

Area 83 Eastern Ontario International

Hybrid **Area Committee Meeting** **Minutes**

September 16, 2023

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Area Committee Meeting – September 16, 2023

1. OPENING

Good morning Friends!! I'm an alcoholic a member of the West End Group in District 74 and my name is Bill. It's an honour to serve Area 83 as your Panel 73 Chair.

As we customarily do, let's open this meeting with a moment of Silence followed by the Serenity Prayer.

12 Traditions read by Joe A, ADCM District 22

12 Concepts (Short Form) read by Denis C, Alt PI/CPC Chair District 48

Welcome to Quinte West! It is so good to see so many of you here today, both in person and our on-line community! This is our third Area Committee meeting of the 2023-2024 term.

This is your meeting, and it is an opportunity for you to share what's happening in your Districts. The Area committee is where recommendations to the Assembly are discussed and formulated and where tasks assigned by the Assembly are carried out. It is where your questions are answered, and concerns addressed. Please feel free to voice any concerns or questions you may have. There may be someone here who has the same question, and it helps to share. It is important for all of us to remember our First Tradition – "Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends upon A.A. unity". We are here to ensure that Alcoholics Anonymous remains unified and strong in Area 83 Eastern Ontario International. Our personal recovery, as well as the recovery of the still suffering Alcoholic, depends upon it.

Some reminders

This is a non-smoking meeting. For those of you joining us on-line, please turn off your camera if your activities may be disruptive. A break will be called sometime around 11:00 AM and again in the afternoon. Lunch is not shown as an agenda item, but we will break around noon. Please mute your cell phones or anything else that might interrupt the meeting.

The church has asked us to be extra vigilant when we are disposing of our recycling and garbage. Please pour any liquid that you are disposing of in the bucket before putting the cup/container/bottle in the appropriate bin. You should also know that this church is a non-styrofoam facility and they ask that we not use Styrofoam in our meetings.

At this time, I would like to introduce our Area Committee.

Area 83 Officers

Panel 73 Delegate	James O'D.
Alternate Delegate	Amy L.
Secretary	Jill B.
Treasurer	Jack R.
Registrar	Trevor F.
Our Panel 71 Immediate Past Delegate	Kimberley M.
And I'm your Chairperson	Bill C.

Area Sub-Committee Chairpersons

Public Information Chair	Tim F.
Cooperation with the Professional Community Chair	Jane S.
Correctional Facilities Chair	Rob F.
Treatment	Maria M.
Accessibilities	Theresa L.
Grapevine Chair	Christine F.

Self-Support Chair Kathie T.
Archives Chair Jenny B.

These are your Area Officers and Sub Committee Chairs for 2023-2024

Introduction of Previous Delegates and those in appointed positions:

Also, with us today we have: Panel 61 Delegate Robb W; Eastern Canada Regional Trustee Joyce. And in **Appointed positions** we have Area Archivist David T. and Area Webmaster Robb W.

Housekeeping:

Our meeting schedule up to and including tentative dates in 2024 will be included in the minutes. These dates are reserved on the Area Calendar, and for the in-person meetings, have been booked in advance with the church. Some are listed as tentative as the date of the following Assembly or Area Committee Meeting is approved at the end of each meeting. We will be meeting here again in September this year. In 2024, we will have 4 Area Committee Meetings, January, June, September and December.

Year	Date	Status	Type of Meeting	Where
2023	October 27-29 ¹	Confirmed	Area Assembly	Hybrid, St. Lawrence Centre, Kingston ³
2024	January 13 ²	Confirmed	Area Committee Meeting	Hybrid, Westminster United Church
2024	April 5-7	Tentative	Area Assembly	Hybrid, St. Lawrence Centre, Kingston
2024	June 8	Tentative	Area Committee Meeting	Hybrid, Westminster United Church
2024	September 7	Tentative	Area Committee Meeting	Hybrid, Westminster United Church
2024	October 25-27	Tentative	Area Assembly	Hybrid, St. Lawrence Centre, Kingston
2024	December 7	Tentative	Area Committee Meeting	Hybrid Westminster United Church

¹Voted and approved at the April 16, 2023 Area Spring Assembly.

² Due to location availability, date has been changed to January 13, 2024

Food:

Snacks have been arranged by our Snacks and Lunch Person Julie T and lovingly prepared by Les M and his crew. The cost is \$10.00, per serving. Tickets will be sold at the break prior to lunch. You must have a ticket to be served.

Thank-you Julie and Les for organizing the lunch, refreshments, and snacks.

Seating:

For safety reasons, we have arranged the seats in these rows to allow ample room for social distancing. DCMs, if you brought your Alternate, please have them sit with you. Those with voting privileges at the meeting, please place your name card in front of you.

Who votes?

All Area Officers, including the immediate past Delegate, but not the Area Chair. All Area subcommittee chairs. All District Committee Members of Districts in Area 83; in their absence, the Alternate District Committee Member may vote on behalf of their District. There is one vote per person.

How do we vote?

PROCEDURE:

Alcoholics Anonymous has traditionally made decisions by 'substantial unanimity'. In practice, this has translated to 2/3 majority. I believe that the first part of the agenda today can be handled under simple majority. *The items under old and new business are of such a nature to be under 2/3 majority and I will ask for a motion when we get to that point in the agenda.* If, at any time, you think that we should move to a 2/3 majority, please make the motion.

At times, I may ask for a show of hands to get a 'sense of the meeting'. This is NOT a VOTE, and those with a vote may indicate they are in favour or against by either raising their hand in-person or online.

DISCUSSION/RAISING HAND:

If you would like to address the committee (as though you were approaching the mic) to make a motion, second a motion, those in person, please approach the phone on the floor and wait until you have been recognized. For those of you online, please raise your virtual hand using the RAISE HAND FUNCTION and wait until I have recognized you. Rob D, who is our Online Tech, will then ask you to unmute.

When you have been recognized by the chair, please identify yourself by Name, Service Position and District.

Reminder: **IF YOUR IDEA OR COMMENT HAS ALREADY BEEN PRESENTED, PLEASE LOWER YOUR HAND IF YOU ARE ONLINE; OR RETURN TO YOUR SEAT IF YOU ARE IN PERSON.** Your humility and cooperation in this regard is appreciated.

Minority Opinion:

A.A. has always protected the voice and opinion of the minority. When we have a vote, unless the voting is unanimous, or if the vote was to cover items such as acceptance of minutes, I will ask if anyone wishes to speak to the minority. To be able to do this, you must have voted with the minority on the motion. **If, after the minority has spoken, someone from the majority side of the vote wishes to change their vote, that person may make a motion to reconsider.** If this is seconded and passes by a simple majority, we start discussion again on the **original** motion.

Calling the Question:

During the discussion on a motion, a member, once recognized by the Chair, may move to "call the question". This is a motion to end discussion and move to the vote. This motion needs to be seconded, is not debatable, and requires a 2/3 majority to pass. If it passes, we go directly to the vote of the motion or amendment we were discussing. I would caution you not to use this privilege too often or too early – many good points and opinions will come out in discussions, and if discussion is prematurely cut off, we will not get to hear them.

Who may address the committee meeting?

It has been the *practice* at the Area committee to use the same *principle* as we do at the Assemblies: only voting members of the Committee have a voice. This is important for two reasons:

- It keeps the focus on the fact that this Committee is in effect the steering committee of the Assembly – members are representing their District's positions or the Area's in the case of our Officers, rather than their own.
- It also maximizes the time available for members to voice the opinions and needs of their District. All who are attending may say their piece during sharing time.

I respectfully ask for your cooperation with this. If you do not have a vote, as I mentioned, please keep your input for sharing time which will take place under [Agenda Item 14](#). At that time, all in attendance are welcomed to participate and their opinions will be heard.

Floor Motions

If you are making a floor motion for the Area Committee to consider today, it would be much appreciated if you would write your motion out and give it to our Secretary Jill.

I would entertain a motion now to carry out the first part of today's meeting by simple majority:

- **Motion for simple majority**

Moved:	James S, DCM District 28
Seconded:	Marrey P, DCM District 06
Discussion	None
All those in favour:	32
Opposed:	0
Abstentions:	0
Motion:	Carried

2. REVIEW AND ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

Are there any other items that should be added to today's agenda?

OLD BUSINESS TO BE ADDED - None

NEW BUSINESS TO BE ADDED –

Robb W, Area 83 Webmaster; Item 13 d) can be removed from the agenda as this will be reported on at the Area Assembly. I will be touching on it in the Webmaster report.

Kimberley M, Immediate Past Delegate; Item 13 a) can be removed from the agenda at this time. We'll report in January.

Rob F, Area 83 Corrections Chair; Please add a motion to modify our mileage reimbursement for our expenses. Since the last time it happened, that gas has risen quite a bit.

Bill C, Area 83 Chairperson; New Business will be amended as follows:

13 a) Support for ASL Interpretation at Fall 2023 Assembly if requested

13 b) CERASSA request for support for professional interpretation

13 c) Motion – Modify our mileage reimbursement for our expenses

- **May I have a motion to accept the agenda as amended?**

Moved:	Jeffary F, DCM District 86
Seconded:	De R, DCM District 02
Discussion	None
All those in favour:	32
Opposed:	0
Abstentions:	0
Motion:	Carried

3. ROLL CALL

Our Area Registrar Trevor is taking the roll call today and will be sharing the results later during the Registrar's report.

		ACM Attendance		
		VOTING	NON-VOTING	Total
DCM's	in-person	15		15
	online	3		3
				18
Alt. DCM's	in-person	1	7	8
	online	1	1	2
				10
Area Committee Members	in-person	11	1	12
	online	1		1
				13
Appointed Position	in-person	1	1	2
	online			0
				2
Past Delegates	in-person	1	1	2
	online			0
				2
Visitors	in-person		4	4
	online		3	3
				7
Total Delegation	in-person	27	14	41
	online	5	4	9
Totals		32	18	50

4. REVIEW AND ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES OF June 3, 2023 ACM

Minutes of the June 3, 2023 ACM were distributed by email on July 8th to the Area Committee. I believe we have had enough time to review the minutes in advance of this meeting. Therefore, I would like to ask:

Are there any errors or omissions in the minutes? None

- **May I have a motion to accept the June 3, 2023 ACM minutes as distributed?**

Moved:	Carla W, ADCM District 34
Seconded:	Mike H, DCM District 30
Discussion	None
All those in favour:	32
Opposed:	0
Abstentions:	0
Motion:	Carried

5. DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEMBERS' REPORTS

We have requested written reports from all Committee members, including District Committee Members. Members are asked to keep in mind the 2-minute time limit for verbal reports. Written reports may be as long as you like and will be included in the minutes in their entirety, if given to Jill, our Secretary.

I would ask that members come up to the mic to give their reports. If a report is going to be given from a member attending virtually, please remain muted until it is time to give your report. Order is determined by drawing District numbers from the bag. I will announce who is up and who is on deck. If you are "on deck", please come up to the front and be ready to give your report when the DCM before you have finished. Please clearly state your name, your position and your District when you are addressing the committee, thank you.

Let's get started.

District 02 Malton

Good morning friends, I am an alcoholic, member of the Rexdale United Group and have the privilege of serving as the District Committee Member for District 02, Malton and my name is De R.

We recently reviewed the active groups in our district and we have twenty-one. Prior to the pandemic we had thirty-one groups so we have lost ten, due either to the group closing, or where the group met closing. We are happy to announce that the New Beginnings Group, Thursdays at 8 pm at Brampton Detox has resumed their meeting which is again open to the public.

At our business meetings which we continue to meet via zoom, we have 37% of groups attending and are currently working on strategies to improve attendance. All of our table officer positions are filled, however we have four vacant committee positions: Corrections, Grapevine, Literature and Archives, which we hope to fill in the coming months. Financially we are stable and due to not meeting in person, our expenses are low by not paying rental space. We were able to make contributions to both Area and GSO.

We provide service meetings to three Treatment facilities: St Leonard's Tuesdays at 8 which is also open to the public; Addiction Rehab Toronto the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7:30 and Brampton Detox – Thursdays at 8 which is also open to the public, Saturdays at 1:30 and Sundays at 8 pm. The groups are fulfilling these commitments.

We continue to work with our small Accessibilities committee to organize another District 02 Accessibilities Info Panel for the coming new year.

That's all the updates for now.

Thank you for allowing me to be of service,
In gratitude, De R

District 06 Mississauga

Good Morning, My name is Marrey P, an alcoholic, member of the Streetsville Group and privileged to serve as the D06 DCM. Also present is D06 ADCM Rob D.

We are holding at 36 groups in the district, 3 having Points of Contact and 5 with the status of Unknown i.e. no POC or GSR. One in-person service group has changed location and wanted to give it a few months to see how it goes before registering as the 37th active group. 19 groups are in-person, 5 groups are online, 1 group is hybrid and 11 groups hold both online and in-person meetings.

Quorum at D06 is based on the number of groups that attended the previous term at least 25% of the time (6 meetings). Quorum is 13 and I'm happy to report that attendance for June was 16 groups, July was 15 groups and August was 16 groups, so we have had quorums for all our meetings since the beginning of the year.

The district is financially healthy, and we have made contributions to both Area and GSO by e-transfer, something new for us.

The Chair positions of CPC and Grapevine have been filled so only Archives and Treatment are vacant. Only PI has an Alternate Chair.

PI had a display and literature at an event put on by CARP (Canadian Association for Retired Persons) in Streetsville on June 21st and will be at the University of Toronto Mississauga Campus Be Well Fair on Sept. 21st PI has contacted The Mississauga News to place a free ad (a promotion they put on).

Our Treatment Commitments at Cawthra Shelter every Wednesday at 7pm have been met and are covered until December, as are the women's meetings at Jean Tweed every 4 weeks on Sundays at 6:30pm. Both meetings are in-person.

Meetings at the Toronto South Detention Center have been regularly held on Tuesday mornings and there is talk of holding an evening meeting soon. On August 23rd, there was a training session at the facility with 12 people interested. GTA Corrections is always looking for Bridging the Gap volunteers and GV magazines are always in demand (past delegate Roy R. just donate a slew of them).

Rob D., Alternated DCM, acted as secretary for a group inventory, reported that the inventory was a valuable exercise for the group, and encouraged the D06 GSRs to suggest it to their groups.

The Mississauga Fall Roundup will be held on October 30th at a cost of \$25 per ticket. Please go to aa.mississauga.org and scroll down to the flyer.

Lastly, big news – the district meeting is going hybrid, starting on Wednesday September 20th using equipment supplied by the table officers for the first 3 months. Group conscience will decide how to proceed after that.

Thank you kindly for your attention.....Marrey P.

District 10 Toronto South Central

Hi, I'm the District Committee Member for District 10. I am an alcoholic and my name is Patricia A.

District 10 has 25 groups in total 17 have GSR's (10 of these also have Alt GSR's) 4 have a listed contact person 4 do NOT have a listed contact.

On September 12, 2023, the Toronto Meeting Books came hot off the press. I rushed down to get a few and asked for feedback. There are adjustments to the meeting zones - Toronto South Central which was south of Eglinton, west of the Don River and East of University/Avenue Road is now west of the Don Valley Parkway, East of Dufferin St. and South of Lawrence.

I am a member of Twelfth Tradition and on December 21 this year we celebrate 50 years as a group. I am also the contact person for Frontrunners and on September 17, 2023, we celebrate 40 years as a group. There are not enough members in these groups who want to hold service positions. Generally speaking, many groups in our district are trying to find and fill open chair positions. Those that are filled are doing a good job.

We are able to pay our bills from Group contributions. We have one business meeting per group per month and many groups are meeting online and in person, co-ordinating their meetings to happen at the same time.

Many GSRs are present for each District 10 meeting – not all of them but enough for us to have a quorum. I reviewed the finances with the Treasurer John to allow for money for Bill C the ADCM and myself to attend the Assembly at the end of October.

St. Felix does not offer recovery meetings anymore, but our Treatment Chair David A is already offering support to other treatment facilities, and we'll soon be helping them.

We have 4 subcommittee positions at the D10 table left to fill: Grapevine, Treatment, Self Support and Intergroup Rep/Liaison. Thank you to everyone who has a chair position – we appreciate your effort.

Cheques will require signatures of two out of three signing officers. Signing officers are DCM Patricia, Treasurer John and Secretary Steve.

David T left Self Support Chair for District 10 to do Area Archivist work for Area 83.

I have been working with Kelli – Operating Committee Secretary – contributing in an ad hoc committee to encourage groups to return to intergroup on a regular basis. We are seeking registrar information for a list of 10 groups.

I contacted David T who works closely with intergroup, and he wants to know - How many of you GSRs have an intergroup rep? How many attend the meeting online. If you don't have an intergroup rep would you be willing to have the ad hoc committee speak to your business meeting. We don't interfere with what a group does. Each group is autonomous. They collectively make the decision to join Intergroup as support.

This past couple of months I have attended AA Events in Halifax, Sudbury and Vancouver. I participated and presented in events, made some new friends, met some old friends and got to do some archives work which I love.

Thank you all for allowing me to be of service.

Yours In Love and Service, Patricia A

District 12 Toronto South West

Good morning, everyone, I'm an alcoholic, member of the Hill Group in Toronto and currently have the privilege of serving District 12 Toronto Southwest as District Committee Member. My name is Norm.

I'm joined here today by Lisa B., our Alt DCM.

