

January 2019 Greater Vancouver Intergroup Monthly A.A. Newsletter

Pass it On . . .

TRADITION ONE:

Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends on AA unity.

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WHAT IS A CENTRAL OR INTERGROUP OFFICE - DOES IT RELATE TO TRADITION ONE?

“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”. Here in Vancouver, the official name is Greater Vancouver Intergroup Society (GVIS). Intergroup or Central Office (CO) as some call it, is a not-for-profit society, not a charity. GVIS exist on members contributions. Contributions come in the form of currency and volunteerism/ service work. There are employees, called Special Workers, but the Twelve Step work is done by the members of the Intergroup Committee.

WHO ARE MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE?

The Intergroup Committee is made up of members of Alcoholics Anonymous elected by their groups as Intergroup Representatives (IGR). The other members are the Operating Committee (OC) members, outreach subcommittee chairs and a non-voting recording secretary. Does your group have an Intergroup Representative?

WHAT IS AN INTERGROUP REPRESENTATIVE?

An IGR is a trusted servant position. The IGR is the voice of the group to and from Intergroup. They carry the group conscience of both entities and transmitted it accordingly. The IGR keeps members of their autonomous group advised of the work of the outreach subcommittees, Intergroup, Finance and Operating Committees. The individual group then has unity with the other groups in Vancouver A.A.. The Intergroup Rep encourages unity and participation of the groups in the Intergroup service area. The suggested term for an Intergroup Representative is one year, with a suggested sobriety requirement of one year as well. Every 3rd Tuesday of the month, an IGR Orientation is held at prior to the Intergroup Meeting and all are welcome.

Reprinted from A.A. Guidelines: Central of Intergroup Offices (MG-2) with the permission of A.A. World Services.

Central Office Hours:

- Mon.- Fri.: 8:00am to 6:30pm
 - Sat.- Sun.: 9:30am to 1:00pm
- 3457 Kingsway, Vancouver, BC, V5R 5L5
- Phone Lines: 24/7

Office will be closed on statutory holidays.

We are closed on Jan. 1st for New Year's Day

A Call To Action From Detox & Treatment

The Detox Committee is responsible to ensure the A.A. message is carried in the form of meetings and/or panel discussions in those detox centres wishing to have such meetings. detox@vancouveraa.ca

The Treatment Facilities Committee is responsible to ensure meetings and/or panel discussions are held and supported in those treatment facilities wishing to have such meetings. treatment@vancouveraa.ca

Both committees need you and/or your group's help!

The Intergroup sub-committees are both working hard to get the message of recovery from a hopeless state of mind and body out there. They are in contact with many facilities that are interested in having AA come to them. Now they need the bodies who are willing to commit! Both committees offer an orientation every second Saturday of the month at 10:00am. If you or your group presently serves a detox or treatment centre it is essential that you let the detox or treatment committee know. Why do work twice when we are all unified in our love of getting the message of recovery out there? Please join us at the Detox/ Treatment Committee monthly meeting at Central Office – every second Saturday of the month at 11:00am. **The next meeting is January 12th followed by another February 9th, 2019.**

**Welcome to Serena your Detox Chair!
Thank you Steve, Treatment Chair
for your continued service!**



Intergroup Meeting:

- Orientation for new Reps at 7:00pm .
 - Intergroup meeting at 7:30pm.
- 3022 E 49th Ave, Vancouver, BC V5S 1K9
- Next meeting: **January 15th, 2019**

All members are welcome!

Tel: (604) 434-3933 Email: staff@vancouveraa.ca Web: vancouveraa.ca

Intergroup Page: Unity, Service, & Recovery

Call to Action From Telephone Room:

Do you like small, intimate meetings? Do you like seeing the same people at the same time each week? Do you want to be a part of 12 Step work?

Well, we have an opportunity for you! How would you like to be that sober member of Alcoholics Anonymous on the other end of the phone when a suffering alcoholic reaches out for help? Are you retired, work part time or evenings? Or maybe you are new to sobriety and have 3 months. There are openings for weekday phone shifts. We have mornings or afternoons and each shift is 4 hours in length. In addition to 12 Step work, you can: play scrabble, talk about spirituality, eat donuts, read literature, the list is endless!

So if you are interested, contact :604-434-3933 or staff@vancouveraa.ca



Traditions:

Discussion question:

Am I in my group a healing, mending, integrating person, or am I divisive? What about gossip and taking other members inventories?

