



BC/YUKON AREA BULLETIN

Volume 12, Issue 3
March 2022



Opinions expressed herein are not to be attributed to Al-Anon as a whole

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(all one word)

Area Chair's Report

Hello Al-Anon friends,

The BC/Yukon **Area World Service Committee Meeting (AWSCM)** is coming up **May 27-29th**. We will be hosting this as a Hybrid meeting for the first time! There were no bids from any Districts for hosting the event this year, so the Officers and Coordinators decided to try and find a hotel to host for us. After recruiting help from various districts, we have been successful in finding a venue in Salmon Arm. We are planning for 30-40 people in person this year as it is so difficult to predict with Covid restrictions and comfort level of members at this time.

I will contact the District Representatives by email as soon as we have more details, so please make sure all your contact information is up to date with Group Records. The full information package will be in the April Bulletin.

AWSCM is where the District Representatives come together to meet with the Officers, Coordinators and Liaisons to discuss the business of the BC/Yukon Area. All members are welcome to attend, of course, and have a voice, just not a vote. The theme for AWSCM for 2022 is "**Enhancing Our Recovery Through Abundance, Unity and Understanding**".

This year we have some big decisions to make about *Al-Anon Family Groups Which Meet Electronically (AFGWME)*. At Assembly 2021 we agreed to form a Thought Force to look at this using Knowledge Based Decision Making.

Their report and recommendations are included in this Bulletin and will be available on the BC/Yukon website. I would like to thank all the members who participated in this very thorough and well put together Thought Force.

The Officers, Coordinators and Liaisons met in January. We heard from the members of the *AFGWME* Thought Force and discussed their findings and recommendations as part of our Agenda.

We have some groups in our Area that have decided to continue as permanent electronic meetings after Covid restrictions have eased for various reasons. They want to continue to be part of our BC/Yukon Area Service Structure and not part of the Virtual Area that has a more international reach. Until we have a process to accept them, they cannot be part of the BC/Yukon Service Structure and therefore have no voice or vote or connection to our Area and are left in limbo. So, understandably there is some urgency felt by these group members to be included. A Task Force would be required to follow up on the Thought Force's recommendations to develop our BC/Yukon process to accept electronic groups who want to be included in our area service structure.

On page 68 of our Service Manual under Area World Service Committee it says, "At these meetings, the Assembly agenda is planned, information and reports are conveyed, and decisions may be made that cannot wait until the next Assembly." With that in mind, the Officers and Coordinators have decided to bring forward the Thought Force recommendations for approval at AWSCM. As a side note, there are other Areas that have 2 or 3 Assemblies a year so they can move through their Area business much quicker than we can with only one a year.

Rather than wait until Assembly in September, we would like to be able to proceed with creating a Task Force at AWSCM, if the District Representatives agree with this and then vote to accept the recommendations of the Thought Force.

If there is agreement to move forward with a Task Force at AWSCM, they could have their report ready prior to Assembly so the Group Representatives can be ready to vote on those recommendations. If there is agreement, we could proceed with accepting these local electronic groups into our Area Service Structure in 2022, rather than making them wait another year.

We are asking the District Representatives to go over the Thought Force recommendations with their Group Representatives now so that they have time to discuss it with their group members. If the members agree with the recommendations, then we need to know if they are willing to move forward with a Task Force to be set up at AWSCM in May. According to our links of service, the District Representatives will bring the voice of the members through their Group Representatives to the AWSCM, so we know how to proceed.

We also have three financial motions from 2018 that were meant to be reviewed after a three-year trial period that we did not address last year, so they are on the agenda for this year. Attached in this Bulletin, you will find a review of these motions. At Assembly in September, we will be asking the Group Representatives to vote on whether to approve these motions or continue the trial period.

We will have some Officer and Coordinator positions whose terms come up at the end of this year, so for anyone considering service at the Area level, I encourage you to start searching your hearts and thinking about it. We will be looking for a new Chair and Secretary, as well as Website Coordinator and Literature Coordinator. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the people currently in those positions. We are still without an Archives Coordinator and would love to have someone take that service opportunity. All job descriptions and resumes are posted on our website.