District 12 has 26 active groups across Toronto Southwest, including one virtual group – the Third Row Group meeting on Wednesday nights. That's down by one group since my last report, with the Tuesday Night Discussion Group moving to inactive status. We see just below 50% attendance by GSRs at our district meetings, which are held virtually. GSRs that do show up, are reporting strong attendance, with lots of medallions and anniversary celebrations happening. On that note, The Hill Group will be celebrating 75 years with a special meeting on Oct 19. Please drop by if you're in the area and do come hungry. And I had the pleasure of facilitating a group inventory for the Midtown group last weekend. It was a wonderful afternoon, followed by an energetic open meeting.

All table positions are filled except for Self-Support and Grapevine Subcommittee chairs. We hope to get these filled soon. Jeff N. is our new Intergroup Liaison, and Walter Y. of the Gladstone Group has taken on treatment.

We are down to one service commitment in the District, with St. Felix House recently suspending meetings due to – in their words - lack of interest by residents. The door remains open should that change in the future.

Prior to the pandemic we had 10 service commitments with treatment centers in District 12 including Women's Renascent, Homestead, Ozanam Group, St. Joe's Detox, and five weekly meetings at CAMH. There is a concerted effort to list and contact treatment centres in the District, to re-establish relationships, and find new service opportunities.

Groups in District 12 have continually expressed interest in resuming service to the levels they were at prior to the pandemic. This is a priority for District 12.

District 12 has struck an ad hoc committee to review and revise our operating procedures and guidelines to provide some clarity around issues that have arisen lately.

Overall, District 12 is doing well and remains active. We are financially healthy and will be in a position to make a contribution to Area and GSO next month. And of course, we are all looking forward to the Fall Assembly.

Thank you, and I am truly grateful to have this opportunity serve.

Yours in love and Service, Norm B.

District 14 Toronto North Central

Good day, I am an alcoholic, my name is Tony F. Member of the Black River Group located in Sutton, Ontario. It's a privilege and a honor to be the Acting District Committee Member for District 14 Toronto North Central.

Up to Date District 14 has 24 active groups in Toronto North Central, Willowdale group will be moving in with the Sheppard Group as they had low attendance, and the Willowdale group needed a new meeting place. We have 7 groups as inactive as of this month. We have a good attendance at most of our meetings 12 to 14 members, more GSRs attendance would surely enrich our sharing and concerns for the better of AA as a whole. We continue to hold Hybrid meetings, zoom participation very low at present.

Still open is our District Committee Member position, Archives, Corrections, and Treatment. As of this month we now filled, Public Information, Co-operation with the Professional Community, Grapevine and we have added a Technology Coordinator which is also filled.

We will be Distributing the 1200 New Pamphlets to the York Region Police stations, parole and court offices, this was held back due to printing issues at GSO, which seems to be getting better , back orders or starting to get filled and Toronto Intergroup.

We continue to keep in touch with Hospitals in our area in order to provide weekly service meetings as did in the past, at present we still are servicing The Blue Door site on Young Street on Tuesday nights at 8pm.

Our Ad Hoc Committee is still reviewing the District Guidelines booklet as no changes have been made since 2016; the committee will have a rough copy of proposed changes for the next meeting this October to bring to the table hopefully.

We are also looking forward to donate 48 Big Books at the October Assembly, to be distributed to the Federal correction instructions in Kingston.

Financially things seem to be working out for our District having faith that as time goes on we can progress in every way, and continue to be able to provide service for the whole off AA so the door will be open for the next suffering alcoholic

Yours in Loving and Service, Tony F

District 16 Distrito Hispano De Toronto

The members of the Hispanic district board meet once a month, usually the last weekend of the month. We are 5 members who began to visit the 5 groups in the district to invite them to join the district board.

On September 2 the Friendship group celebrated its 35th anniversary at the Perth-Davenport community center and had several members of the groups, everyone was invited to participate in the AA service.

The groups in the Hispanic district are positioned with a positive environment as new members have joined seeking the help of AA. And almost all of them have opened their doors 4 to 7 days a week.

The information from these groups will be made known at the Toronto integral office so that it is disseminated to all alcoholics who suffer from alcoholism.

Financially, we have already begun to contribute to the Area, since the groups are also contributing to the district. We hope that in the coming months more members will be interested and have broader coverage of the services needed.

Yours in love in Service, Gregorio

District 18 Toronto City East

Hello friends, I'm an alcoholic, a member of the Danforth Group and my name is John M. I have the honour of serving you as the District Committee Member for District 18.

Greg R., our Registrar has been attending groups that were not attending the District 18 meeting. Recently we have increased our active list to 20 groups out of 25 although attendance at the district meeting sits at 50% of active groups.

We have a new group in the district, The Full Catastrophe Sobriety group who meet on Thursday at 8:00PM. We also have a new service meeting, The Markham Women's Meeting which is held at 10:00am Saturday. I will be checking these meetings out soon.

The district is busy with Treatment facilities. We now have 3 different facilities covered each week although one is changed from virtual to an In-Person meeting once every 4 weeks.

We are still looking for an Alternate DCM.

That's all for now! Yours in Service to AA

John M. DCM D-18

District 22 Scarborough

I am a grateful alcoholic, member of Silverbirch and have the pleasure to serve as District Committee Member for District 22 my name is Bert J.

District 22 is composed of 21 groups.

We are not meeting in person for the present moment. Our meeting is the second Sunday of the month except for May and October first Sunday.

A day before or two our meeting me and the alternate contact by phone the GSR to remind them about the meeting.

At the table we have 14 groups attending regularly and the registrar function is now filed by Peter H from fellowship group.

Self-Support, Archives and Corrections are not filled.

The treatment committee is very active and we have two shelters in action. We have a residence that has been put on hold and a third shelter asked for help and is in process.

It is the responsibility of a district to be at service when a hand is asked we have to remember the Responsibility Declaration.

We are having our District 22 Service Day on September 23rd at the Oakridge Community Center located at 63 Pharmacy Avenue from 9 am (doors open) presentation start at 10 am. We will have a skit on Anonymity and a workshop on Service sponsorship by Ruth P from Pine Hills group and her sponsee.

Multiple opportunities are coming as we reopen more to the public.

Yours in love and service, Bert J

District 26 Lakeshore West

Good afternoon - Carl member of the Liverpool Group I'm an alcoholic.

It's an Honor to service as Alt DCM District 26.

District 26 has 21 groups in our district. We have 2 positions that are vacant, Self Support and Archives. We continue to encourage our groups to take back to their business meetings and present these vacancies.

We are running our District meeting as Hybrid since January. Our in-person meetings are well attended, and our Groups represented on average: 15/21 groups attending or 71%.

Our overall finances are in good standing and running well.

Our District 26 and District 28 Interchange schedule has been developed and published. We have a large up take on groups participating this term being 21. Past term participation was 14 groups.

With no meetings through the summer things have been quite I am so grateful to have this opportunity to serve.

Yours in love and Service, Carl O.

District 28 Lakeshore East

Hi everyone, I'm an alcoholic member of the Courage to Change group and my name is James and I currently have the honour to serve as the DCM for District 28 and am happy to have my alternate DCM Steve B. in attendance today. Our District meetings are well attended with active participation however we still have a number of positions open.

Unfortunately, we had The New Anchor group who has been in service since March of 1981 close its doors last month. In August the Annual Lakeshore district Conference was held and had a great attendance with many fantastic speakers. I was in attendance and was happy to see a few people in attendance here that were there. Interchange has resumed in participation with District 26 and I am happy to report that the groups in participation has increased again almost to pre-covid participation levels. As stated by District 26 we are also gathering groups to participate in putting meetings on at the Renescent House treatment centre. Recently Cornerstone homeless shelter reached out looking for AA meetings to be held at there facility and out CPC/PIC committee is currently in discussions with groups and the facility about trying to make this happen.

Yours in Love and Service, James S

District 30 Quinte West

I am an alcoholic, member of the Hope Group and my name is Mike. It's an honour to serve District 30 as your District Committee Member. District 30 finances are in good order, and all of our financial obligations are being met. District 30 recently made contributions to Area 83 and New York, with more likely to come after all financial support is provided to those attending the upcoming fall assembly. It's with sadness that our Literature Chairperson has had to resign due to moving to another district. District 30 is considering the elimination of the position due to our treasurer collecting and paying for all orders in the efforts of streamlining the financial side of providing literature to our groups. District 30 still has an abundance of exciting positions in need of chair people

such as CPC, Archives, Accessibilities and Corrections to name a few. I have started to visit groups in District 30 to stir up some interest in service and will continue to do so in the near future. We will be encouraging all GSR's in District 30 to attend the upcoming Area83 Fall Assembly.

District 30 will soon be reviewing and revising our Operating Procedures to stay current with the needs of the district.

District 30 is pleased to announce that the service meeting at Northumberland Hills Hospital has resumed after Covid 19 restrictions have eased. We meet in room 2F-27 at 7pm Monday nights.

Our round up committee has started planning our spring roundup in 2024 with more to be revealed.

Thank you for allowing me to be of service.

Yours in Love and Service, Mike H

District 34 Quinte East

Good morning members of Area 83, I am an Alcoholic, member of the Napanee Big Book Group of Alcoholics Anonymous and my name is Mike S. I am excited to be the new District Committee Member of District 34; Quinte East. What a beautiful Spring Day to be Sober and of Service.

Our District Table still has 2 open Sub-committee positions vacant: CPC and Archives which we are eagerly looking to be filled. Our attendance rate at District meetings averages about 20 - 25% of groups being represented. We are financially sound with all of our financial obligations being met, including contributions to Area 83 and GSO. We are very pleased to announce that through the persistent efforts of our Corrections Team of Neil W and Les M meetings have resumed at the Bath Institution. Unfortunately, we also have to announce that the Treatment Center in Belleville has closed permanently. Our Treatment Chair Mike B has continued to work with their staff during the transition to see how we can be of service to the Youth Rehab Outreach Programs.

Both DCM and ADCM continue to support each group in our District offering face to face support for business meetings and group inventories. We have updated our District Operating Procedures to better align with Area 83 and GSO.

Yours in love in service, Mike S

District 36 Kingston & the Islands

Good morning everyone, I am a member of the Young Peoples Group in Kingston and I am honored and privileged to be serving as the DCM for District 36, Kingston and the Islands. I am an alcoholic and my name is Rich.

Our district finances are stable and we have no outstanding debts and maintain a prudent reserve. We were able to make contributions to Area and GSO. Groups continue to contribute to District and higher levels.

At our last district meeting there was a motion to have District meetings return to in person only. We had a lengthy but very good discussion on this and in the end the motion was defeated. We will continue to hold District meetings using a Hybrid format.

The Harbor Light Treatment meeting and Detox Centre are now just in person meetings with good attendance.

The Corrections meetings at Joyceville Minimum, Collins Bay Minimum and Collins Bay Medium are being very well attended by inmates and volunteers. Unfortunately, Joyceville Medium and Collins Bay maximum are not allowing AA volunteers at this time.

Our PIC chair position is now vacant and has been for two months. Our Alternate DCM Cameron M will be the contact until we find a new chair for this committee.

The 42nd annual District 34&36 conference will be held next Sunday September 24 at the Napanee Lions Hall. Registration starts at 10:30am. I have placed a flyer in your folder.

District 36 hosted Founders Day on Just 10 and on August 26 hosted the Secular Ontario Round Up. Both events were very successful and very well attended.

Kingston Young Peoples Group is excited to once again host the Friday night speaker meeting for the FALL ASSEMBLY. This meeting will also be broadcasted on Zoom. The log in information will be included with the Fall Assembly agenda.

Yours in Love and Service, Rich K

District 42 St. Lawrence International

Good morning, I'm Natalie and I am an alcoholic. It is my privilege to serve as DCM to District 42, St. Lawrence International. This year is flying by! We have had some recent changes to our district table, the secretary position was vacant for a few months due to a work relocation of our previous secretary. Our alternate DCM did a great job keeping the flow of information current with monthly minutes during the vacancy. The secretary position was filled at our August meeting by Gari V., a past DCM for our district. Most all positions are filled at this time. Our treasurer has served for the last two and a half terms and is looking to exit the position but has graciously agreed to stay on in the interim as to ensure district business is not interrupted. Myself and the Alternate DCM Brent C. will be putting on a Traditions workshop on November 4th at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Canton, NY from 2-7pm. with a break for dinner. District 42 is also in the discussion/ planning phase of doing an inventory with a possible date in February. We have lots of new speakers going into the Canton-Potsdam Rehab with my home group taking over the Sunday 10am meeting working closely with district treatment chair Dean W. We are functioning in unity and are hopeful to see some new faces at the upcoming business meeting on the 4th Wednesday of the month. All is well in District 42!

In Gratitude & Service, Natalie N

District 48 Seaway Valley North

My name is Sara, I'm an alcoholic. I currently serve as District Committee Member for District 48, Seaway Valley North and General Service Representative for Fourth Dimension Group.

Our District usually operates monthly meetings using a hybrid format excepting the summer break we took. We continue to operate at our full capacity with all chair positions filled. We have 19 active groups now, the newest of which is called Winchester Sunday Morning Group. Our Groups collectively run 17 live meetings, 3 online meetings and 1 hybrid. 14 of these Groups sent representations to our last District meeting.

We currently enjoy having a roundup committee doing much planning for us. They got the groups involved in a fun twist at Tuesday's District meeting when the GSRs got to draw jobs out of a hat for their Groups to perform at the roundup. The room became positively abuzz! We also have just begun to talk about next year's Interzonal Service Day because it is our turn to host. We've got some interest being expressed already to take jobs on for that and I'm excited to be a part of it!

Thank you, friends, for your service here today.

Yours in Love and Service, Sara M

District 50 Cornwall

Hi everyone, my name is Huguette B and I am an alcoholic. I am privileged to represent District 50 Cornwall & area. I am a member of the St. Andrews 12 & 12.

We have 3 groups that have closed while 2 new groups have begun a new journey within our District. We have one group that is pending registration while 2 others will continue to hold in person meetings, while the other will continue on Zoom.

We have a great turnout from our all our GSRs and Committee chairs who represent 90% participation at our monthly meetings. We still have vacancies to fill for our committees and hoping that our local Service Day will attract more members to be involved. This event will be organized by Kelly D., our Alt-DCM, aiming for April 2024. Kelly is planning to organize an Ad Hoc committee in October 2023. The purpose of this event is to familiarize the new GSRs and/or members of our District with the different types of committees and their roles, bring understanding on how the Traditions work and bring knowledge of GSO, Area 83, etc. We will potentially be asking for assistance from Area to participate. Stay tuned!

Our very first summer roundup was a success and very well attended. Our 74th annual AA conference is well on its way. It is scheduled for November 4 and 5 at the Best Western Parkway in Cornwall – flyer is on our website and tickets are available.

Our Telephone Answering Chairperson has been in contact with Intergroup Ottawa to obtain permission to use their list of references on how to handle more sensitive 12-Step calls. We would like to acknowledge their valuable contribution. The content of their booklet has been modified for our District and has been distributed to all our GSRs for review. The final approval of this document will take place at our October District meeting.

Our website will continue to improve over time as we elected a new website liaison. More projects to come in the near future. We had to say goodbye to our past website liaison as she embarks on a new journey.

Our Operating Procedures are ready to be brought for a vote to proceed with its implementation, replacing the 2019 version. This action item will also be done at the October District meeting.

Yours in service and love, Huguette B

District 54 Ottawa Rideau

No report

District 58 Ottawa Bytown

District 62 Ottawa West

I am an alcoholic, a member of the Stittsville Second Chance Group and I have the honor and privilege of serving as the District Committee Member (DCM) for District 62 Ottawa West. My name is Jamie B.

District Table:

District 62 has a full committee of table officers. We are still looking for liaisons for our Archives and PI/CPC Ottawa sub-committees, as well as a grapevine representative, but hope to have these filled soon. We currently have 49 active groups in the district, with 3 unknown groups we are working to get information on. Our attendance has averaged 22 groups over the past 3 months or 42%.

We recently struck an Ad hoc committee to look into our district moving to hybrid meetings. Our alternate DCM Steve B. chaired the committee. Lots of research was done to find out the costs and effects this would have on our district meeting. The information has reached the GSRs and will be brought back to the groups, no further action has been taken at this time.

Events:

The Eastern Ontario Conference is coming up soon, being held October 20th and 21st at the Hellenic Centre in Ottawa. This should be a great event with a comedy show on Friday night and a large assortment of speakers on Saturday along with a banquet. For anyone looking to attend please feel free to contact me.

Finances:

Financially, District 62 is stable - contributions are coming in and expenses are relatively low as District continues to meet on zoom. Contributions continue to be made to the Area and the General Service Office. Yours in Love & Service, Jamie B

District 66 Golden Triangle

Hi there, my friends, I am an alcoholic, and my name is Carrie C. I have the privilege to serve as District Committee Member for District 66.

We continue to hold hybrid District meetings on the last Wednesday of each month. Group Representation is still low. With 27 Registered Groups in the District, there are an average of 7-8 Group Representatives attending.

Our District is doing well financially, and all commitments are being met.

I am excited to announce that the district has created a new service position, "Technical Support Committee Chair". The hopes are that when I report to the Assembly, this position will be filled. Matt C. (GSR – Mississippi Group) and Art H. (District Secretary) put together a detailed report defining the roles, responsibilities and requirements to fulfill this role. They detailed the equipment needs and cost estimates for the table to discuss. A report very well done!

The 2 vacancies we are also still trying to fill are Accessibility Committee Chair and the Alt-District Committee Member.

