Tuesday:** "Sobriety at Six" 529 Queens Ave. New Westminster -6:00 pm

**Saturday:** "James Gang" 230 Gore St., Vancouver -2:00 pm

**Saturday:** "Centre Group" 220 W, 8th St., North Vancouver—8:00 pm

#### Meeting Changes

**Mon-Sat:** "Can-US" new location as of Oct 1, 1480 George St., White Rock -7:00 am

**Monday:** "Carry the Message" & the "Speaker" mtg.

new name, format & location. Now "The Message" is at 7:00 pm, "Carry the Message" is at 8:00 pm. Both mtgs.

now at 4405 W. 8th Ave., Vancouver

**Wednesday:** "Ladner Step" new name & format Now "Ladner Wednesday Nite" and is no longer a step meeting. 4960 48th Ave. Ladner -8:00 pm

**Wednesday:** "Cloverdale Ladies Big Book" new day

NOW Thursday, Church basement, 17575 -58a Ave. Surrey -7:00 pm

**Wednesday:** "Wednesday Big Book" new format No longer a Big Book meeting, just a regular open AA meeting now. 3456 Fraser St. Vancouver-7:00 pm

**Friday:** "King Albert Serenity" new location as of Oct 1

Church, 1636 Regan Ave., Coquitlam -8:00 pm

**Saturday:** "Breakfast With Bill" new minimum \$7.25

Evelyn's Coffee Shop, 2176 W. Broadway.

### For a complete listing, check the website:

[www.vancouveraa.ca](http://www.vancouveraa.ca)

### GROUP CORNER

We've run out of stories! Tell us what is so special and/or unique about your group. Tell us why it's a great place to bring a new member or a long-timer. Give us your best sales pitch ever!

# UPCOMING EVENTS

Check the website for posters: [www.vancouveraa.ca](http://www.vancouveraa.ca); For out of Area go to: [www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org) and open Box 459.

**72nd ANNIVERSARY PLANNING MEETING** Nov 23. 7:30 pm, Central Office, 3457 Kingsway, Vancouver  
**12 TRADITIONS WORKSHOP** Dist. 43, Nov 25. 12-3 pm, Cloverdale United Church, 17575 58a Ave., Surrey  
**SAFETY IN AA WORKSHOP** Dist. 36 & 38, Nov 25. 1:30 pm, Parkhouse, 5400 River Road., Richmond  
**FRASER VALLEY YOUNG PEOPLE**, 64th Anniversary, Dec. 10 8:00 pm meeting followed by turkey dinner. 1320—7th Ave, New Westminster  
**DENMAN GRATITUDE NIGHT**, Dec. 12 8 pm Food & Fellowship to follow. 1175 Broughton @ Davie, alley entrance  
**WACYPA21** At Last. Dec 28-31, 2017 Chateau Lacombe Hotel 10111 Bellamy Hill Rd. N.W., Edmonton, Alberta Cost: \$35/person <http://.wacypaaxi.weebly.com>  
**WHITE ROCK NEW YEAR'S EVE** Dec 31st. Star of the Sea, 15262 Pacific Ave., White Rock. Clayton 604-358-9227  
**WELLINGTON, NEW ZEALAND** 55th Convention. January 19—21 Ch., Box 2036, Wellington, NZ 6140  
**INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S CONF.**, February 15 – 18, Phoenix, Az. [www.internationalwomensconference.org](http://www.internationalwomensconference.org)  
**BURNABY ROUNDUP** March 10, Operating Engineers

**See our website or call the office for complete list of group holiday celebrations and cancellations.**

[www.vancouveraa.ca](http://www.vancouveraa.ca)

## Phone Room Statistics

	October	September	August
General	1,183	1,114	1,038
12th Step	56	85	69
Al-Anon	5	5	6
Ans Serv	181	231	187
Total	1,425	1,435	1,300

## Area Happenings

(check [www.bcyukonaa.org](http://www.bcyukonaa.org) for details)

**JANUARY QUARTERLY**—Jan. 13 & 14, 2018 Powell River  
**PRECONFERENCE ASSEMBLY** April 7—9; Duncan, BC  
**District 26** new meeting location: Oblate House, 1311 The Crescent, Vancouver, back lower door.  
 4th Sunday of the month at 10 am.

## BIRTHDAY CONTRIBUTIONS

Viki E, 42 years

## SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULE

	DECEMBER	JANUARY
Cooperation with Professional Community 1st Tuesday 7:00 pm	5th	2nd
Hospitals: 1st Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.	5th	2nd
Corrections: <b>1st Wednesday, 7:00 pm new day</b>	6th	3rd
Accessibilities: <b>1st Thursday, 6:45 pm new day &amp; time</b>	7th	4th
Detox: 2nd Saturday, 10:00 am; Workshop follows at 11:00 am	9th	13th
Finance: Thursday before Intergroup, 6:00 pm	14th	11th
Operating Committee: same night as Finance 7:00 pm	14th	11th
Intergroup 3rd Tuesday, 7:30 pm, Orientation at 7:00 pm ( 49th & Kerr)	19th	16th
Treatment: 2nd Saturday, 10:00 am	9th	13th
Telephone: 3rd Saturday, 11:00 am	16th	20th
Workshop: 3rd Saturday, 10:00 am	16th	20th
Public Information: 4th Wednesday, 7:00 pm	27th	24th

Subcommittee meetings are held at Central Office, 3457 Kingsway. All A.A. members are welcome.