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Sub-Committees:

The purpose of every outreach subcommittee is to assist the Intergroup Committee in carrying out the primary purpose of Alcoholics Anonymous as expressed in Tradition 5. Each outreach subcommittee is therefore assigned a particular area of responsibility.

Reprinted from Intergroup Operating Procedures and Guidelines 2018 with permission.

Accessibility:

Needs a Chair person!! We meet every 1st Thursday at 6:45pm at CO. Experience is not required; willingness is. The committee is responsible to explore, develop and offer resources, including literature, to make the A.A. message and participation in A.A. available to anyone with special needs. Call CO, drop in or email: staff@vancouveraa.ca or accessibilities@vancouveraa.ca

Phone Room Stats:

	Nov	Oct	Sept
12 th Step Calls	10	38	48
Al-Anon	34	5	8
Answering Service	140	243	232
General	623	717	701
Total Calls	807	1,003	989

Sub-Committees: continued

Co-operation with Professional Community:

We meet every 3rd Thursday at 7:00pm at CO with Hospitals. We need members to help us do twelve step work. Call CO, drop in or email: cpc@vancouveraa.ca if your are interested.

Corrections:

Needs a Chair person!! We meet every 1st Wednesday of the month at 7:00pm at CO. Experience as an inmate is not required, sobriety is. The chairperson deals directly with institution staff and personnel who are responsible for the alcoholic. They also facilitate clearance for members to attend meetings.

Call CO, drop in or email corrections@vancouveraa.ca if your are interested.

Detox:

We meet every 2nd Saturday at 10:00am followed at 11:00am with a workshop to assist members in doing detox twelve step work. Serena J has stepped up as our new Chairperson. Welcome Serena! Come help her out by joining her committee.

Call CO, drop in or email: detox@vancouveraa.ca if your are interested

Hospitals:

Needs a Chair person!! We meet every 3rd Thursday at 7:00pm at CO with CPC. The committee is responsible to ensure the A.A. message is carried in the form of meetings and/or panel discussions in those hospital wishing to have such meetings.

Call CO, drop in or email: hospitals@vancouveraa.ca

Public Information:

We meet every 4th Wednesday at 7:00pm. We are always looking for new members.

Call CO, drop in or email: staff@vancouveraa.ca

Telephone:

We meet every 3rd Saturday at 11:00am. All group telephone reps are encouraged to attend. At 10:00am we have the telephone workshop for new members who want to do the phones at CO.

Call CO, drop in or email: telephones@vancouveraa.ca

Want to volunteer for a 4 hour phone shift? Call CO or email staff@vancouveraa.ca

Treatment:

We meet every 2nd Saturday at 10:00am. Quite a few service opportunities available to attend facilities, but need more participation from members to fill the needs.

Call CO, drop in or email: treatment@vancouveraa.ca

All subcommittees meet at Central Office.

Need more information about service positions?

Call 604-434-3933, email: staff@vancouveraa.ca or come by CO at 3457 Kingsway, Vancouver — you are always welcome!

Thank you to everyone who does Service!

Directory Updates January 2019

For a complete listing, check: www.vancouveraa.ca under meetings

New Meetings:

Tuesday: “Women’s Candlelight Closed” One Way Club, 22270 North Ave., Maple Ridge –7:00 pm

Thursday: “Bleeding Deacon” La Fontana Café, 101-3701 Hastings St., Burnaby –7:00 pm

Meeting Changes:

Monday-Friday: “Sunrise Serenity” *back to old time* Waves Café, 715 Columbia St., New Westminster—8:00 am. Saturday & Sunday still at 9:30 am

Monday: “No Bull” *temporarily moved* from the Princeton Grill @ 12:15 pm. Call Central Office for new location details. 604-434-3933

Tuesday: “First Things First” *new room* now Conference room 9, level 1, St Paul’s Hospital 1080 Burrard St., Vancouver –7:30 pm

Tuesday: “Burnaby 12X12” *new time*, Burnaby Fellowship, 7638 6th St., was at 7:00 pm, Burnaby -6:00 pm

Wednesday: “Lunch with Bill” *temporarily moved* from the Princeton Grill @ 12:15 pm. Call Central Office for new location details. 604-434-3933