Our PI/CPC Chair, Janet C., is doing great in playing catch up as Janet just stepped into this service Position in May. District 66 has a large geographic area to cover, and as it stands, Janet has 4 volunteers and is reaching out to other GSR's to find more volunteers.

Corrections Facilities Chair, Rod D. and his Co-Chair, Kim S. continue to hold weekly meetings at the St. Lawrence Secure Treatment Unit. There is good attendance on a weekly basis. There are still 2 approved volunteers awaiting training. Due to a mix up there was no training session in July. Rod is waiting to confirm a new training date. They currently have 10 (ten) volunteers trying to get a Vulnerable Sector Check and Rod has made contact to assist them with the process. It is now done on-line so the process is slow. I received an email from Rod, and it looks like they have been asked to bring AA Meetings into the Brockville Jail. Details to follow as Rod is in the process of scheduling a meeting to organize this.

District 66 is going to have a District Inventory November 29; It has been quite a few years since the last one. Looking forward to seeing how this all unfolds.

There are two upcoming Group Anniversaries in our District. On September 25, the 12&12 to Serenity Group (Perth) is celebrating 25 years and the next night, September 26, the Mississippi Group (Carlton Place) is celebrating 70 years! Details on both celebrations can be found on the lanarkleedsaa.org website.

In gratitude love and service, Carrie C

District 70 Renfrew Pontiac

My name is John and I am an alcoholic.

My dry date is September 9, 2010. I am honoured to represent District 70 as DCM for the current term.

I regret that I was unable to attend the area committee meeting. Here is a brief note on how our district has been doing. All 17 groups are meeting regularly and attendance has increased in many. Most groups continue to have anniversary meetings for members to celebrate their achievement but mostly to show the hope, friendship and happiness that comes with continual sobriety to new members.

Our district meetings continue monthly on the second Thursday at 7.00 pm, we meet live and communicate via Zoom for those who prefer. Normally we forgo official district meetings in summer, 2 months, July and August, however, this year we decided to have the meetings but experienced only a small number of participants. We expect to see more participation now that we have entered the fall season.

Our financial donations to Area 83 and GSO are discussed often and available funds are regularly forwarded, our district accounts are maintaining prudent reserves. We have begun our third year of offering all groups access to meeting Insurance, to date 7 groups participate in this including our district committee, the account is handled by district with the cost shared equally. All involved have been quick to respond with payment.

This term, we have placed Big Books in all libraries in our district and our PI/CPC committee is currently placing information sheets/pamphlets in doctor offices etc. We have approved expenditures to provide a mobile road sign offering the 1-800 call number to those who might consider their alcohol consumption having become a problem. To date, we have not been granted use of any suitable site to place the sign but efforts continue.

Thank You. John C

District 74 Pembroke

Hello Friends, I am an alcoholic, member of the Language of the Heart Group in Petawawa and my name is Sarah. I am privileged to serve as District Committee Member for District 74, Ottawa Valley.

We have 9 groups in our District and 7 currently participating at the district table. Our district continues to meet in person with the option of online. Some are in person only, some are hybrid and one is online only. We are excited to announce that as of July 31st, The River Group is finally back in person after 3 long years, post covid. They now have a new venue The Real Hope Christian Assembly 33019 ON 17, Deep River. They offer hybrid meetings Mondays and Fridays at 7:00pm.

We currently have 13 positions at District 74 and only two are vacant, Alternate Webmaster and Alternate DCM. Our table is lively and overflowing with enthusiasm. I would like to welcome Lori M who is our New Treatment Chair, Mike Y who is our new Self Support Chair and Julie T who is our new Helpline Chair. Thank you all for your service and dedication to District 74.

On Saturday, September 9th we had our Annual AA Baseball Game. The event was well attended everyone had a lot of fun. Thank you to Kyle and our events committee for a great day. We had an Ask-It Basket where old-timers answered questions from our members, while we enjoyed a pig roast. Thank you to all the groups for your contributions to an amazing event.

On Saturday, October 21st, Amy L., our current Alternate Delegate will be joining us at 10:30 am on zoom to give a short presentation on our service structure.

Financially we are covering our own expenses but are unable to contribute to Area or GSO at this time. We are hoping with the addition of our new Self Support Chair we can turn this around in the immediate future.

There has been buzz around our district table about The Area Fall Assembly. I feel District 74 will be well represented and look forward to seeing you all there.

Yours in Love & Service, Sarah M

District 78 Madawaska Valley

My name is Allen and I am an Alcoholic.

I have the pleasure to serve as DCM for District 78 on Panel 73.

We have six meetings in our District which are all operating. We had one 'casual' meeting (not official) close due to lack of participation. District Meetings are regularly attended by 83% of Groups.

As previously reported, Finances for our District are 'weak' - but we have seen significant improvement recently with groups making significant contributions. There has also been significant cost cutting (Phone Service, Hall costs, Zoom expenses being significant ones). *Cost cutting and getting out to talk to groups seems to be working!*
Special thanks to Amy L. who lets us use the Area Zoom account and has been so helpful ensuring our somewhat varying schedule is accommodated.

As previously reported our Web Site had been down leading us to discover two significant issues: a) we do not own our Domain b) we are at the mercy of a third party person who owns and hosts the domain.

Our Webmaster resigned in June and we immediately had someone volunteer! The District also decided to expand the scope of duties to include all technology and redefine the position as Technology Chair - Operating Procedures were also updated.

In July, we were able to get the site up and running again but the issues of web site ownership and management have not been resolved. The new Technology Chair is currently working to resolve these issues so we can be autonomous going forward.

The District also launched the Outreach Programme by re-invigorating our PI/CPC work through increased 1:1 communications with police, medical & relevant professionals across the District. The Cte. has met and is taking action while building a broader plan at the same time. **Thanks to Jane S.** for her unwavering support of this process.

Our Tri-District Service Information Day on June 10, 2023 was a great success. **Many thanks to our speakers: James O'D. Our Delegate, Jane S. CPC, Kathy T. Self Support and Rob W. - Area Webmaster.**

Our Fall Roundup is looking like an absolutely awesome event. The 'Festival of Colours' is happening September 30th at 9:00 a.m. in Maynooth at the Hastings Highlands Township Office (same location as in previous years). There is a fantastic Caterer providing dinner. The cost for the day is a 7th Tradition - dinner is \$30 and I have tickets with me today. It's a busy time but very rewarding!

It's a busy time but very rewarding!

Allen W

District 82 Victoria Haliburton

Good morning, everyone. I am a member of the Minden Centennial Group, an alcoholic and the District Committee Member (DCM) for District 82 Victoria/Haliburton. My name is Richard C.

After a wonderful summer of well attended meetings, medallion celebrations and group anniversaries, I am happy to report that all of District 82's meetings, some 22 with 19 meeting in person, two inactive at present and one zoom, the district looks ready for a busy and productive autumn. Our next district business meeting will take place tomorrow, Sunday, September 17th as a zoom meeting and one of the key items to be discussed will be whether to return to in person meetings.

Meetings at our men's and women's correctional facilities in the district continue to be well attended.

Victoria/Haliburton District 82 held its annual conference in Lindsay last Saturday, September 9th and was a rousing success with great guest speakers from both AA and Alanon. The chairs of our CPC/PIC and Archives committees were present with their information booths. I would also like to report that our Archives chair, Janice D., has begun work on a district history covering both individuals and groups. This is such an important endeavor, and all are being asked to contribute. We are counting on the Area 83 Archives Committee for help in transcribing the audio recordings.

As well we have had long-time members of AA in the district donate a large number of speaker / conference / meeting cassettes and these tapes have been delivered to the Area 83 Archives committee for processing.

We continue to see a modest intake of people coming from treatment centres throughout southern Ontario and our Bridging -the-Gap personnel continue to work with our correctional facilities people to ensure that newcomers are greeted and settled with a home group.

I remain yours in love and service, Richard C

District 86 Kawartha

I am an alcoholic; a grateful member of the Stonewall Group in Peterborough and my name is Jeffary F and currently serving as District 86 DCM. In June, our district hosted our annual round-up which was a wonderful success with over 200 people in attendance. I would like to thank Roger O'B and his committee for the work done. October's District business meeting has an election for the new chairperson for the 2024 Conference. There are two outstanding candidates running.

All our committees have chairpersons, the Pi/CPC committee was filled in August Browyn P. is the chair and their first report to the district there was much activity reported on. They have a solid team of volunteers and are doing very necessary outreach to Peterborough and area.

With twenty groups active in our district and a few service meetings. We are effectively getting both in person, hybrid and online attendance.

We look forward to upcoming fall and winter months and the ability to carry the message of AA.

With Gratitude, Jeffary F

Thank you to all those who gave reports.

6. COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS

We now come to our Area Subcommittee Chair reports. We rely on your humility and compassion to keep your reports brief. As with the Districts, written reports may be as long as you like and will be included in the minutes in their entirety, if given to Jill, who is minuting this meeting. I would ask the committee members to stay unmuted after their reports to answer any questions, if any.

A. Public Information Tim F.

Good Morning Friends, I am an alcoholic, proud member of the Freedom Group in District 86, and my name is Tim F. I have the honour and privilege of serving Area 83 Eastern Ontario International as your Panel 73 Public Information Chair. It's been a quiet summer so my report will be brief.

Our last Public Information/Cooperation with the Professional Community Sub-Committee Meeting was held on August 22nd at 7.30 with 10 people in attendance. It's a great opportunity to meet with the District Chairs to share initiatives and all are welcome to attend. The next Sub-Committee meeting will be held in December. I should have talked to Jane today and have a date picked. I will secure a time on the Area account and send out to the District Chairs and get it on the Area Calendar.

I'm looking forward to getting back to attending the Toronto Intergroup PI/CPC Committee monthly meetings. They have been on a summer break for a couple months. I have been unable to attend the North American PI/CPC working group monthly meetings mainly due to the time they are held. I have been able to keep up because they send a recap and I get all the material online. These meetings are on the second Saturday of every month at noon eastern time. If you have interest in PI/CPC you really should attend. My distribution list has the PI chairs and a few others. If you want invitations to the PI/CPC meetings or the PI/CPC working group, let me know and I'll add you to the distribution list. This is for DCM's or Alternates and anyone that you know that has an interest in Public Information.

I am looking forward to the Assembly coming up at the end of October. I have been working on the Public Information Workshop. The Public Information Chair for District 6 has volunteered to come and present. I'm hoping to get this all finalized shortly and passed on to our facilitator.

I would like the secretaries to continue sending me your District Minutes. I enjoy reading them and it allows me to be better informed and better able to assist. Feel free to reach out to me if I can be of any assistance to you or your District. I am available if you have any questions and if I don't know the answer I will try my best to find one.

Yours in Gratitude, Love and Service, Tim F.

B. Cooperation with the Professional Community Jane S.

Hello everyone. I am an alcoholic, member of the Hand of AA Group in Pembroke, District 74, and my name is Jane. I am privileged to serve as Area 83's Cooperation with the Professional Community Chair for panel 73.

Here are some updates from CPC:

The CPC/PI North America Working Group on July 8, 2023 focused on how to reach the still suffering alcoholic through PI and CPC work by improving websites. Discussion was around how our websites are accessed by family and friends and others (50%) looking for information for someone they care about and therefore making outward facing portions of our websites is super helpful. Providing a section dedicated to professionals may also be helpful in CPC work.

We discussed a few other projects - A trifold flyer for professionals and a "prescription pad" pre-printed with your local aa meetings/QR code for meeting guide app for local physicians. All of the information is available in the shared google drive of the North American PI/CPC Working Group.

Unfortunately, I was not able to attend the August session but have review the notes. Attached is a tri-fold flyer created for PI and CPC committees to modify for your District use. These are INWARD FACING FLYERS, meaning for members and not the general public. <https://www.aabayarea.org/pi-cpc-members/>.

The next event hosted by the North American CPC/PI Working Group will be a workshop on October 4, 2023 entitled "Sobriety Through Service" beginning at 8PM Eastern time. All are welcome and it looks to be an informative evening.

I had the pleasure of working with District 78 on a few target projects to begin this summer. We came up with a strategy and formed a subcommittee that will contact all secondary schools in the district. They will provide a packet of information along with request invitations for speakers to talk about AA to the students/faculty. A second subcommittee was formed that will reach out to the hospital staff and local physicians with a postcard with QR codes for information for professionals regarding AA and the QR code for the meeting guide app. We also discussed holding a quarterly "Open Meetings" inviting professionals and others interested in AA having several speakers explain the Steps, Traditions, Big Book, Self Support, etc.

GSO contacted us about funding a booth the Canadian Counseling and Psychotherapy Association event taking place in Toronto on October 19-21, 2023. Unfortunately, the spaces were sold out prior to GSO's inquiry so we missed out on this event. I will attempt to coordinate this for next year well in advance with the Toronto CPC Intergroup liaison to secure a spot.

PI & CPC WORKING GROUP WORKSHOP

SOBRIETY THROUGH SERVICE

To reach the still-suffering, AA Needs You!

October 4 - 1.5 hrs.
with Spanish interpretation

The primary objective of our public outreach committees is to help the public and professionals better understand alcoholism and AA. Our friends must know who we are to recommend us. These grassroots efforts need AA members and homigroup support to help the still-suffering.

Zoom I.D. 894 2126 1943
Passcode: 411
8:00 pm Eastern
7:00 pm Central
5:00 pm Pacific

With AI-Anon Participation:
All AA and AI-Anon members welcome

Hosted by:
The PI & CPC Working Group and East Bay Intergroup, San Francisco East Bay, CA

Meeting Link

Digital outreach. Intro to Public Information, Cooperation with the Professional Community. Tim C.

Outreach to healthcare professionals. Dr. Stephen Jurd MB BS FRANZCP FACHAM

Outreach to courts and probation. Joseph F. Tio MBA LSW Director of Probation and Treatment Services

Recovery in Service Adam T. L.A. Alcoholics Anonymous Followed by Q & A

Ottawa Districts' PI and CPC committee prepared a workshop on speaking at non A.A. events on August 17, 2023. I was unable to attend this unfortunately as I was out of town. We will be adding a segment like this at the service information day at the Area Assembly in October. I have a very special guest coming to present this for us! This information is so important because getting an invitation to speak to/for professionals is entirely different than speaking at AA meetings or events.

Our sub-committee meeting held jointly on August 22, 2023 with public information had 8 people in attendance. This number is particularly light since we have approximately 28 districts in Area 83. I would like to congratulate and welcome Bronwyn @District 86, Gavin @ District 30, and Catherine@ District 14 in their new CPC/PI positions and thank them for their service and attendance.

We had a good discussion on what each district that was in attendance has been doing to carry the message which included a table at Trent University welcoming new students, waiting room TV ads in doctors' offices, posters being created for schools and police departments, attendance at wellness fairs and much more. Cooperation with the Professional Community is alive with pockets of enthusiasm in Area 83 but we can do more!

I would like to suggest to those districts which currently do not have CPC chairs have the ADCM attend the sub-committee meetings and bring back some notes to their district tables to create some interest to take to the groups. If your district has a chair that has become inactive, please reach out to me so that I try and assist/ignite them. Please also consider inviting me to any hybrid or online district meetings to give a short talk on what the Cooperation with the Professional Community Committee is and does.

From GSO: the pamphlet “A.A. in Your Community” update has been approved and forwarded to the publishing department. The pamphlet for mental health professionals is still under progress. Progress has been made on the CPC service “cards”, which will have a place for local committees to add contact information, they will first become a digital asset and then printed will become available in 2024. These are Public Information related but can be modified for Cooperation with the Professional Community use.

JUST IN : The National Working Group of PI and CPC has just posted a tutorial, on their google drive, on converting QR codes to a JPEG for use on printed or digital content!

Finally, I was approached by Dave T. And advised that folks are showing up at the Toronto Central Office asking for assistance. Apparently they are being referred there by their various attorney’s offices. I have sent an email to the Ontario Bar Association requesting an emailing list or contact information. I have not received a response. This is an interesting opportunity for us to provide information to this demographic on how to help clients find AA meetings in their communities.

WE must continue to try and define AA in the public and professional square through our committees, subcommittees and individuals dedicated to this work. If WE don’t define AA, someone else will define it for us.

I am available to assist in any way that I can so please reach out to me anytime. I would also appreciate being invited to any upcoming events, committee meetings or workshops you may be planning.

Yours in love and service, Jane S

C. Correctional Facilities Rob F.

Good morning. I am an alcoholic and I have the privilege of serving as your Corrections Chair for Area 83 Eastern Ontario International and my name is Rob F.

I am enjoying working with our District Corrections Chairs and am continually amazed by the dedication that our volunteers have in carrying our message to institutions in Area 83.

I have been invited to put up a Corrections display in Napanee, District 34 on September 24th. Les will be there to help!

On September 5th, we had a virtual meeting with Eileen A. from GSO, 60 people from Correctional Services Canada (CSC), Regional Professionals, and our Canadian Area Correctional Chairs. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss how AA can help reduce recidivism, ramp up the Corrections Correspondence Service (CCS), and explore the feasibility of virtual volunteer opportunities using different technologies. AA is making some amazing progress with Correctional Services Canada. CSC requested the meeting to re-establish collaboration between the A.A. Corrections trusted servants and the corrections regional professionals after changes caused by the pandemic and to ensure that A.A. is available in all 43 federal facilities. Inspiring testimonies from an A.A. trusted servant and a CSC Manager, Assessment and Interventions were heard. This was the first meeting of its kind. The staff member will continue to provide support as needed.

CSC reported that they are 3-5 years away from having an infrastructure to support the use of digital technology.