Another Thought Force was put together at the Officer's and Coordinator's Meeting in January to look at the struggling Alateen situation in our BC Yukon Area. Michelle W. and Gail S. and a couple of Al-Anon Members Involved in Alateen Service (AMIAS) will be using Knowledge Based Decision Making to answer the charge: 'What is the service need for and direction of Alateen in the BC Yukon Area service structure.' They will present their findings at AWSCM.

I mentioned in the last Bulletin that our Delegate, Owen, will be attending the **World Service Conference in New York** in April during the week of **April 25th-May 1st**. This year the WSO has requested that any physical mail or packages not be sent to the Conference because of Covid concerns and staffing and suggests that we send any cards or notes of appreciation etc. directly to our Delegate's home prior to him leaving for the conference.

Wishing you all a safe and happy month!

Love in Service,
Shannon P.

chair@bcyukon-al-anon.org

BC/Yukon Area Chair Reviewing motions presented for a trial period:

2018 F Move that the BC/Yukon Area adopts the use of a budget for financial planning of Area funds using the new categories as presented at Assembly 2018, **for a trial period of 3 years.**
Carried

Prior to 2018, Officers and Coordinators were unsure of how much they could spend in performing their duties. For example, if a public outreach opportunity became available, the Public Outreach Coordinator would not know if he/she could commit the funds for the project without first asking the membership for approval. Officer's felt uncomfortable making decisions regarding money as there were no written guidelines in place. Having a budget made the financial decisions more transparent and involved the membership in making financial decisions. With the onset of the pandemic, so much was unknown that the budget process has not been used after March 2020.

Do our members want to approve this motion as a permanent change or extend the trial period to further test its use?

2018 F Move that the BC/Yukon Area implements the use of QuickBooks software to track the income and expenses of the Area, **for a trial period of 3 years**. Format of online or desktop to be determined by the Treasurer and Finance Committee. Carried

Prior to 2018, the Area used Excel spreadsheets to track income and expenses. QuickBooks has been in use since 2018. The benefits are that QuickBooks is easier to use, provides us with easy access to expense details when requested and easily produces accurate reports. The cost of the program increased to \$22.40 per month (\$268.80 per year). The desktop version was purchased at a cost of \$308.00 and can be used until at least May 2024 without extra cost. The program is on the Treasurer's laptop and all software and account history moves to the next Treasurer. The program has been tested by 3 treasurers and has consistently worked well.

Do our members want to accept QuickBooks as the tool to record the finances of the BC/Yukon Area, or extend the trial period?

2018 F Move that the BC/Yukon Area selects a Finance Committee (up to 5 members) to provide oversight and support to the Treasurer, review mid-term & year-end reports and develop a budget to be presented at Assembly, **for a trial period of 3 years**. Committee members will have AI-Anon service experience as well as knowledge of basic bookkeeping practices. Carried

The Finance committee is not currently in use, however past and current treasurers have shared financial reports with at least one trusted member who reviews the statements and provides feedback prior to AWSCM and Assembly. Cindy H. has been helpful to past and current Treasurers to guide them in using the program and providing support when they have accounting questions. Since the budget has not been useful during the pause due to the pandemic, the Treasurer, after consulting with the officers, has not initiated the budget process with a finance committee.

Do our members want to have a finance committee in place to support the Treasurer's work or would they like to extend the trial period?



Participation of Al-Anon Groups Which Meet Electronically (AFGWME) In the BC/Yukon Service Structure

THOUGHT FORCE REPORT 2021-2022

Photo with members' permission:
Summer Outdoor Al-Anon Meeting during the Pandemic, August 2021.

Al-Anon Family Groups Which Meet Electronically
(AFGWME)

Thought Force Summary and Knowledge-based Decision-making
(KBDM) Questions and Responses

Part A - Summary of the Two Thought Force Charges

Charge 1. Does our Area wish to permit groups which meet electronically to participate in our Area service structure? **Recommendation is YES.**

Charge 2. If yes, what guidelines and boundaries might our Area need to define regarding service participation in our Districts and Assembly? What other changes to our service structure might be required?