Wednesday: “Royal Oak Group” *has resumed* 4812 Willingdon Ave., Burnaby –7:30 pm

Wednesday: “Circle of Life” *new location* now 1068 Inglewood Ave, West Vancouver –8:00 pm

Thursday: “Sober @ 7” Indian Friendship Ctre., 10095 Whalley Blvd., Surrey –6:45 pm

Thursday: “Step It Up” *new location*, Church, 4773 Piccadilly S., West Vancouver –7:30 pm

Thursday: “Participation” *new time as of Jan 1* 7025 Granville St., Vancouver—now 8:00 pm

Thursday: “Thursday Night Live” *new time* 5135 Sperling Ave., Burnaby –now 7:30 pm

Thursday: “A New Happiness” *new time as of Jan 1* 1499 Laurier St., Vancouver – now 7:30 pm

Discontinued Meetings:

Monday: “Meditating Friends” Park House, 5400 River Rd., Richmond –1:30 pm

Mon, Tue, Wed: “Grupo Renacimiento” 230 Gore Ave., Vancouver –7:00 pm
Still active on Friday and Saturday.

Thursday: “Good Council” 10504-139th St. Surrey –8:00 pm

Thursday: “Meditating Friends II” Park House, 5400 River Rd., Richmond –3:00 pm

Friday: “Dream Speaker Circle” Kekinow Native Housing, 14145-103 Ave., Surrey –8:00 pm

Discontinued Meetings:

Saturday: “Mission” Central City Lodge, 415 West Pender St., Vancouver –9:00 am

Sunday: “Because We Care” Central City Lodge, 415 West Pender St., Vancouver 6:00 pm

Group Corner:

WANTED

Group stories. This section of the Newsletter is reserved for group stories. If you think your homegroup is awesome—tell everyone about it. When do you meet? What is your format like? Pass your experience on!

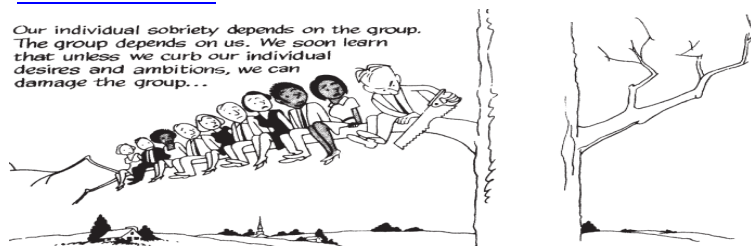
REWARD

Groups to volunteer one calendar day a month for a four hours phone shift. The fellowship is down a group and there are none on the waiting list. Experience has shown it will be rewarding for your group members.

MISSING

Central Office is missing or needs to update some of your group members information. Please start the new year by completing and getting us an up-to-date *12 Step/ Bridging the Gap/ Accessibility Volunteer Sheet* with us. They are available at CO, Intergroup monthly meetings, and at vancouveraa.ca

Our individual sobriety depends on the group. The group depends on us. We soon learn that unless we curb our individual desires and ambitions, we can damage the group...



Suggestions on Naming Groups:

Our A.A. group conscience, as voiced by the General Service Conference, has recommended that “family” meetings, “double trouble” and “alcohol and pill” meetings not be listed in our A.A. directories. The use of the word “family” might also invite confusion with Al-Anon Family Groups, a fellowship entirely separates from A.A. The primary purpose of any A.A. group is to carry the A.A. message to alcoholics. Experience with alcohol is one thing all A.A. members have in common. It is misleading to hint or give the impression that A.A. solves other problems or knows what to do about drug addiction. There has also been a recommendation by the A.A. General Service Conference suggesting that no A.A. group be named after any actual person, living or dead, A.A. or non-A.A. That is one way we can “place principles before personalities.”

Reprinted from: The A.A. Group . . . Where it all Begins: How a Group Functions: How to get Started (P-16), P.18, with the permission of A.A. World Services, Inc.

Upcoming Events

For a complete listing, check: www.vancouveraa.ca under events

Events:

New Year's Eve Dance Dec 31, dinner, dance, speaker. Tickets \$30 Trinity Lutheran Hall, 11040 River Rd., Delta—6:30 pm

Old Timer's Meeting Jan. 1. 1-4 pm. NSAC, 176 East 2nd St., North Vancouver

Nanaimo AA Rally Jan 25-27. Beban Rec. Centre, 2300 Bowen Rd., Nanaimo, <http://nanaimoaarally.com>.