CSC also reported that postal laws involving confidentiality have prevented participation in the Corrections Correspondence Service (CCS) by persons in the federal prisons.

In October, I'll be at the Lindsay Jail meeting with the Volunteer Coordinator and her team to talk about how AA is able to help their people in custody find recovery. Heads up to our PIC Chair, I'll need some pamphlets to give out!

Bridging the Gap has been picking up steam with most institutions having meetings with pre-covid schedules.

For Service Information Day Guest Speaker....

As I mentioned before, I would love to meet any of your group and district corrections chairs to learn about your local initiatives, successes, and challenges, and to determine how I can best assist. Please feel free to get in touch if you would like me to participate in any of your service days or district meetings.

It's very exciting to be a part of our Area Service structure, and I am committed to being of service in the best way that I can.

Yours in Love & Service, Rob F

QUESTIONS FOLLOWING THE CORRECTION'S REPORT:

Question: Marrey P, DCM D06 – Can you confirm that there is no correspondence allowed with anyone incarcerated in Canada right now?
Answer: Rob F, A83 Corrections Chair – Officially there is no Corrections Correspondence Service (CCS) in Canada. There are some members that are corresponding but it's not the official CCS.

D. Treatment Facilities.....Maria M.

Good morning, I'm an alcoholic, a member of the Live and Let Live Group in Colborne my name is Maria. I have the honour and privilege of serving Area 83 Eastern Ontario International as your Panel 73 Treatment chair.

In the couple of months since the last Area Committee meeting, I have had the opportunity to meet online with several Districts. One District in the GTA continues to have a weekly service meeting at several locations and has the support of the District Public Information chair for these meetings and may explore another location in the coming months, and there is one meeting that has been put on hold. I have attended the Greater Toronto Area Intergroup (GTAI) Treatment meeting, it is an informal meeting, there is some really good information exchanged and new ideas shared at the meeting that I can share with other Districts. I look forward to attending the next GTAI meeting this coming week. Other Districts report success in groups taking meetings into detox, rehabilitation facilities and hospitals. Commitments from groups and individuals have been bringing meetings into the facilities where needed. Districts in Ottawa report that there are 4 meetings a month between Maison Billy Buffet (men) and Maison Gilles Chagnon (women), Les Maisons opened its doors in June. All three centres are affiliated with Monfort Renaissance. Ottawa Withdrawal Management Centre (OWMC) as of August there are three meetings a week, the staff and clients wanted more AA meetings. District 36 reports everything is going well, meetings in the District are being chaired by groups and individuals at the Harbour Light and detox facilities without fail. District 34 reports that one facility has put meetings on hold and another centre that has a new program director no longer wants A.A. meetings, literature has been offered to other community centres. The Belleville hospital has not resumed a meeting but has requested A.A. literature and women volunteers are needed for a local rehabilitation centre. The service meeting has resumed at the Northumberland Hills hospital in District 30.

Bridging The Gap (BTG) is a program through Alcoholics Anonymous that helps individuals leaving corrections or treatment facilities become acquainted with A.A. and attend A.A. meetings in their hometown after they leave their facility. This is a vital service that we provide for individuals, it is a wonderful opportunity to be of service, one that should not be missed. Thank you to the Treatment/CFT and BTG Committees for your dedication in all you do.

I am scheduling a meeting October 11th for the District Treatment Chairs; I will send out the meeting information in the next few weeks.

Unfortunately, I will not be attending the upcoming Fall Assembly, I thank the S.I.D. committee who will be facilitating the Treatment Workshop in my absence.

To the Districts that send me their minutes, please keep sending them. If there is anything I can be of assistance with, please don't hesitate to contact me at treatment@area83aa.org. Thank you for allowing me to serve.

Yours in Gratitude and Service, Maria M.

E. Grapevine Christine F.

Good morning,

I am an alcoholic, a member of Steps to Serenity in District 18: Toronto City East, I have the honour of serving Area 83 as your Panel 73 Grapevine Sub-committee Chair, and my name is Christine F.

From January's Issue of At Wits End:

A drunk named Murphy worked at the local brewery. One day while stirring a vat of beer, he lost his balance and fell in. Mrs. Murphy was called to the brewery and given the awful news of his drowning. After regaining her composure she expressed gratitude that at least his death had been merciful and quick – The foreman, shaking his head, said, "I do not know about that, Mrs. Murphy. He got out twice to go to the bathroom." Anonymous, Washington, D.C.

Thank you to each District for sending me your minutes – I appreciate it. I read them all. If you have not asked your District Secretary to send them to me, please do so – I really do appreciate reading about all the great Service work going on in our Area.

The Grapevine staff are holding our third North American virtual townhall next week. This one is focused on the new Grapevine and La Vina Application, released at the start of this month. Each Grapevine District Chair has received the poster for the new app and the Frequently Asked Question document. The FAQs gives info on how to subscribe, what is involved, and the various ways to use the application. These two documents will also be added to the Grapevine section of the Area 83 website for ease of access at area83aa.org/resources/grapevine. Yet, always feel most encouraged to go directly to the Grapevine website for any reason; it is always up to date. It is at: www.aagrapevine.org

The September issue of Grapevine is Young & Sober and October, released yesterday, features Mid-Sobriety Challenges. Your Grapevine Chair will have the newly released 2024 Editorial Calendar which has the topics and due dates for sharing stories. Please know that many Grapevine submissions are not time-sensitive, such as the Caption Contest, the @Wits End section, photos, and digital contributions of audio recordings.

The Final Report of the General Service Conference is out. The items specific to Grapevine have been shared with the District Chairs as well as highlighted in our newsletter. Thank you to Robb for posting it on our Area website (and to the Advisory Action that brought about our ability to do so). We also discussed that items included in our Eastern Canada Regional Trustee Report that pertained to Grapevine, as well. The goal is to keep the agenda and advisory actions items as on-going discussions in our monthly meetings and Area activities. It is worth noting that our Trustee, Joyce S. has been named Grapevine Trustee Director.

Thank you to Tom and the organizers of the 51st Lakeshore Conference for inviting me to put up the Grapevine Display for your wonderful weekend event. My biggest take away from the event is noting how many people

recalled or reminisced about how meaning Grapevine HAD been for them and how they had forgotten about it during the years of lock down. I hope that the spark was re-kindled in Districts 26 and 28.

The yearly Wall Calander and Pocket Planner pre-orders are nearly over. We had 37 Pocket Planners and 20 Calendars pre-ordered and more to come in today. While the orders are due today. I was asked to wait a few days to accommodate one situation – please ask me to wait for your District if you are aware of late orders next week. I will bring the orders to the Fall Assembly for distribution. Thank you to all who worked at putting these orders together for your Districts and groups. Any funds not collected will be collected at the Assembly. About half of the orders were either paid by e-transfer or by check. Please always make a note on any payment method indicating what the funds are for, in this case, Grapevine preorders.

The Service Information Day Committee have a great day planned for our Fall Assembly. I plan on giving a ‘hands-on’ type of workshop for the Grapevine presentation by having 12 ways, with simple one-page activity sheet, to use Grapevine as a 12th Step tool since our last presentation was on the history and activities of Grapevine; the upcoming one will be on using Grapevine.

At last count there were 7 vacancies for Grapevine Sub-committee Chairs at District Tables. This is down from last report as we welcome Imram from the District 06 Table.

The Chairs from the Area Districts and I meet on the first Friday of each month, from 7-8 pm, virtually. Come on out and join us if Grapevine is of interest or if you are filling in for a vacancy. Here is the link to our monthly meetings: **Meeting ID:** 885 0500 8702 **Passcode:** 116773

I make a little Grapevine Newsletter for our Chairs and members that has recently begun sharing Grapevine Service stories around our Area. I extend invitation to anyone with a story to share about a memorable or touching Grapevine moment in your District to send it for inclusion in the newsletter.

Please invite me to attend your Round-ups or other gatherings to put up the Grapevine Display, if you wish. I very much enjoy being included in the ways the hand of AA is extended across Eastern Ontario International.

I am here to serve the alcoholics of Area 83 as your Grapevine Sub-committee Chair. I welcome the opportunity to do so – contact me by email or phone. Thank you for allowing me to serve,

Thank you for allowing me to serve, Christine F.

F. Self-Support..... Kathie T.

Hi everyone! I’m an alcoholic, member of the Maynooth Group, District 78 Madawaska Valley, and my name is Kathie. It’s an honour to serve as your Area 83 Self Support Chair.

The mission of Self Support is to “create awareness within our Fellowship, that Alcoholics Anonymous ought to be fully self-supporting, through contributions of time and money.”

In June, I gave a live presentation at the Tri Districts Service Day in Combermere, and a virtual presentation at the “Piece of the Pie” Service Day in Canton, New York. Both were well attended, and a lot of fun.

We continue to have online Self Support meetings on the third Tuesday of every month. These sessions are informative, interactive, and available to ANYONE interested in learning about Self Support. Currently, 11 out of 25 districts have Self Support Chairs. I hope we see more people step into these positions as this term progresses.

Please send any new Self Support Chair contact information to Jill, our Area Secretary, and 'cc me so you can be included on our distribution list.

I have been attending the GTA Intergroup Self Support monthly meetings as an Area Resource. It's a good opportunity for me to connect with the few district chairs that regularly attend.

You can find Self Support Literature on our Area 83 website under "Resources – Self Support". Please take a look, there's some great information on how Seventh Tradition contributions carry the message of recovery to alcoholics beyond your Home Group and around the world.

I recently received the 2023 General Service Conference Final Report. It's jam-packed with information that I'll present at the Treasurer/Self Support Service Information Day workshop at the Fall Assembly.

I'm available to provide resources, give presentations, and offer any assistance to you and your District. If I can help in any way, please contact me at selfsupport@area83aa.org.

Yours in love and service, Kathie T

G. Archives Jenny B.

Hello Friends, I'm an alcoholic member of the Smiths Falls Saturday Night Group in District 66. Currently service as your panel 73 Archives chair and my name is Jenny.

I'm sorry that I am not able to be there with you today I wish I could be in 2 places at once. Thank you, Jill, for reading my report.

Following the last ACM we held the Area 83 Archives workshop on June 10th. We had great attendance with 11 in person and 5 online. We heard presentations from Glen G, Eddy G, Patricia A and David T. We also got to have a tour of the GTA Archives. Personally, I found even being in the room with all the history of our area and the GTA to be very exhilarating. To be given a tour of the space, see some of the items and get a little history of it all really fueled my fire. A big thank you to everyone that showed up and took part.

At the end of August an email was sent out to all our past delegates that are currently on our Area 83 Contact list. The email was a call looking for a Delegates experience serving for Area 83 so we can include this in the October edition of The Eighty-Three. Of the 11 that were contacted, so far I have heard from 6. (if you happen to be a past delegate in the room and you didn't see this email but would like to take part please let me know).

Because of the email that was sent out to the Past Delegates, I had the honour and Pleasure of doing my very first oral history yesterday. In the last 3 weeks I've had the opportunity to speak with Don S Panel 43 Delegate from 1993/1994 and yesterday we were able to complete the oral history. It was an amazing experience. I think one of the things that makes is so exciting is not only did I get to hear what he had to say but I got to help document a part of Area 83 history.

All this just gets my service juices flowing.

Last weekend Our area archivist David T was able to attend the 26th National AA Archives Workshop. He has a great report prepared for you. Thank you, David, for representing Area 83 and sharing all your knowledge with us.

We are now getting ready for the service information day in October, and I can't wait to see all of you there.

Yours in love and service, Jenny B

NATIONAL ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS ARCHIVES WORKSHOP

On the morning of 7 September, Eddy G, Patricia A and I set out to attend the 26th National AA Archives Workshop in Sudbury Ontario. This event was being sponsored by the Area 84 Archives Chair and involved Archivists and Archives enthusiasts from all over North America.

The Welcoming address was introduced by Gaetaenne R of Area 84 and the opening Speaker was Murray? Former Delegate and Canadian AT Large Trustee for Canada. Murray gave a wonderful talk on Archives in the local area and Archives in General.

Topics at the Workshop included History of the Traditions and Archives, Standards and Guidelines, Preservation Basics, History of AA in Quebec, Developing and Area History, Oral Histories, Longtimers Panel, Travelling Displays, Women of the Big Book A and B, the 1960 25th Anniversary of AA Convention and 80 Years of AA in Ontario.

As I was drafted to be the Program Chair, I was intimately involved in finding Archivists from other areas to present on these topics.

April Hegner gave two presentation and the closing talk – GSO Archives Going Forward which included a sound byte of Bill and Lois W and a collection of foreign attendees from the 1965 International Convention Reciting the Responsibility Pledge/ Statement in their own languages and joined by member in attendance.

A special thanks to Area 83 for the contribution of 100 Area 83 pins which were scooped up very fast by the Archivists from the other areas.

During our presentation of the 80 Year History of AA in Canada, the audience was kept entertained by Eddy G's narrative and yours truly operating the video to display images of meeting places at our beginning locations of AA in Ontario.

At the Banquet it was necessary to pass the 7th Tradition Cans around as there were not enough attendees to meet expenses but the final collection met the target of paying for all expenses and returning some money to the National Archives Committee to pass to the next committee (Des Moines Iowa) for their startup funds.

The only sad news was the closing of the Area 84 Archives Repository and Committee due to lack of funds to support this Archives. Fortunately a major portion of their Archives were rescued by one of the Districts but unfortunately some of the Archives were destroyed.

The total attendance from other areas was 135 Registered Archivists and additional walk-ins from Sudbury and other locations in Area 84.

My total expenses were only \$751.44 due to the sharing of transportation with the other two attendees.

Yours in Service, David T, Area83 Archivist

H. Accessibilities Theresa L.

Good morning everyone,

I am an alcoholic, member of the Mississippi group in Carleton Place and my name is Theresa. I am honored to serve as A83 Accessibilities Committee chair Panel 73.

Every first Wednesday of the month at 7pm an enthusiastic group of alcoholics intent on ensuring the message of Alcoholics Anonymous is available to anyone, gather together as a committee. Attendance by the District Accessibility chairs, Alt. chairs and interested guests remains consistent and regular.

The following are some highlights from our recent meetings:

D86: Chair Jan A described efforts to work with other district committee chairs, to cooperate with “Fourcast” a treatment center in Peterborough. This district has created and distributed flyers and posters to shelters, churches, treatment centers and the mental health association. All were thrilled to hear about AA’s efforts and the availability of on-line meetings.

D02 Alt. chair De R. shared that another D02 information panel is being planned for Jan or Feb 2024. Planned topics include having a member from the military share on complex post-traumatic stress disorder. D02 hopes to present information panels every 3 –4 months.

D12 chair Simon T. reported that the Accessibility checklist has been valuable and will be distributing them to GSR’s as an introduction to documenting concerns at the group level.

D48 Charlene H. raised the issue of mental health concerns and the need for these barriers to participating in A.A. to be considered and addressed.

D10 Newly elected Accessibility chair Richard S. has joined the committee meetings, He is attending meetings to assess their accessibility, and is distributing Accessibility checklists to groups. He included in his report thoughts expressed by members themselves who have mobility issues.

D18 chair Greg R. Their group is finishing an update to the Accessibility checklist with the focus on listing accessibility barriers by priority. The goal is an abbreviated, more organized document that can be completed and submitted to the meeting guides. A83 Alt. Delegate Amy has been invited to speak at the Oct. monthly meeting on Remote Communities.

D86 Alt. Accessibilities Chair Barbara T. : A proposed agenda item for the 2025 General Service Conference: “That AA Grapevine/LaVina” stories be made available in American Sign Language. She, along with other interested members, will research this item and keep the committee posted on the progress.

Another proposal that has been in the process since November 2022 is heading toward the 2024 General Service Conference. That is: That the Big Book stores, a couple of pamphlets and the AA Service Manual be made available in ASL. Several groups among the deaf community have created this priority list. Supporting that Proposed Agenda Item is important. Making our Delegate aware of the interest and support of that item coming before the General Service Conference in 2024, and becoming an Advisory action is important.

The Area 83 Accessibilities Committee welcomes any and all interested members to join us as we continue to effectively carry the message of A.A. to all who reach out.

A message from Bill W. 1964 (The Language of the Heart)

“Faith without works is dead. Action is the magic word as we strive to devise better ways of carrying the A.A. message to those who still suffer.”

Thank you for the honor and privilege to serve A.A., Theresa L.

I. Service Information Day Committee Carrie C.

Hi there, my friends, I am an alcoholic, and my name is Carrie C. I have the privilege to serve as Chairperson for the Service Information Day Committee. I am District Committee Member for District 66 and a member of the 12&12 to Serenity group in Perth.

Much gratitude to my Committee Members, Marrey P. (D06) (Secretary), Jamie B.(D62), Mike H.(D30), Jeffary F. (D86) and Allen W.(D78). They are all committed and working hard to bring to the Assembly an awesome Service Information Day. Thank you!

To date we have met 7 times. We had many thoughts and ideas on Wildcard Workshops and came up with these four: Balance - The 3-Legged Stool (Recovery, Unity and Service), History of Area 83, a DCM Workshop and a workshop on Service Sponsorship. The agenda is now available on the Area 83 website at area83aa.org and on the Glide App. Please note that Hotel Booking is open and can be done from the Area 83 website.

Service Manuals are not available until October. We think we have a solution and since the service manuals are available in a pdf format, a card with the link to the pdf will be available in the form of a calling card. Will continue to try and get some physical copies.