- a. **Area service members must reside in the BC/Yukon Area.**
- b. **Group, District, and Area autonomy will prevail as to how they meet, who they want to accept, goals for growth, and so forth.**
- c. **AI-Anon Family Groups Which Meet Electronically (AFGWME) will follow the existing structure as is currently practiced in the BC/Yukon Area.**

Part B –Thought Force Responses to Knowledge-based Decision-making Questions

1. **What do we know about our members' or prospective members' needs that are relevant to this discussion?**

- We have a substantial number of AI-Anon members meeting either locally, virtually, or both.
- WSC has already accepted (AI-Anon Groups Which Meet Electronically (AFGWME) into the service structure, guided by the Service Manual and they can fit into an existing service structure.
- Today's District meetings are held in-person, hybrid, or virtual, a changing reality during pandemic restrictions currently still in place. This encourages attendance and so increased attendance at Assemblies will hopefully bring more groups into the Area.
- There are no physical barriers anymore to connect with AI-Anon members. Participating in meetings, working the program, and being of service on all levels of our local and worldwide service structure is possible anywhere, anytime.

- While still welcoming new members who join their virtual meetings, many existing local groups currently do not meet in a local venue due to pandemic restrictions (see Outdoor Meeting cover photo).
- In fact, many AI-Anon members live and wish to participate in their local service structure as much as possible. Since their meetings were founded locally some time ago, these now-virtual members know each other from the past and, in many cases, they would like the service structure to ‘stay the same.’
- These home groups in our Area that are local to a certain district feel that they should have a voice, vote in their District area, and want to continue to be part of that service structure. This assures harmony and allows our loving Higher Power to be represented in their Group Conscience.
- These new electronic groups may autonomously decide on their own goals for growth. Some wish to attract local members and participate in the local and Area service structure; others wish to attract worldwide members outside the geographical boundaries of our Area.
- **How important is it to welcome (AI-Anon Groups Which Meet Electronically (AFGWME) and is it what our current members want?**
 - Not all members are comfortable with the technology required to include AI-Anon Groups Which Meet Electronically (AFGWME) and they would like to return to local face-to-face meetings. They find “the human companionship and warmth cannot be totally replaced by electronic meetings; an important element to our recovery is to stop isolating ourselves” (WSO Guideline S60).
 - One BC/Yukon District Representative estimates the number of virtual meetings compared to those returning face-to-face could be 50/50.
 - Virtual meetings have made a staggering impact on meeting members’ needs. Some say, ‘Zoom is a great way to do AI-Anon’.

If an AI-Anon Family Group Which Meets Electronically (AFGWME) and/or District does include local members, it is easier to for electronic members to reach out for literature and develop

relationships with group members through opportunities to meet outside the scheduled group time.

- We'll learn about other cultures, uplifting our spiritual aims of diversity and tolerance.
- Since our primary purpose is to help families and friends of alcoholics (Tradition 5), allowing Al-Anon Family Groups Which Meet Electronically (AFGWME) into our service structure will help us fulfill this purpose to the greatest number.
- We would stay mindful not to be diverted from our spiritual aims or let our unity and/or participation suffer with the support of helpful tools and guidelines designed to work through inevitable setbacks.

How will it affect newcomers?

- Electronic delivery is an easy way for newcomers to try out six recommended meetings without physically locating them.
- Some newcomers may find their first Al-Anon meeting on Zoom is less stressful than a face-to-face introduction to Al-Anon. Others prefer a face-to-face introduction to this important step in their recovery.
- WSO has developed a newcomer information page at www.alanon.org/welcome With both choices available, we provide more ways to attract new members and provide opportunities for recovery.
- Electronic meetings are increasingly attractive to newcomers from all walks of life. Younger members are more comfortable with the electronic component of virtual meetings, aging newcomers with health, mobility, or driving issues may attend. Parents with childcare needs consider electronic Al-Anon meetings 'a life saver.'