District 43 Gratitude Day Feb. 2. Tickets \$20. George Preston Rec. Centre. 20699 - 42 Ave., Langley

Heart to Heart Feb. 16, Fleetwood Community Centre, 15996-84 Ave., Surrey

Sobefest March 9. St. Pat's Church Auditorium, 22589—121 Ave., Maple Ridge. Tickets \$25

Upper Fraser Valley Corrections Roundup Mar 23, panels, speakers, dinner. \$15. Level Ground Church, 31216 King Rd., Abbotsford

North Shore Roundup Apr. 19-21, Vancouver Convention Centre, East 999 Canada Place. Vancouver – tickets available at Central Office.

Area Happenings:

Quarterlies & Assemblies: January Quarterly: Jan. 11th thru 12th, 2019 — Evergreen Hall, 9291 Corbould Street, Chilliwack, BC.

Western Regional A.A. Service Assembly: WRAASA: Feb. 22nd thru 24th, 2019 — Coast Capri Hotel, 1171 Harvey Street, Kelowna, BC.

Intergroup Events/ Meetings:

Intergroup Annual Meeting: Tuesday, February 19th, at 7:30 pm., 3022 East 49th Ave., rear entrance. Election of Intergroup officers will occur and six members of the Operating Committee.

Sponsorship Breakfast: Sept 28, 2019. St. Mary's Ukrainian Church Hall, 3150 Ash St., Vancouver—10 am. Tickets are \$20 for more information:

<http://www.vancouveraa.ca/>

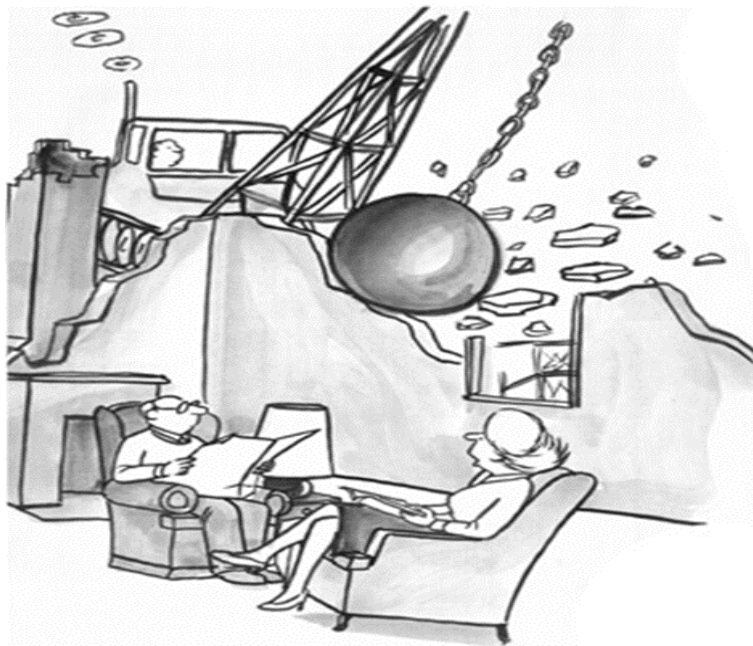


Birthday Contributions:

Viki E. (43 yrs) Helene B. (27 yrs)
 Joe. H. (14 yrs) Sean O. (18 yrs)
 Kim P. (decades)

Next Newsletter Deadlines:

January 10 (for Feb) & February 14 (for Mar)



"Honey, the wreckage of your past is back."

Sub-Committees Meeting Dates:

2019	Jan	Feb
Accessibilities @ 6:45pm	3th	7th
Corrections @ 7:00pm	2nd	6th
C.P.C. @ 7:00pm	17th	21st
Detox @ 10:00am Workshop @ 11am	12th	9th
Hospitals @ 7:00pm	17th	21st
Intergroup Meeting @ 7:00pm	18th	19th
Public Information @ 7:00pm	23rd	27th
Telephone @ 11 am Workshop 10am	19th	16th
Treatment @ 10:00am	12th	9th

In Memoriam Contributions:

Bequest in wills are acceptable only from A.A. members, with a maximum of \$5,00 from any one person, and only on a one-time basis—not in perpetuity. This is for both AAWS and GVIS.

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