We are at the tail end of the planning now. Working on surveys, making sure to implement changes that will iron out some of the glitches we ran into during the Spring, making sure we have enough Techs and Secretaries and scheduling a training session for these Zoom Techs and Secretaries.

Looking forward to seeing you all in October!

In Love and Service, Carrie C.

J. Webmaster..... Robb W.

Hi friends. I'm an alcoholic, currently a member of no Group in District 74 Pembroke and my name is Robb. I'm honored to serve Area 83 as your Webmaster.

First, I spent most of last weekend virtually attending the 2023 National AA Technology Workshop. It was very informative and there was a great sharing of information. For a technology workshop, it was very technological! They used Slack for constant messaging and discussion around workshops, Glide for the agenda and meeting links and, of course, Zoom for the whole workshop. I'm looking forward to putting together a great bid to host the 2025 Workshop right here in Area 83! More will be revealed.

I've had no complaints recently about spam emails so I'm hoping that has been drastically reduced. We do still have issues with the size of some inboxes. Our current provider allows for 500Mb, and we have a couple of people who are reaching that point. You are all responsible for maintaining your emails. If you receive an email from the Postmaster alerting you that you are at 90% of your allocation, please take the time to go in and delete some of your older emails. If you go over the 500Mb, any email sent to you will get bounced back to the sender. I have purchased a plan with a new hosting provider that will quadruple the size of all of our inboxes so this issue should also be resolved in the near future.

Our current website is still trending to more traffic year over year.

Month	Unique Visitors 2023	Unique Visitors 2022	% Increase/ Decrease
June	2414	2104	114%
July	3362	2235	150%
August	2572	2157	120%

Last year from June until the end of August we had about 6,500 unique visitors. This year, we've had over 8,350. That's an increase of about 28% over last year.

In July of this year, our Chairperson, Bill C. stuck an Ad Hoc Committee to look at the web site design and content. I'm joined on the committee by Lisa B., Sarah M., Rob F. & Natalie N. We will be presenting our preliminary report at the Fall Assembly in Kingston. You don't want to miss it!

That's it from me, for now. Thank you for allowing me to continue to serve Area 83 in this capacity.

Yours in Service, Robb W.

7. REGISTRAR'S REPORT Trevor F.

Good afternoon, friends. I'm an alcoholic, a member of the Stittsville Second Chance Group in District 62 and my name is Trevor F. I have the honour and privilege to serve as your Panel 73 Registrar for Area 83, Eastern Ontario International. As Registrar, I have the responsibility of maintaining and updating Area 83's 581 Active Group records, which includes 33 Virtual Groups, and serving as the liaison with the General Service Office for matters concerning Group registration and Group records.

In July and August, the General Service Office reached out to all Area Registrars and Delegates regarding their Data Integrity Project. The goal of this project is to clean up group records in the Fellowship Connection Database. One of the ways GSO is helping us with this is to send us monthly reports of GSRs who have a service end date approaching in the following month. I will be using these to pass on to Districts to seek updated information or confirmation that the person is still in the position so I can extend the end date, which by default is two years, so that the groups do not fall into an unknown status. We currently have 23 groups with unknown status in Area 83, which is down from 66 in January. Thank you to all the District Registrars and DCMs who have been reaching out to these groups to get contact information. There are a few districts with a number of unknown groups that I haven't heard back from, and I will be following up regularly to keep the numbers as accurate as possible. At our Area Registrars Quarterly Sharing Session on September 12th, the Data Integrity Project was the primary topic of discussion.

Our Area Secretary Jill and I will be holding a Secretary/Registrar Session virtually on September 24th in order to facilitate information sharing with District Secretaries and Registrars and simplify and clarify the flow of information between us all. For our Fall Assembly, I will be attempting to print name badges ahead of time for in-person attendees that pre-register in hopes that it helps get people into the venue quicker. I am very much looking forward to the Secretary/Registrar workshop, and compiling the tally – it always feels easier when it's not the first time.

As always - New Group and Group Change Forms are posted on the Area 83 website, under Resources, Registrar. New GSR's are encouraged to get the electronic GSR kits – these are available immediately, but physical kits can

be ordered upon request. Please make sure your groups are using the latest group change forms as some of the old forms are missing required information.

In closing, I will make myself available to Districts and Groups to assist you with Registrar-related activities however I can. Thank you for continuing to send District minutes – they help keep me informed and thank you for the opportunity to serve.

Yours in Love and Service, Trevor F

QUESTIONS FOLLOWING THE REGISTRAR'S REPORT:

Question: Marrey P, DCM D06 – Are the unknown groups without a point of contact or a GSR?

Answer: Trevor F, A83 Registrar - Groups may have a GSR, but they are not registered with the General Service Office. So if a GSR, has been a GSR for 3 years now, they have probably timed out in the database with the 2 year default so I'm not aware of them. That's why I sent a list of all the unknown groups to the DCM's to request contacts for these groups. I'll be doing that again soon.

8. TREASURER'S REPORTJack R.

Good afternoon, friends, I am an alcoholic, a member of Step Stop Group in District 36 in Kingston, and my name is Jack R. It is both an honour and a privilege to serve as your Panel 73 Area 83 Treasurer.

I have had a bit of a slower time processing contributions and issuing receipts over the summer but things are ramping up now that September has arrived. As before – e-transfers may be made by groups and districts to treasurer@area83aa.org. If contributing by cheque please make your cheques payable to "Eastern Ontario International Area 83". You can find contact information on the Area 83 website: area83aa.org at the top of the Home Page click "A.A. Contributions". Then click "I am an A.A. Member".

There have been 79 group and district contributions via e-Transfer so far in 2023. This method of contributing to Area 83 continues to be uncomplicated for the Groups. Please consider this payment method when your Group or District discusses contributing to Area 83. As with all contributions, please reference your Group and/or District Name and Service Number in the memo field. Individual contributions will also be accepted; to date there have been 3 individual contributions.

Please continue to remind groups who would like to contribute using PayPal to include their six-digit Group Service Number with any contributions using PayPal so that the group may get credit for their contribution. The place to enter the group number is the screen after entering credit card information. PayPal charges a fee of 2.9% plus 30 cents per transaction. There have been 7 contributions so far this year using PayPal.

Let's discuss the Financial Statements for the period ending September 7, 2023.

Page 1 (Appendix A1) is a financial summary. It shows our Reserve Account, which is set aside for unforeseen circumstances, has a balance of \$20,000 in the form of a GIC which matured on September 11, 2023. Interest income will be reported on the financial statements for the Fall Assembly. The reserve account starting balance has been re-invested for 3 years with the rate being a minimum of 1.9623% to a maximum of 35% (Canadian Utilities and Banks). This is tied to investment performance of the fund.

Income for the period as at September 7, 2023:

- 7th Tradition collected is \$4,253.80 including \$480.00 collected at the January Area Committee Meeting, \$3068.80 collected at the Spring Assembly and \$785.00 collected at the June Area Committee meeting.
- There was a total of \$513.35 in Cost Recoveries including sales of all 50 Service Manuals at the Assembly and a small refund from the Holiday Inn for accommodations at the Assembly.

- Meal ticket sales including banquet and Sunday lunch at the Assembly and lunch at the January and June ACM total \$7442.61.
- Group, District and Individual Contributions \$47,861.66.

Total Income for the period is \$60,071.42

Expenses for the period as at September 7, 2023:

- Committee expenses were \$33,306.27. This includes 6,913.05 in room costs mainly incurred for the Spring Assembly at the Holiday Inn. The total Venue cost for the Assembly at St. Lawrence College including the Banquet was \$16,020.06.
- Area Committee Meeting costs of \$2,448.60.
- General Service Conference Assessment \$12,456.95 (\$9,000 US)
- Bank Service Charges \$119.25
- PayPal Fees \$76.41
- CERAASA costs were \$1,713.10 for our Delegate, Alternate Delegate and Immediate Past Delegate to attend.

Total Expenses for the period are \$50,120.58

The opening bank balance at January 1, 2023 was \$60,739.52. Total income of \$60,071.42 less expenses of \$50,120.58 leaves a balance in the operating account of \$70,690.36. As at September 7, 2023 our income was \$9,950.84 more than our expenses.

[Page 2](#) (Appendix A2) shows details of the expenses. Here we see an itemized breakdown of expenses for the period for each Area Committee Member as well as all other expenses to date.

Some of the numbers you see here:

- Travel expenses of \$6,578.02 for committee members includes travel expenses to the January and June Area Committee Meetings and the April Spring Assembly.
- The travel amount shown for the Delegate includes the cost of bringing Trish L. (our outgoing Trustee at Large for Canada) to the Spring Assembly as well as travel to the various zones in our area to give his report on the 73rd General Service Conference.
- The amount shown for the Chairperson as Miscellaneous of \$194.90 covers insurance costs for the Area Committee meetings and the Spring Assembly.

To summarize, our financial position as at September 7, 2023 compared to September 2, 2022 is as follows: Income for 2023 is \$30,314.96 more than the same period in 2022. Expenses for 2023 are \$28,359.47 more than the same period in 2022. The net change to the Operating Account is an increase of \$1,955.49. Again, it is difficult to compare this year to last year as we had an in-person Assembly and are able to travel much more than we were during the same period in 2022. We had 27 more groups and 3 more districts contributing this year compared to last year for a total of \$20,149.75 more than the same period last year.

[Page 3](#) (Appendix A3) shows contributions by District. These amounts include contributions from Districts, as well as Groups. Thank you to the 120 Groups, 15 Districts and 3 Individuals for your generous contributions to Area 83.

We will be collecting a 7th Tradition today at the in-person ACM. For those on ZOOM, please e-transfer your contribution and reference the ACM in the memo field.

The email address is treasurer@area83aa.org.

Today's 7th Tradition contributions will be reported at September Area Committee Meeting.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve Area 83.

Yours in Love and Service, Jack R.

QUESTIONS FOLLOWING TREASURER'S REPORT:

QUESTION: Jill B, A83 Secretary – For clarify down the road in case someone asks about it, under Secretary accommodations you have \$415.80 as I needed to be reimbursed for the hotel charge for the Spring Assembly. Should this not be shown under the Spring Assembly line-item expense and not as a secretary line-item expense?

ANSWER: Jack R, A83 Treasurer – Sure I can adjust that.

QUESTION: Marrey P, DCM D06 – The items shown in red on your slide, what does that represent as I don't have them on the sheets?

ANSWER: Jack R, A83 Treasurer – When I tried to print the reports, it didn't include those items. It will be available in the powerpoint which can be put up on the website. The Approved Guideline is the column next to the actual, and that was what was approved at the Spring Assembly. Then there is a +/- on whether we've reached our goal or not, how much we have left on that. Red means you are under your approved guideline.

9. SECRETARY'S REPORT Jill B.

Good afternoon friends, I'm an alcoholic, member of the Erin Mills group in Mississauga, District 06 and my name is Jill B.

As I've done previously, DCM's I have placed a District roster in each of your mail folders. Please have a browse through to ensure all information is complete and accurate. An updated, full Area Roster will be shared via email early in October.

I'm excited to announce that Trevor, our Area 83 Registrar and I will be holding our first District Secretary & Registrar session on Sunday, September 24th at 2pm. As Secretaries & Registrars aren't always able to attend Assembly weekends, this will give them a venue to learn, share and get to know each other.

On July 16th, at the request of Christy F, I had the opportunity to facilitate the Step to Serenity's group inventory. I'd like to thank Rob D, ADCM D06 for joining me that day to act as secretary.

I want to thank everyone who has submitted their reports prior to today. The preferred format is Word so that I can simply copy & paste your reports into the minutes. You are all doing a great job, and I thank you for your efforts that make my job so much easier.

I enjoy opening my inbox and receiving your District's minutes, as I do read them. It's interesting finding out about the activities happening in your Districts. Please continue to send them to area@area83aa.org.

I'm grateful for this opportunity to serve Area 83. If there is anything that I can do to assist you or your District, please let me know.

Yours in love & service, Jill B

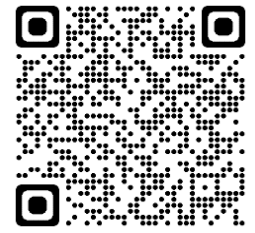
10. ALTERNATE DELEGATE'S REPORTAmy L.

Good afternoon friends, I am an alcoholic and a member of the Liverpool Group in Pickering. I have the pleasure and honour to serve Area 83 as the Alternate Delegate, and my name is Amy.

Here is what I have been doing since we last met in June.

Intergroup Liaison

Of note, at the last Ottawa Intergroup meeting the Treasurer announced that they had negotiated with an insurance broker to insure groups for their meeting spaces that fall outside of the greater Ottawa area. The cost is \$113.40 for 1 year. It sounds like this service is open to any groups in Eastern Ontario. I have been given the form that can be filled out. It is very important to emphasize that this is through the insurance broker listed on the form... DO NOT SEND any money or forms to Ottawa intergroup. The form can be found [HERE](#) or can be accessed by the following QR code.



QR code to grab homegroup
insurance form online

InterArea Remote Communities

I have been meeting monthly with this committee and learning a lot about remote communities. These are communities that are isolated by Geography, Culture or Language. In Area 83, Geography has not been the issue like some Areas have, but I have been learning a lot from a fellow member in LA, what they are identifying as Remote communities. For example, their committee created a sheet written in translated text like Russian, Spanish, Farci etc, with a QR code under each which provides instructions on how to reach the program of recovery and literature in their language.

We have also been working on the 2023 Remote communities Forum. It will be online and is open to everyone. Date of the event will be December 3- to meet from 2-5 EST. The tentative agenda has spots held for the 3 streams Remote Communities service (Geography, Culture and Language). The committee has short listed members from various communities like the Deaf Community, Chinese, and we are trying to secure a member from our Quebec community.

GSR Workshops

Kimberley and I have been having a good time hosting the monthly GSR Sharing sessions-These are open to all GSRs and anyone interested in General Service. We have been covering relevant topics that are meant to promote unity and be a resource and meeting place for GSRs in Area 83. Topics are presented for discussion, as well as shared experiences around Group Life and being a GSR in General Service. We've rebranded the meeting to "Workshop". DCMs, please encourage your GSRs to attend. This month, on Tuesday James, our Delegate will be hosting the workshop with Bill our Area Chair. Bill will be sharing how to prepare and what to expect at the upcoming Assembly. This would be very helpful for anyone who is attending their first Assembly.

- In October, Jane, our Area CPC chair will present *General Service resources that should be in every trusted servant's toolbox*.
- In November Norm, DCM of District 12 will present *How to prepare a report of the Assembly details to your homegroup*. Both of these will be very useful workshop for GSRs or prospective trusted servants.

All of the details for these workshops can be found on the Area 83 Communications glide app <https://area83communications.glideapp.io>



QR code to grab Area 83
Communications glide app

National AA Archives workshop

Attended the NAAAW (National AA Archives Workshop) in Sudbury last weekend. Kimberley and I drove up for Saturday to lend our spiritual support in person and to take in some workshops. It was a great event and we were fortunate to hear a great report on the Woman of the Big Book... it was quite colourful at times.

I have attended the Delegate's report backs and it has been so nice to meet members in their home locations. I was especially pleased when I attended the Zone 4 event in Canton NY on June 17. I got to see in person that AA service is alive and well in our district to the South. It was very exciting to see the enthusiasm in zone 4, and that it is full of young vibrant people with a love for service. Keep it up!

CERAASA

I attended the July 24th Steering committee and am grateful to be a part of this group that encompasses the 10 Areas in Eastern Canada. We are all so different, but united in seeing that General Service in our region is at work... and I have lots to learn. James will be covering under new business an item important to the continued work of this committee.

Upcoming on my calendar

I will be sharing with District 74 on General Service Structure and where we fit in it....and hopefully drum up some enthusiasm for the upcoming Assembly.

Invited to share with the GTA Accessibilities committee about Remote communities and how we might look at our urban areas a little differently.

Thank you for sending me your minutes, if there is anything I can do to be of service, please let me know.

Yours in service, Amy L.

QUESTIONS FOLLOWING THE ALTERNATE DELEGATE'S REPORT:

Question: Trevor F, A83 Registrar – Just to clarify regarding the insurance, the groups have to be physically located in Ontario for that to apply.

Answer: Amy L, A83 Alternate Delegate – Thank you for clarifying.

11. DELEGATE'S REPORT James O.

In the spirit of the upcoming conference theme of “Connecting with Love, Unity and Service” and the workshop topic of “Connecting Home Groups to the Conference Throughout the Year, to Better Inform the Group's Conscience”, I wanted to review some of the ways the GSO/GSB connect with the group members on down through the whole structure.

Communication regarding the General Service Conference with the Groups timeline:

January – ACM

February – CERAASA/ECDO

March – PCAS

Spring – Box 4-5-9

April – Assembly (Delegate Plenary) (Conference topics discussed in workshops)

May – Delegate Report Backs

June – Delegate Report Backs and ACM

July – a bit of a break.....

August – ECRT report (from July Board Meeting)

Summer – Box 4-5-9

September – Final Conference Report and ACM

October – Assembly (Delegate Plenary) (Conference topics discussed in workshops)

Fall – Box 4-5-9

November – ECRT Report (from October Board Meeting)

December – ACM (even years)

Winter – Box 4-5-9

What is Box 4-5-9?

box

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News and Notes from the General Service Office of A.A.[®]

www.aa.org

Vol. 70, No. 2 / Summer 2023

**The 73rd General Service Conference:
‘A.A.’s Three Legacies — Our Common Solution[®]**

The 73rd General Service Conference was held from April 23-28, 2023, in New York City at the New York Marriott at the Brooklyn Bridge. Host to some of A.A.’s cherished historical locations — usually 165 Clinton Street, the early home of Bill W. and his wife Lois — the proximity of the hotel to this landmark bridge also offered an enduring and appropriate symbol for this year’s General Service Conference. Providing linkage from A.A.’s past to its future, “A.A.’s Three Legacies — Our Common Solution,” was the overall theme and foundation for the many hours of sharing, discussion, reflection, and insight by the 123 Conference members who served, as noted in Concept 12, as “the active voice and effective conscience” of the Fellowship in the United States and Canada.