2. What do we know about the resources and our vision for the organization that is relevant to this discussion? a. Vision

- BC/Yukon is a strong and supportive Al-Anon fellowship of members who are seeking recovery in service on all levels of our local and worldwide Service structure in Canada and the World.

- BC/Yukon committees and their elected Trusted Servants represent a knowledgeable resource which has the support of all they represent.

b. Resources

- BC/Yukon encourages participation and provides attendance options for all by holding in-person meetings with an electronic component for Area World Service Committee Meeting (AWSCM) and at Assembly for the next 3 years. There are no local barriers for participation.
- This way, we have a growing potential of AI-Anon members who are willing to serve in District and Area capacities and BC/Yukon needs dedicated members to fill these positions.
- Some individual Districts may not have the resources to hold hybrid or Zoom meetings requiring equipment and good quality WIFI.
- Regardless, there seem to be many groups proficiently holding electronic meetings with a personal computer and household WIFI. As such, groups are not paying rent and some Districts are able to carry the group's Zoom subscription on a District account, a big savings.

3. What do we know about the current realities and evolving dynamics of the world and our fellowship that is relevant to this discussion? What the Pros and Cons of this change?

Current Realities

- Alcoholism has no boundaries. It affects all races, ethnicities, religions, and economic status. To reach a diversity of potential members, AI-Anon Family Groups Which Meet Electronically (AFGWME) can break down many of the barriers that prevent people from attending AI-Anon meetings.
- The potential of members who could benefit from AI-Anon Family Groups Which Meet Electronically (AFGWME) is great. They are the new reality which meets the local reality of the past. Both realities benefit from cooperating as they grow together.
- Embracing technology is an important element of the WSC theme from 2021: 'Moving Forward with Unity, Courage, and Perseverance'.

- The number of virtual meetings keeps growing and as in the Service Manual, any virtual meeting can apply to join a District.

Pros of welcoming AI-Anon Family Groups Which Meet Electronically (AFGWME) into the BC/Yukon Area.

- By welcoming AI-Anon Family Groups Which Meet Electronically (AFGWME) into the BC/Yukon Area, we demonstrate willingness to participate in the change of our current realities. In this way, we can attract and accommodate all existing and potential members. - Giving AI-Anon Family Groups Which Meet Electronically (AFGWME) access to participation in our BC/Yukon Area service structure on the group level does not change or interfere with current local structures (WSO Guideline G39). In fact, one District says they would welcome them and look forward to more participation in service positions as well as the diversity they can offer.
- AI-Anon Family Groups Which Meet Electronically (AFGWME) Trusted Servants will have multiple options to organize, participate, and have an equal voice in the BC/Yukon service structure.
- Affordable communication options and fewer travel obligations are available for Trusted Servants now. Area may now be able to fill service positions easier and accommodations can be made to ensure electronic members can participate equally.
- AI-Anon Family Groups Which Meet Electronically (AFGWME) registered in a District or in their own Virtual District may finally attract some of the furthest remote communities to participate in our AI-Anon fellowship. BC/Yukon has tried hard to involve them in the past and now this may be a real possibility.
- If AI-Anon Family Groups Which Meet Electronically (AFGWME) petition to join a District in a 'Mixed District Model,' it may become too full to manage with existing resources. District meetings could become very lengthy and service positions overburdened. We need to establish some guidelines for outside or new groups wanting to join our Area and Districts so that adding these groups would enhance our service, not dilute it (big one!)