Spanning many issues of trust, vision, and direction, the Conference addressed more than 90 agenda items, engaged in multiple sharing sessions, and heard presentations on topics of critical importance to the Fellowship. Presentations focused on the participation of cultural groups and how they fit into the A.A. service structure, the World Service Meeting and International A.A., the ongoing development of the plain language Big Book, the location study of the General Service Office (GSO), and “General Service — Our Mighty Purpose and Rhythm.”


Welcoming all Conference members, Tam L., President

73 delegates from Alberta/Saskatchewan Territories and delegates chair for the 73rd Conference, said: “Over the next few days, we will look at the services, programs and products offered by A.A. and Grapevine-La Vina. We will discuss literature, P&As, the Service Manual, consensus, policies, our history, and all platforms for an online presence in the ever-evolving communications world, while following Tradition. We will work diligently to make A.A. more attractive, understood, inclusive, reliable, and accessible.”

“Many times, we will have consensus,” she noted, adding, however, “Sometimes, we may need to agree to disagree.”

Conference members met virtually with General Service Board (GSB) trustees in the run-up to Conference to discuss matters related to the January 2023 resignation of the GSB chair and subsequent resignation of a General Service trustee and how this was communicated to the Fellowship. Throughout Conference week, much discussion focused on healing and how trust, which for some had eroded because of the resignations, could be rebuilt.

One delegate from the Pacific region related a Hawaiian saying often heard in service meetings in his area to capture this moment: “He‘i Pua‘ Pua‘” meaning, “To come together and heal.”



Current Issue

SUMMER 2023 - THE 73RD GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE: ‘A.A.’S THREE LEGACIES — OUR COMMON SOLUTION[®]

A useful source for A.A. news, Box 4-5-9 is a quarterly newsletter from the U.S./Canada General Service Office. This newsletter includes:

- information about A.A. service
- news about literature
- a calendar of upcoming events (also see Board Calendar here)
- sharing from groups and service committees
- sharing from individual A.A. members in the U.S./Canada

To submit A.A. event information, click [HERE](#)

To subscribe to **BOX 4-5-9** in print click [here](#)

Communications from GSO (just a few):

June 15th – Update on printing delays and backorders
June 30th – Vacancy for non-trustee director of AA Grapevine Board in 2024
July 11th – Call out for new GSO staff members.
July 25th – Message from the General Manager at GSO
August 15th – Press release on “Understanding Alcoholics Anonymous and Spirituality”
September 13th – The Grapevine and La Vina apps are here!
September 14th – Announcing: Completely revised and redesigned “Young People in A.A.”

Please bring out your phone and open the Meeting Guide app. In the middle you will see the NEWS tab at the bottom middle. All of the preceding communications and more can be deep dived at your convenience. It would be great if you could share this with all members you come in contact with.

Website updates:

On the landing page you will see two NEW buttons – one will bring to the pdf version 73rd General Service Conference Report and the second is a link for booking rooms for the Fall Assembly.

A little plug for the events calendar link found here and thanks to our webmaster for all his hard work.

The link to the final conference report will bring you to the Delegate report back PowerPoint presentation that our members had asked for. The plenary session at the Fall Assembly will be a follow up on the agenda items presented in June and July. It is a moving target of progress which you can trace through all the communications mentioned earlier.

Some of the things that have I been doing since we met at the June ACM:

- June 10th – Ottawa (Virtual Report Back)
- June 10th – Tri District SID (70, 74,78)
- June 11th – Compendium discussion group
- July 13th – Delegates Only Meeting (Open sharing session)
- July 24th – CERAASA meeting
- August 16th – 2023 Q3 Conference Members Sharing Session
- August 20th – Compendium discussion group
- September 8-10th – NAATW (Washington D.C.)

Upcoming events:

- September 19th – Facilitating the GSR Sharing Session
- September 30th – Madawaska Valley Roundup – FESTIVAL OF COLOURS
- October 7-8th – International Conference of Secular A.A.
- October 27-29 – Area 83 Assembly
- November 3-4th – Cornwall & Area – District 50

Throughout the year I am in constant contact with fellow Conference Literature Committee members on a WhatsApp group. We are planning to meet with Irma in the next few weeks from the Trustees Literature committee for an update on how things are coming along with the agenda items.

A couple of things I wanted to share with you, the DCMs in particular:

1. The area delegate is here to serve the Area. If you are having an event and would like me to come, please invite me. It is always an important link in communication from the top of the triangle on down to the conference and beyond.
2. The 74th General Service Conference is taking place April 14-20, 2024. I've blocked 8 weekends following the conference to be booked for Conference report backs. I know it seems like a lifetime away but dates start filling up. It would be great to have as many hybrid events as possible so that members with accessibility issues have several dates to choose from. Last year we had one hybrid and one solely virtual report back.

Area 83 GlideApp

This amazing information sharing app is an additional tool to the Area website. If you haven't heard of it before or haven't looked at it recently there are many new updates that have been added. I have a QR code on my phone if you would like to connect. Some of the items you will find here are:

- ACM documents are readily at hand
- Area operating procedures
- GSR sharing sessions – flyer and agenda for upcoming, audio recordings of past sessions
- Link to the Delegate PowerPoint report back including final conference report
- And so much more.....

Theme and Topics Suggestions for 75th General Service Conference

The 2024 Conference Committee on Agenda will consider suggestions for a theme, presentation and workshop topics for the 75th General Service Conference in 2025:

- To be discussed by delegates during the week of the Conference.
- Should revolve around basic principles of A.A.
- Gives A.A. members the opportunity to discuss the topics in their own area.

An email was sent out yesterday to all Area Committee members to be forwarded to the groups for discussion and input. Lists of past themes, presentations and workshops have been attached as reference and a guide to what the committee is looking for. Please forward any suggestions to me and I will compile and send them on to the conference coordinator.

Here is what the Conference Agenda Committee decided upon for the 2024 GSC:

AGENDA It was recommended that:

- The following theme for the 2024 General Service Conference be: “Connecting with Love, Unity and Service”.
- The committee recommended the following presentation theme and topics for the 2024 General Service Conference:

Presentation Theme: “Responsibility in Service: When and How to Give”

Presentation Topics:

1. “Safety Throughout the Structure in our Fellowship”
2. “1728 Sponsorship”
3. “Overcoming the Barriers to Participation”

- The workshop topic for the 2024 General Service Conference be: “Connecting Home Groups to the Conference Throughout the Year, to Better Inform the Group’s Conscience.”

Online Groups

In 2023, the Conference Committee on Policy/Admissions put forward the following committee consideration:

“The committee reviewed the “Report of the GSB Ad Hoc Committee on Participation of Online Groups in the U.S./Canada Service Structure” and expressed appreciation for the report, particularly the results of the survey to delegates. The committee agreed that an important next step would be for delegates to find out more about the online groups in their areas and requested that the ad-hoc committee provide them with sample questions they may use in that inquiry. The committee looks forward to the next iteration of the ad hoc committee and the continued exploration of the possibilities for the participation of online groups in the U.S./Canada general service structure.”

At the end of August, the GSO sent me a survey to distribute entitled “Participation of Online groups in 2023” which contained 9 questions to be answered by Friday October 6, 2023.

<https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=C6HZh8t0rUyLiVU9d5MdbZFw7KtR3xLmEu5e3MKgh9UQVdRT0UzNktYSkZMR0ZQSUJKMIVPRjU4WS4u>

This email was sent to all the virtual groups in Area 83 – specifically to the GSRs, Alt GSRs, and group representatives of online groups.

I also took the opportunity to introduce myself, sharing my direct contact info, and personally inviting them to our monthly GSR sharing sessions.

If you have any comments, concerns or suggestions we are especially fortunate to have our very own Joyce S (Eastern Canada Regional Trustee) here with us today and she is the chair of the committee gathering information. She will be presenting her committee’s findings and possible movements forward at the upcoming 2024 GSC.

Thank you for all you do to continue carrying our life-giving message.

QUESTIONS FOLLOWING DELEGATE’S REPORT:

QUESTION: Amy L, A83 Alternate Delegate – Does that questionnaire go solely to on-line groups or groups that are offering hybrid options as well?

ANSWER: James O’D, A83 Delegate – My understanding that it’s solely for on-line groups.

QUESTION: Jack R, A83 Treasurer – In the tradition of anonymity, should we be seeing your full face picture on your Delegate’s report that’s posted on our publicly accessible website?

ANSWER: James O’D, A83 Delegate – Someone has brought that to my attention as well, appreciate it, thank you.

QUESTION: Marrey P, DCM D06 – How were those groups identified?

ANSWER: James O’D, A83 Delegate – I spoke to our Registrar, who provided me with a list of GSR’s for virtual groups. Which also brings up an important part. It’s really important that the data be kept up to date (data integrity). If it’s not good data, emails are going no where or not to the right person.

- ***At this point in the agenda, I would like to recommend that we move to 2/3 majority.***

Moved:	Jeffary F, DCM District 86
Seconded:	James S, DCM District 28
Discussion	None
All those in favour:	32
Opposed:	0
Abstentions:	0
Motion:	Carried

12. OLD BUSINESS

- a) Notice of Motion - District 6, Area 83 moves to have a rotating Area 83 Assembly location in different cities or towns within the Area 83 geographical area

.....Marrey P, DCM, District 06

Bill C, A83 Chairperson: Marrey do you care to introduce a formal motion based on the Notice of Motion made at the June 3rd meeting?

Motion:	Area 83 moves to have a rotating Area 83 Assembly location in different cities or towns within the Area 83 geographical area	
Moved:	Marrey P, DCM District 06	
Seconded:	Tony F, DCM District 14	
Discussion	Speaking to the Motion – Marrey P, DCM District 06 In addition to Kingston, Ottawa, the GTA, Peterborough, Cornwall, Oshawa and other locations could be considered. The districts that are a considerable distance	

away will not always have to carry the burden of the high cost of travel (hotel, food, gas, etc.) if the assembly is closer to their district periodically.

As it currently is, very little to no costs are associated for individuals in the districts who are within the Assembly's Kingston location. The further the district, the greater the expense for attendees.

More interest and greater involvement is encouraged when travel is not always an issue. Experience shows that at the closer the district is to the Assembly meeting location, the higher the representation and attendance of groups in the nearby districts.

For those in A.A. who have never experienced an assembly, or even heard of "general service", the move might bring about more awareness if the assemblies become more accessible, from time to time.

In A.A., we are constantly striving to achieve inclusivity and equality and by addressing barriers such as physical distance, travel time and expense we are promoting both. We can all be able to experience the Assembly equally.

Jamie B, DCM District 62: In essence it would be great, but I know the background work that was put in by the ad hoc committee in finding a new location/venue in Kingston to host the recent Assembly. It just stands to question how much time and effort would go into finding a reasonable location for every single Assembly. It would probably be a lot of work. As far as the geographical, being in Ottawa, Kingston is central to both Ottawa and the GTA. Again, how much work would be involved in choosing the location and the costing as I'm sure the GTA being as expensive as it is, finding a location to host the Assembly with all of our requirements, that it would probably be a significant number. More expensive than it would be in Kingston.

Christine F, A83 Grapevine Chair: I think the idea of the Motion is excellent, consider that it seems insurmountable logistically to solve. But maybe this is something we can take a step back and have an ad hoc committee look into it once every 5 years or some way to plan out changing it if we need to change it or want to change it in smaller steps. It makes sense to me, but it's the logistics that is saying no this is impossible. So maybe there's a marriage in between the two.

Kimberley M, Immediate Past Delegate: Just to speak to that, we do have in our Operating Procedures under 3.03 it states "The Area Chair shall strike an Ad Hoc Committee every 4 years to review the location and expenses for the bi-annual Area 83 Assemblies beginning in the year 2020". So, we do have that in there.

Amy L, A83 Alternate Delegate: As a person who searched around to find an alternate venue – it's a challenge. I don't want to be that person who stands up and says we can't do that; but we do need to manage some expectations. I would be agreeable to something like what Christine suggested. That we could think about changing the venue once every 3 years but not that every Assembly is happening somewhere else. Because there's some planning going on, Bill C (A83 Chairperson) has already planned the Spring Assembly. That's how far in advance the wheels are turning on these venues. Managing expectations but I hear you that if it swings by your area/zone, perhaps we might be able to affect more of your members with the general service bug.

Trevor F, A83 Registrar: I love the idea moving it a round as it seems fair for everybody, but the logistics of doing it. We just had our first Assembly in the new location and the delays we had Saturday getting everything going – a lot of it was due it being new, we are all learning as we go. And if we had to have that at every Assembly, it's really difficult for those choosing the location. The Service Information Day Committee trying to figure that out on the fly. We've removed one of the

	<p>barriers with people being able to attend Assemblies by having this hybrid. So that's a way for people who can not afford to attend in person, and we offer equal participation for those on the virtual platform. We are making the effort to make that affordable and accommodate people.</p> <p>Marrey P, DCM District 06: Can we do like a bid to hold these Assemblies so that it wouldn't be the table officers. But I guess we would have to look at the Operating Procedures to see if that would be a possibility. Just like Cities or Areas do for different events, like CERAASA. The other thing is I know that in some places in the States, they already have that type of structure so it might be something to look at. Maybe that's something I'll look into as well.</p> <p>Amy L, A83 Alternate Delegate: I'd like to make a motion to table.</p> <p><i>Per Area 83 Operating Procedures, Appendix One</i> <i>Tabling a Motion: Postponing a discussion to a later time. Requires a motion and a second. Not debatable. Requires a simple majority.</i></p>
Motion to Table:	Amy L, A83 Alternate Delegate
Seconded:	Maria M, A83 Treatment Chair
All those in Favour:	18
Opposed:	10
Abstentions:	0
Motion:	Carried
Discussion	<p>Theresa L, A83 Accessibilities Chair: For clarification, what happened to the original motion?</p> <p>Bill C, A83 Chairperson: It was a Notice of Motion. So that was brought up at the June Area Committee Meeting to go back to the DCM's and GSR's to obtain input to discuss this today. At this time due to the points that have been raised, we don't feel like there's enough discussion that has happened. We are going to table this motion. It's going to go back for some more discussion as well, and it's going to come back to the table at the January Area Committee Meeting.</p> <p>Theresa L, A83 Accessibilities Chair: So tabling the motion takes precedence over the original motion that would have gone to a vote after the discussion? And are you now making another motion? So this is now tabled to the December meeting?</p> <p>Bill C, A83 Chairperson: Yes. No, I was looking for a sense of the room not a motion. But as Kimberley points out, it's in the Operating Procedures that it's within the purview of the Chair to call this Ad Hoc Committee to take a look at expenses and where we are having this. So that authority is already vested in the Chairperson. This will be tabled to the January 2024 Area Committee Meeting.</p> <p>Tony F, DCM District 14: Please clarify if we are going to have an ad hoc committee looking at it or just left over to 2024.</p> <p>Bill C, A83 Chairperson: That will be in January 2024</p> <p>James S, DCM District 28: If there's already an Ad Hoc Committee for 2024, is that not a little different than what the motion would be for? Because the 2024 committee would look at the costs & venues. This is looking at multiple venues and multiple costs of moving it around instead of just one location.</p> <p>Bill C, A83 Chairperson: So what we've done is to table this motion, and it will come back in January for discussion at this meeting. And I would encourage you to take this back to your GSR's, get some discussion going in your Districts and be in a position to bring this back to the Area in January.</p>

	<p>Kelly D, ADCM District 50: Clarification around historical information. Has there been an Ad Hoc Committee already and if not, when within the 4 years are we able to attend to that issue.</p> <p>Bill C, A83 Chairperson: The Ad Hoc Committee can be struck in 2024.</p> <p>Jack R, A83 Treasurer: Was there one in 2020?</p> <p>Bill C, A83 Chairperson: To review the expenses.</p> <p>Kimberley M, A83 Immediate Past Delegate: As Amy had mentioned earlier, once we were informed that the Assembly could no longer be at the Ambassador Hotel, we did need to research and find another location. The Chairperson at that time did strike an Ad Hoc Committee. Several of us did look for venues between Scarborough and Kingston, and the location where we did hold the most recent Assembly was the best location that we could find at that time. The Committee didn't look through all of Area 83 because at the time we did feel that the most central location to the Area was in that vicinity.</p>
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b) Discussion and vote on recommendations from the Digital Resources Ad Hoc Committee

i: related changes to the Operating Procedures as presented at the June 3, 2023 Area Committee Meeting Kimberley M, Immediate Past Delegate

1st Recommendation: That Area 83 create a Technology Committee composed of a Technology Chair, the Webmaster, Alternate Webmaster, and a minimum of one IT support person. The Technology Chair to be elected in December 2024 utilizing the same process as other Area Sub-Committee Chairs. The Webmaster and Alternate Webmaster remain as positions appointed by the Area Chairperson in consultation with the Technology Chair. The IT Support person(s) will be recruited by the Technology Committee from the membership of Area 83 as required. The voice and vote of the Webmaster would transition to the Technology Chair upon their election.

1st Recommendation	Allen W, DCM District 78
Moved:	
Seconded:	Jamie B, DCM District 62
Discussion	<p>James O, A83 Delegate: Can you discuss some of the financial implications for the Area.</p> <p>Kimberley M, A83 Immediate Past Delegate: When Jack, our Area Treasurer put together the proposed spending guidelines for this year, he gave an indication on approximately how much it would cost for each Sub-committee Chair. Referencing that document, it would be approximately an extra \$1,800.00 for each Sub-committee Chair position.</p> <p>Bill C, A83 Chairperson: If I understand, the idea is that currently the Webmaster would transition to the Technology Chair, so that cost would move appropriately.</p> <p>Kimberley M, A83 Immediate Past Delegate: We would still have a Webmaster and that would incur for some costs, but the voice & vote would transition from the Webmaster to the Technology Chair position. Like the Archivist reports through the Archives Chair, the Webmaster would report through the Technology Chair. The Tech Committee would report through the Technology Chair.</p> <p>Jamie B, DCM District 62: When it come to our Assemblies and all of that, the Tech Chair would coordinate with the Chairperson for the Assembly and the Service</p>

	Information Day. As far as the financial costs for the Tech Chair, would it not be prudent for them to have a laptop? Kimberley M, A83 Immediate Past Delegate: Recommendation # 3 does involve purchasing some technology that would meet that need.
All those in favour:	27
Opposed:	1
Abstentions:	2
Voice of the Minority	Tony F, DCM District 14: In the past, so many things moving so fast in this technology and this world. I just wondering if it's a little bit too soon to be making these changes. Some of us just aren't there yet. I worried that we may be leaving some behind.
Motion:	Carried

2nd Recommendation: That if recommendation 1 is accepted, the housekeeping changes, as attached, be made to the Operating Procedures.

a) Insert into Section 3: RESPONSIBILITIES (page 12)

3.18 AREA TECHNOLOGY CHAIR

To be elected by the Area Committee. The Technology Chair, in conjunction with the Area Technology Committee (Appendix Nine) shall be responsible for the coordination of information and communication technology needs for Area 83. The Technology Chair shall be responsible for the implementation of Website Guidelines (Appendix Seven) and the Area Technology Committee Guidelines (Appendix Nine). The Technology Chair shall provide a report to the Area Committee and Assembly on the activities of the Technology Committee. The Technology Chair shall liaise with District counterparts and shall provide assistance, when requested, in accordance with the Technology Committee Guidelines. The Technology Chair shall stay current on Information and Communication tools in the interest of serving the Area. The Technology Chair is responsible for all technology and support required for Area Committee Meetings and the Assembly weekend.

b) Update indexing in Table of Contents and Section 3: RESPONSIBILITIES:

3.19 Service Information Day Committee

3.20 Area Archivist

3.21 Area Webmaster and Alternate Webmaster

c) Add Technology Chair to the list of sub-committee chairs which appear in the following sections:

page 3 – Preface – Members of the Assembly

page 6-7 Section 1: General 1.02 Composition

page 16 4.01 REGULAR BI-ANNUAL ELECTIONS – Area Committee – Sub-Committee Chairs to be elected by the Area Committee and order of election

page 18 4.02 INTERIM ELECTIONS – Area Committee – Sub-Committee Chairs to be elected by the Area Committee and order of election

page 20 Section 5: General 5.02 Composition

page 38 Appendix Four – B. List of Eligible Candidates

d) Change 3.20 Webmaster and Alternate Webmaster to:

3.21 Area Webmaster and Alternate Webmaster

To be appointed (or re-appointed) for a (2) two-year term by the Area Committee, on the recommendation of the Area Chair after consultation with Technology Chair and any other members of Area 83 deemed suitable for advice by the Area Chair. Total term length not to exceed (4) four years.

Resumes for consideration shall be submitted to the Area Chair. The Webmaster shall also be a member of Alcoholics Anonymous in Area 83.

The Area Webmaster holds primary authority and responsibility for the oversight of the Area 83 Website. The primary duty is to maintain the website, in terms of additions, deletions, updates, email address forwarding for Area 83 contacts and to track web site usage. The Webmaster shall ensure the *12 Traditions* and *12 Concepts*, General Service Office Guidelines and Policies and Area 83 Website Guidelines ([Appendix Seven](#)) are followed relating to the World Wide Web.

The Webmaster, *a non-voting* appointed committee member will report to the Technology Chair regularly, about new material received and give updates about ongoing projects.

The Area Committee shall ultimately be responsible for and give direction regarding the policy and content of the Area 83 website.

A separate line item on the Area Spending Guidelines and Expense worksheet shall reflect expected Area Webmaster expenses including the costs to maintain the Website. Alternate Webmaster will be appointed (or re-appointed) for a (2) two-year term by the Area 83 Chair from candidates recommended by the Technology Chair and/or Webmaster from resumes submitted to the Area Chair. The Alternate Webmaster shall also be a member of Alcoholics Anonymous in Area 83 and assist in the design and maintenance of the Website.

2nd Recommendation	Christine F, A83 Grapevine Chair
Moved:	
Seconded:	Carrie C, DCM District 66
Discussion	None
All those in favour:	30
Opposed:	0
Abstentions:	2
Motion:	Carried

3rd Recommendation: That Area 83 purchases three laptops and a digital projector at a cost not to exceed \$3,000.00 CAD (before taxes), upon approval by the Assembly.

Equipment Purchase Rationale

The purchase of three laptops, one microphone and a digital projector is essential to enable and enhance the Area's ability to conduct hybrid-style meetings effectively. This investment in technology will provide numerous benefits, allowing us to seamlessly integrate virtual and in-person participants and create a more inclusive and engaging meeting experience. Here are the key justifications for this purchase:

1. Flexibility and Accessibility: With three laptops, we can offer greater flexibility in accommodating both remote and on-site participants. This enhances accessibility and inclusivity, as individuals who are unable to attend in person due to travel constraints, financial constraints, health concerns, or other reasons can still actively contribute to discussions and decision-making processes. The reason for purchasing 3 laptops is that Service Information Day runs three workshops simultaneously and each workshop requires a Zoom Tech to manage virtual attendees. The Area Committee Meeting also requires at least 2 laptops.
2. Visual Presentations: A digital projector is crucial for displaying visual content and presentations during meetings (i.e. hybrid meetings, Delegate Reports, Area Officer, and Sub Committee Chair presentations). A projector with a high-resolution display ensures that all participants can clearly see and understand the shared content, regardless of their location within the meeting space.

By investing in this technology, we will create a more inclusive, efficient, and meaningful meeting environment that aligns with the evolving needs of our fellowship and increase our ability gather group conscience from the greatest number of groups in Area 83.

Our committee anticipates that the proposed hardware purchase will support our needs for at least the next 5 years.

3rd Recommendation	Rob F, A83 Corrections Chair
Moved:	
Seconded:	Carla W, ADCM District 34
Discussion	<p>Jill B, A83 Secretary: I'm not opposed to the purchase of equipment as we need it. However, how does Area 83 protect our interest in that equipment?</p> <p>Robb W, A83 Webmaster: I'm going to assume that anyone who's handling this equipment will be on the Tech Committee and will understand what they are doing. Accidents happen, but I don't think we can get insurance other than content insurance for whoever's home it's in at the time.</p> <p>James O, A83 Delegate: Just wondering, is it necessary to actually itemize the things we are going to purchase? Does that limit us – in case we need a 4th laptop we could still be under the \$3,000.00. Would you have to come back to the committee for approval. Just wondering if we really need to itemize.</p> <p>Kimberley M, A83 Immediate Past Delegate: We have a history in our Area for when we spend money, we want to give a minimum list of the things that we felt would be required to be able to run an efficient meeting. If we just said we wanted to order some stuff and don't give a number, we know the Area is going to want a number and we need to be accountable to our members whenever we spend funds. So that's why we gave a number. This committee would be new and I'm sure down the road there may be some other items that are needed. But the Technology Chair would come here just like we are all here today; they would make a motion if there was something more that they needed. They would make the motion, have done their research and discuss it like we are discussing it here today. Maybe down the road we say to the Technology Committee has this much discretionary money to spend as they need. Or it may be an item by item thing. The Area Committee could say you have this much money to spend or extra money to spend in the term or anything over this amount needs to go to the Area Committee. There are many ways this can happen, but at least this is a starting point.</p> <p>Kelly D, ADCM District 50: I have no opposition to the acquisition, but does Area 83 possess such assets currently?</p> <p>Kimberley M, A83 Immediate Past Delegate: We do currently own an overhead projector; we used to have a laptop that was used by the Registrar. Archives has a projector. In comparison to other Areas, some have truck loads of stuff to do hybrid meetings. We are in the infant stage, just getting started.</p> <p>Amy L, A83 Alternate Delegate: This is important because while historically we haven't purchased assets before. That was back in the day when we only carried paper around. Today I must show up an hour early to set up this stuff with my own resources, if it gets broken nobody is going to pay me for it. It's out of the kindness and importance so that everyone has access to this meeting. So, I think we should be self-supporting and that the Area should be purchasing these things so that individuals aren't risking their own assets.</p>

	<p>Jamie B, DCM District 62: In the motion it says that upon approval of this recommendation we will purchase etc etc. Obviously, this has to go to the Assembly. So, would it be upon approval at the Assembly or waiting until the Technology Committee is elected? Second part, how do we decide who makes that purchase?</p> <p>Kimberley M, A83 Immediate Past Delegate: Yes Assembly. Webmaster.</p>
All those in favour:	29
Opposed:	0
Abstentions:	3
Motion:	Carried

4th Recommendation: That Area 83 purchase one license of Microsoft 365 Business for each Area Officer (7) and Sub-Committee Chairperson (9, with a Tech Chair) at an expected cost of \$1,675.00 CAD per year (before taxes).

Comment by Robb W, A83 Webmaster: Confirmed that the \$1,675.00 is correct as the total. While attending the Technology Workshop, he learned there is a possibility of getting Non-Profit licenses of Microsoft which could be cheaper. He'll start to look into that and advise.

4th Recommendation	Christine F, A83 Grapevine Chair
Moved:	
Seconded:	Bert J, DCM District 22
Discussion	<p>Allen W, DCM District 78: Can we make a friendly amendment to say that it's up to a maximum of \$2,000.00 plus taxes.</p> <p>That Area 83 purchase one license of Microsoft 365 Business for each Area Officer (7) and Sub-Committee Chairperson (9, with a Tech Chair) at an expected cost of \$2,000.00 CAD per year (before taxes).</p> <p>Christine F, A83 Grapevine Chair: Accepts the friendly amendment made by Allen W.</p> <p>Bert J, DCM District 22: As seconder, accepts the friendly amendment made by Allen W.</p> <p>Rob F, A83 Corrections Chair: Regarding licensing – is it simple matter for Sub-committee Chairs or a Committee person to transfer the license over to the next one when rotation happens?</p> <p>Robb W, A83 Webmaster: The licenses are annual licenses. So, at the end of the year, it needs to be renewed. When we renew it will be for the next person. There won't be an issue.</p> <p>James O, A83 Delegate: This package is for Word, Excel, PowerPoint. So all of these programs are free with Google, so I'm just wondering why we would get licenses for this as opposed to using the free versions. I know personally I pay for my own subscription as I like them better, but they are available for free. Just wondering if we've thought about that as an option.</p> <p>Christine F, A83 Grapevine Chair: Security was one reason. We would have shared drives so that we would not have to use email to communicate with each other more easily within the Area. And the volume of space available that the free version doesn't allow us to do what we needed to do. On Google, you aren't able to do the things that the licenses would enable you to do. The main reason was the security and professionalism.</p>
Restate the Amended Motion:	

	Jamie B, DCM District 62: As someone who frequently uses the free Google Docs, but also having used Microsoft Office, the ease of access, friendliness with Microsoft is significantly better. Speaking for the Registrar & Treasurer, using Google Sheets isn't as easy to use compared to Microsoft Excel.
All those in favour:	28
Opposed:	0
Abstentions:	4
Motion:	Carried

13. NEW BUSINESS

- a) Support for ASL Interpretation at Fall 2023 Assembly if requested Theresa L, Accessibilities Chair

Motion:	Area 83 moves to have a rotating Area 83 Assembly location in different cities or towns within the Area 83 geographical area That Area 83 support funding for ASL (American Sign Language) interpretation at the 2023 Service Information Day if requested. Funding would cover an ASL Interpreter for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the Delegate's Plenary • maximum of two Service Information Day Workshops
Moved:	Theresa L, A83 Accessibilities Chair
Seconded:	Tony F, DCM District 14
Discussion	<p>Christine F, A83 Grapevine Chair: I love the motion, please let us know what would happen if the maximum two workshops were one in the morning and one in the afternoon, would that change the pricing?</p> <p>Theresa L, A83 Accessibilities Chair: The suggested way that we would find out if there was a request would be on the registration form. An additional question would be, and it reads: "Would you use ASL Interpretation if it were available?" And the responder would click yes or no. If they clicked yes, the next question coming up: "Would you be comfortable with the Accessibilities Chair contacting you directly regarding ASL?" And they would click either yes or no. It would be known then by the Accessibilities Chair that a member requesting ASL would be contacted and asked which workshop would you be attending so that they would then confirm which workshop or two they would be attending. That way the interpreter could be contacted and made aware.</p> <p>The way that the pricing is done, and I did cover some of this during the June ACM, Interpretation fee is \$100 per hour; the assignment coordinator fee is \$50 (one time fee for that whole weekend); mileage fee is not applicable as we would have them on-line; preparation fee \$50/hr per interpreter. So that's the way the pricing runs. Our plenary presentation is 50 minutes, each workshop is 50 minutes.</p> <p>Rob F, A83 Corrections Chair: Do they have a cancellation policy in case the person who requested the service isn't able to make it? Do we have a follow up program in place to ensure the person is going to show up?</p> <p>Theresa L, A83 Accessibilities Chair: I'm reading from the June ACM report, The CHS (Canadian Hearing Service) interpreting terms & conditions of service. Requests should be made at least 2 weeks before the service is needed. Short notice requests will be considered but the likelihood of securing an interpreter will be lessened. All requests will be acknowledged by email within 2 business days</p>

and will include an assignment number reference. Requires 72 hours cancellation prior to scheduled start time.

Jamie B, DCM District 62: You mentioned that the interpreter is attending on Zoom so in theory is the person who is requesting ASL attending on Zoom or in person? If the member is in person, how are they able to watch the interpreter on Zoom? For the Plenary - it wouldn't be an issue, but with the workshops we have PowerPoint's being shared on the Zoom screen, therefore there won't be a screen for the interpreter.

Theresa L, A83 Accessibilities Chair: I would assume it would be like others I've seen. Could we pin the interpreter?

Carrie C, DCM District 66: For registering for an interpreter, does that go through the Accessibilities Chair or another chair?

Theresa L, A83 Accessibilities Chair: I may defer that question to the Area Chairperson, but I don't think historically any other chairperson has anything to do with the registration process. When I made the request that perhaps this be the way to find out if members needed ASL – it was my suggestion to put it on the registration so that who ever follows that along will then know we have someone with a need for ASL interpretation. Bill can you expand on that please.

Bill C, A83 Chairperson: In terms of the registration, between the Chair & the Registrar we will take care of that on the Registration Form.

Bert J, DCM District 22: To answer Jamie's question on Zoom, it's always better that they are both in the same venue. When there's a PowerPoint there is always a spot to pin someone on an on-line meeting. Just a reminder that ASL is its own specific language, so they need to be near each other to understand. The member can always bring their own interpreter if they want; but the committee needs to be notified that they are bringing their own.

James S, DCM District 28: What if we have 3 or 4 members interested in needing an interpreter and not necessarily interested in the same workshops? Is this something that is limited to this workshop, or that workshop? What if multiple people want to go to different workshops?

Theresa L, A83 Accessibilities Chair: The Motion covers the Delegate's Plenary and a maximum of 2 Service Information Day workshops per person. What I believe the way its meant is that if you say "Yes, I would require an ASL interpreter", you can't say "and I want to go to all the workshops". The member can pick up to a maximum of two workshops.

Marrey P, DCM District 06: Is there a minimum of 2 hours that they charge? Were you told the same thing?

Theresa L, A83 Accessibilities Chair: No

Kimberley M, A83 Immediate Past Delegate: Are you proposing that if a person requests ASL interpreting, that the reason they would be offered the Delegate's Plenary and two workshops, is just because it's kind of an experimental entry point to see if there's a need in our Area to see if people would be interested in attending the Service Information Day. Because I would assume that if somebody in our Area, a GSR or certainly a DCM, if they had an ASL need we would already know about it. If we had a GSR that had that need, we would assume that District would know about it. So we would know about it, and we would meet that need at the Assembly. But suppose we have a member that meets that need and is interested in learning more about service and needs ASL to be able to understand what's going on, we currently have nothing for them. So if we were to offer something as an entry point to see if there's an interest then perhaps we can do that. But there's

a cost involved. Is that why you are bringing that here today? Because you can't just say ok well we'll offer it to you because the Area hasn't had a discussion to say that we would be happy to pay 'x' amount of money for this person to come because we haven't had that request. Should we have that request, are here today to get permission to meet that need? Is that what this is all about?

Theresa L, A83 Accessibilities Chair: Yes, I am hoping this process will benefit not only the member requiring the service but also to serve Area 83 in its effort to reach those who feel they do not have full access to AA. It might also be an indication of a need for ASL going forward. I do this see this as showing the membership that we are willing to put processes in place if the need is there. And putting it back to "do you have the need, do you have the desire to step forward into service in AA and is this something that is holding you back?". Because if it is, we are here, we are listening and I believe this could be an entry way into finding out if there is a need, and what is the need.

Amy L, A83 Alternate Delegate: I think this is an interesting proposal. I'd like to see something in place for when you do get multiple requests for different workshops. And also that's its clearly stated that this is for Area 83 members and maybe not for someone who heard we have ASL workshops through some Accessibility Committee.

Christine F, A83 Grapevine Chair: I like this motion for introducing the concept and opening the conversation. The last Service Information Day, I did have a deaf member asking about ASL and Grapevine. So I know I've been asked about it. I'm wondering though, as it seems there's a lot of moving parts with the Plenary and two workshops - what about not waiting for a request. What about providing a morning, just to start out, so the Delegate's Plenary is included and the first two sets of workshops. Maybe try it out that way by providing a service in a set time and won't be contingent on how many people do want it or even having to ask for it first.

Bert J, DCM District 22: Having been a part of Accessibilities in the GTA, I did some research and contacted the Canadian Hearing Services, there's a minimum cost for an interpreter and some things we need to know. When we are asking if need is there – yes the need is there. As mentioned before, most bring their own interpreter. Doesn't mean we can't do it. I would like to table the motion to have a further investigation and provide a detail of what we need.

Per Area 83 Operating Procedures, Appendix One

Tabling a Motion: Postponing a discussion to a later time. Requires a motion and a second. Not debatable. Requires a simple majority.

Motion to Table:	Bert J, DCM District 22
Seconded:	James S, DCM District 28
All those in favour:	18
Opposed:	9
Abstentions:	3
Motion:	Carried

**b) CERASSA request for support for professional interpretation
..... James O, Panel 73 Delegate**

From the May 2023 meeting:

The fees are daily fees and would be \$550 per day per interpreter. Which means 2 interpreters per day x 2 or 3 days, depending on your schedule, \$1100 per day (total of \$2200 for 2 days and \$3300 if the event is on 3 days)

From the July 2023 meeting:

“Tentatively book Andree for the weekend in 2025 and then we work on how we will pay for it.”

This is the final motion that was passed. Was this premature? We didn’t think so.

- Andree and her team are in high demand and it seemed prudent to book them now
- They are intimate with our unique AA lingo and are especially qualified to interpret
- Tradition 9 states: “A.A., as such, ought never be organized; but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve.”

In the spirit of this tradition, the CERAASA steering committee is responsible to all members in the eastern Canada region – a significant number of whom are francophone (French speaking). At the last CERAASA we had non-professional bilingual AA members interpreting. Many members - both francophone and anglophone – were very concerned that about the quality of translation and its effectiveness in relaying the lifesaving information we discuss and share.

The quote referred to earlier does not include travel or accommodation however it appears that they are able to provide this service remotely.

Our discussion suggested that the outside maximum for this service might be \$5000 (translation and various expenses). Dividing \$5000 by 10 areas the maximum the delegates are asking from their respective areas for approval is \$500 per Area.

June ACM 2011 – Motion for Area 83 to participate in CERAASA – we confirmed seed money of \$250/area

October Assembly 2011 – Motion confirmed.

February 2013 – first CERAASA in Laval, Quebec

2015 – Area 83 hosts CERAASA in Mississauga

In 2011 our Area 83 group conscience was to support CERAASA.

Motion:	That Area 83 provide a \$500 contribution towards Professional Interpretation for the 2025 CERASSA meeting.	
Moved:	Tony F, DCM District 14	
Seconded:	Tim F, A83 PI Chair	
Discussion	<p>Amy L, A83 Alternate Delegate: I attended CERASSA and when we talk about non-professional it’s not that they are not dressed nice or something, I sat through some French workshops in which the interpreter said “uh – I don’t know what they are saying”. It was that our Francophones weren’t getting it, there were workshops that I couldn’t even understand. It’s a blessing and a curse that we are a bilingual Area, and some people are doing this with Spanish. So, let’s all come to the table understanding what each other are saying.</p> <p>Marrey P, DCM District 06: I was at the last CERASSA too, and I think there was something they were going to change with respect to the Operating Procedures. And it became quite emotional and an issue with the interpretation because</p>	

	some people felt that it actually offended their cultural integrity with the interpretation that was offered. The way that they left it, I believe, was that why don't we put this forward and pass it through to the next CERASSA. I think that's what happened, but that sort of thing shouldn't happen. I don't think it would if there was professional interpretation. De R, DCM District 02: Absolutely in favour, and we are bilingual. We should support CERASSA in this and it's not a big ask.
All those in favour:	29
Opposed:	0
Abstentions:	2
Motion:	Carried

c) **Motion – To modify our mileage reimbursement for expenses.....**
..... **Rob F, Corrections Chair**

Motion:	To increase the Area 83 mileage reimbursement rate from \$0.40 per km to \$0.50 per km effective November 1, 2023.	
Moved:	Rob F, A83 Corrections Chair	
Seconded:	Mike H, DCM District 30	
Discussion	Rob F, A83 Corrections Chair: Rationale is that when we look back in the records in 2001 the reimbursement rate was 20% and the average gas price was \$0.67.8 per km; and now the average gas price is \$1.70 per km which is an increase of 151% over what it was in the beginning of our research. So, using that logic, if we increase the \$0.20 per km by 151%, that brings us up to \$0.50 per km. The CRA guidelines, for tax purposes, is \$0.68 per km for the first 5,000 kms. That's what they allow you to right off. That's why I came up with the motion, because gas is more expensive but I don't believe our contributions come up. I'm not asking for a big increase just something to help us a little along the way. Thank you.	
All those in favour:	28	
Opposed:	1	
Abstentions:	2	
Voice of the Minority:	James S, DCM District 28: My only thought is that at \$0.40 per km you are not out of pocket, so I don't see the need to increase it.	
Motion:	Carried	

14. SHARING - WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?

Eddy G, Beaches Group: Something to think about. We were all talking about computers and that. Personally, I think that our Area Archivist needs a computer for the records that he carries for the Area and he doesn't have one. I feel somebody should consider putting that forward to get a computer.

Carrie C, DCM District 66: There's a lot of discussion after my report with regards to a possible date for the Spring Assembly. As it stands now there is no Spring Assembly for the Service Information Day. So, after much discussion we would like to tentatively "save the date" as February 10, 2024 for the virtual Service Information Day.

Denis C, Alt PI/CPC Chair, District 48: A question regarding the Assembly on the business side of things. We ran out of time; a lot was tabled. Do we still have that hard cut off time? **Bill C, A83 Chairperson** – The cut off time has been relaxed.

Julie T: Robb W our Area Webmaster will be celebrating 27 years November 1st.

Jane S, A83 CPC Chair: Just want to say that Sarah DCM for District 74 will have 4 years on October 24th.

Bert J, DCM District 22: Just a reminder that we have our Service Day for District 22 next week. Everyone is welcome. We are going to have a service sponsee/sponsor workshop. Also a skit on anonymity. There will be a social event in the evening. During the day there are going to be door prizes.

Carla W, ADCM District 34: On November 18th we will have our Belleville roundup. There are flyers in your mail slots. If you liked your lunch today, then you'll love the roast beef dinner because Les and his crew will be providing that.

David T, A83 Archivist: On the 5th of November at Bloordale, the GTA Archives will be having their 37th Archives Breakfast. Tickets are \$30.00 and will be available shortly.

Marrey P, DCM District 06: A reminder for the Mississauga Fall Roundup on Sept 30th. Tickets are \$25.

15. NEXT AREA COMMITTEE MEETING

I would recommend the next committee meeting be held on **January 6, 2024** as a hybrid meeting at Quinte West. Would someone be willing to make a motion to that effect?

- *Motion: to hold the next ACM on January 6, 2024*

Moved:	Jeffary F, DCM District 86	
Seconded:	Jamie B, DCM District 62	
Discussion	None	
All those in favour:	31	
Opposed:	0	
Abstentions:	0	
Motion:	Carried	

Note – there was a question regarding the availability of the venue for January 6, 2024. The Area Chairperson will confirm and update as appropriate. Update: Due to the facility not being available on January 6, 2024, the first ACM meeting for 2024 will take place on January 13, 2024.

16. CLOSING

It is now 4:27 PM and I would like to thank everyone for their participation today and wish you safe return home.

- May I have a motion to close this meeting?

Moved:	Maria M, A83 Treatment Chair	
Seconded:	Natalie N, DCM District 42	
Discussion	None	
All those in favour:	31	
Opposed:	0	
Abstentions:	0	
Motion:	Carried	

The Meeting closed with A Declaration of Unity.

This we owe to AA's future;
to place our common welfare first;
to keep our Fellowship united.
For on AA unity depend our lives, and the lives
of those to come.

APPENDICES

Appendix A1 Financial Documents—Financial Summary (September 7, 2023)

EASTERN ONTARIO INTERNATIONAL AREA 83
as at September 7, 2023

RESERVE ACCOUNT		Actual
January 1, 2023 Opening Balance		20,000.00
Interest		
Transfer to Operating Account		
RESERVE ACCOUNT BALANCE		20,000.00

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Report](#)

INCOME		
7th Tradition		4,253.80
Banquet and lunch ticket sales		7,442.61
Cost Recoveries		513.35
Flow Through to GSO		0.00
Grapevine Seasonals		0.00
Group, District & Individual Contributions		47,861.66
	TOTAL INCOME	60,071.42
TRANSFERS FROM RESERVE		0.00
TOTAL INCOME & TRANSFERS		60,071.42

EXPENSES		
Accommodations		6,913.05
Meals		902.98
Travel		6,578.02
Postage		0.00
Printing		1,263.99
Literature		368.76
Stationery		194.90
Assembly Venue Costs		16,170.06
Miscellaneous		914.51
Total Committee Expenses		33,306.27
Ad Hoc Committees		0.00
Area Contribution to GSO		0.00
Area Committee Meetings		2,448.60
General Service Conf. Assessment		12,456.95
Bank Service Charges		119.25
Paypal fees		76.41
Forums		0.00
Grapevine Seasonal		0.00
GSO Flow Through		0.00
EDCO		0.00
CERAASA		1,713.10
International Convention		0.00
Total Other Expenses		16,814.31
TOTAL EXPENSES		50,120.58

OPERATING ACCOUNT		
Opening Balance as of January 1, 2023		60,739.52
Total Income & Transfers		60,071.42
Total Expenses		(50,120.58)
OPERATING ACCOUNT BALANCE		70,690.36

Appendix A2 Financial Documents—Detail of Expenses (September 7, 2023)

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Area 63 Eastern Ontario International
Details of Expenditures
as at Sept 7, 2023

Position	Accommodations	Meals	Travel	Distance	Postage	Fundraising	Literature	Stationery	Vendor-Bannerets	Misc.	Total	Approved	Guidelines	+/-	Usage
COMMITTEE EXPENSES															
Alt. Delegate	0.00	199.56	1854.66	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2054.24	\$2,850.00		795.76	72.08%
Del. Delegate	0.00	68.50	410.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	169.39	648.28	\$1,125.71	\$34,128.00	34.12%	125.71%
Immediate past Delegate	0.00	98.98	242.08	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	341.06	\$1,400.00	\$24,366.00	10.58%	94.42%
Chaparran	0.00	50.00	595.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	282.88	927.88	\$1,850.00	\$20,169.00	9.22%	10.58%
Secretary	415.80	127.64	405.60	0.00	0.00	695.00	0.00	187.11	0.00	0.00	1831.15	\$2,650.00	\$18,815.00	8.18%	69.10%
Treasurer	0.00	201.60	544.00	0.00	0.00	314.98	0.00	7.79	0.00	0.00	524.37	\$1,550.00	\$33,833.00	10.25%	63.33%
Registrar	0.00	58.98	54.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	640.98	\$950.00	\$4,065.00	9.50%	42.06%
Webmaster/ Web Site	365.70	0.00	202.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	569.10	\$2,525.00	\$19,555.00	19.55%	22.54%
Archivist	0.00	0.00	469.60	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	469.60	\$1,679.00	\$13,793.00	12.09%	40.00%
Cooperation with the P.C.	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	700.00	\$7,900.00	\$7,900.00	100.00%	0.00%
Corrections Facilities	0.00	108.96	270.28	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	379.24	\$1,960.00	\$21,079.00	14.20%	21.07%
Genealogy	0.00	0.00	480.00	0.00	0.00	1102.67	0.00	0.00	0.00	7.46	639.83	\$1,860.00	\$11,660.00	11.66%	35.52%
Public Information	0.00	382.20	382.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	382.20	\$1,760.00	\$3,137.60	13.76%	30.19%
Transportation	0.00	97.00	97.00	0.00	0.00	96.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	193.00	\$1,700.00	\$3,137.60	13.76%	30.19%
Travel	0.00	35.08	152.80	0.00	0.00	0.00	53.86	0.00	0.00	0.00	241.74	\$1,700.00	\$14,226.00	14.22%	14.22%
Accessibility	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	254.48	254.48	\$1,550.00	\$6,649.00	12.96%	16.42%
Service Info Day Cmte	163.35	0.00	18.56	0.00	0.00	48.14	0.00	0.00	0.00	29.36	574.31	\$6,649.00	\$6,649.00	80.75%	66.44%
Spring Assembly	5987.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	16020.06	170.94	22159.20	\$20,155.61	\$20,155.61	-2022.59	0.00%
Full Assembly	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	150.00	0.00	150.00	\$20,039.61	\$20,039.61	20050.00	0.74%
TOTAL	\$ 6,913.05	\$ 902.98	\$ 6,578.02	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,263.99	\$ 358.76	\$ 194.30	\$ 16,170.06	\$ 914.51	\$ 33,306.27	\$ 45,873.24	\$ 45,873.24	\$ 45,873.24	41.61%
OTHER EXPENSES															
Adhoc Committees	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$390.00		300.00	0.00%
Area Committee	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1400.00	1004.60	2,448.60	\$1,500.00	\$9,408.60	-948.60	163.24%
Area GSO Contributions	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	119.25	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	5,000.00	0.00%
Bank Fees	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	76.41	\$75.00		-1.41	101.86%
Payroll Charges	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00		0.00	0.00%
Grapevine Seasonal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$3,000.00		3,000.00	0.00%
GSC Assessment	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$12,456.95		12,456.95	0.00%
GSC Flow Through	0.00	0.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$300.00		300.00	0.00%
CECOWASA	10098.38	334.34	330.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	40.00	1,713.10	\$2,087.50	\$2,087.50	34.00	80.00%
Historical Convention	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00		0.00	0.00%
TOTAL	\$ 1,008.38	\$ 334.34	\$ 330.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 13,545.55	\$ 16,814.31	\$ 24,889.45	\$ 24,889.45	\$ 24,889.45	8.075.14
TOTAL EXPENSES															
	\$ 7,921.41	\$ 1,237.32	\$ 6,908.02	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,263.99	\$ 368.76	\$ 194.30	\$ 17,570.06	\$ 14,460.06	\$ 50,120.58	\$ 104,929.06	\$ 54,808.48	\$ 47,779.58	45.51%

Income Summary :	
2023-03-17	
7th Tradition	4,253.80
Bank interest	-
GSO Flow through	-
Banquet/meet income	7,442.61
Contributions	47,861.66
Cost Recoveries	513.35
Grapevine Seasonals	-
Total income	\$ 60,071.42

	YTD 2022	Sept 2022	Difference
Income To Date	60,071.42	28,756.46	30,314.96
Expenses To Date	50,120.68	21,787.11	28,339.47
Net Change To Operating Account	\$ 9,950.74	\$ 7,969.35	\$ 1,981.40
Contributions			
Contributing Groups	\$47,861.66	27,711.91	\$20,149.75
Contributing Districts	120	93	27
Contributing Individuals	15	12	3
Contributing Institutions	3	2	1

Appendix A3 Financial Documents—Contributions by District (September 7, 2023)

GROUP & DISTRICT CONTRIBUTIONS as at Sept 7, 2023
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Return to Treasurer's Report
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District	0	Unspecified, Individual	\$355.81
District	2	Malton	\$900.00
District	6	Mississauga	\$8,313.00
District	10	Toronto South Central	\$2,528.00
District	12	Toronto South West	\$927.63
District	14	Toronto North Central	\$1,485.54
District	16	Hispano De Toronto	\$150.00
District	18	Toronto City East	\$1,547.01
District	22	Scarborough	\$1,090.00
District	26	Lakeshore West	\$2,075.00
District	28	Lakeshore East	\$2,332.55
District	30	Quinte West	\$3,611.08
District	34	Quinte East	\$2,650.00
District	36	Kingston And The Islands	\$900.00
District	42	St. Lawrence International	\$327.87
District	48	Seaway Valley North	\$1,400.00
District	50	Cornwall	\$0.00
District	54	Ottawa Rideau	\$570.00
District	58	Ottawa Bytown	\$0.00
District	62	Ottawa West	\$5,768.17
District	66	Golden Triangle	\$4,795.00
District	70	Renfrew Pontiac	\$1,350.00
District	74	Pembroke	\$950.00
District	78	Madawaska Valley	\$0.00
District	82	Victoria Haliburton	\$1,700.00
District	86	Kawartha	\$2,135.00

Total Contributions YTD: \$47,861.66

Total from Groups	\$30,487.34	120	Groups
Total from Districts	\$17,078.51	15	Districts
Total from Individuals	\$295.81	3	Individuals