- Al-Anon Family Groups Which Meet Electronically (AFGWME) could be placed by Group Records into Districts or have options of the WSO or a BC/Yukon Virtual District. We need guidelines as to what criteria to use for accepting/redistributing electronic meetings in our Area structure.
- Perhaps, if the BC/Yukon Area attracts enough Al-Anon Family Groups Which Meet Electronically (AFGWME) joining Districts, there could then be a vote to move forward 'organically with the creation of a new BC/Yukon Virtual District having groups with Trusted Servants and a service structure in place.
- It was also noted, and all agreed, that if a group does not fit into a District somehow or decides to switch out of a District for some reason, a BC/Yukon Virtual District could be their 'harbour' to go to. In fact, there is the possibility that an established BC/Yukon Virtual
- Area District could eventually become larger than the BC Yukon Area itself.
- It was noted that creating a new BC/Yukon Virtual District creates a need for more service positions where some are still unfilled at this time.

Cons

- The process of integrating the old into the new current reality is complex and may be difficult to explain to Al-Anon members. It also requires a Task Force for new Policy and Procedure guidelines.
- Personal connections at in-person meetings and events feel stronger than at electronic meetings (WSO Guideline S60). Also, in many cases there tends to be more organized fellowship opportunities and better accessibility to Conference Approved Literature.

a. What are the ethical implications of our choices? In other words, will our decision be consistent with our spiritual principles?

- If we decide to act, will it be the 'right' thing to do?

- By opening our Districts and our Area to AFGWMEs, we encourage and provide opportunities for members to grow the spiritual aims of diversity, participation, equality, and tolerance and we are leading this initiative by example (Tradition 11 and Concept 4).
- Change can be a fearful experience. Could it be possible that groups would like to keep their service structure the same, as much as possible?
- Will our decision help us fulfill our primary purpose?
- If we vote YES to allow AI-Anon Family Groups which meet electronically (AFGWME) into our BC/Yukon service structure, no AI-Anon Family Group will be left behind. We are fulfilling our primary purpose to help families and friends of alcoholics (Tradition 5).
- All options for participation will be available and members will be heard as equals on all levels of service. We are making the choices of today's world available to help and aid recovery in our fellowship.

What do we wish we knew, but don't?

- Numbers and demographics of existing groups may change. Will there be competition, resulting in a group being 'diverted by money, property, and or prestige?' (Tradition 6). Instead, can there be Unity?
- How can we create abundant thinking to create guidelines, such as AI-Anon Family Groups Which Meet Electronically (AFGWME) inventory tools for group health assessment, preventing dominance as an obstacle for success in AI-Anon, when only a few members have the capacity to host a meeting, operate the screen, or share functions? There could be a problem when a member takes over and controls everything.
- Will members be able to trust their Higher Power and BC/Yukon Area leaders to support the policies and procedures of this mandate?
- Will hybrid Area, District, and Group meetings meet the needs of our fellowship and preserve the integrity of the spiritual nature of our program? Or will two 'classes' of AI-Anon members possibly be created?

- How do we create suggestions for adherence to our Traditions for groups that have not experienced the model of a 'live' service structure, meeting formats, and the understanding of appropriate use of Conference Approved Literature?
- How do we put tools in place that prevent technical challenges; that address safety concerns, anonymity issues, electronic crosstalk, distraction on other screens, newcomer issues, newcomer access to literature, literature purchasing, preventing online copying of Conference Approved Literature?
- We do not know how electronic members from outside the US, Canada, Bermuda, and Puerto Rico will participate in service. Also, we may need to be clear on the geographical boundaries of the members residing that are serving the group as Group Representatives or Alternate Group Representatives or any other service position that may extend beyond the group service structure.

We still do not know yet what will happen with Covid 19.

With gratitude in Al-Anon Service:

Kate S., Lothar S., Lynn B., Mavis H., Nancy M.

Delegate's Message

Greetings my Al-Anon, Alateen Friends,

As your delegate I have been busy with Zoom meetings, getting acquainted with other Delegates and learning about what to expect at World Service Conference which takes place in the last week in April.

So far, it is still planned for a in person conference in New York. We have been asked to not book our airfare yet as with Covid things might change, but it's all a go on my end. I have the time off booked, I have spotted a direct flight from Vancouver to New York, all my Covid shots are up to date so on your behalf I can cross the border both leaving Canada and coming back. I'm ready, willing, and waiting.

Conference members were asked to serve on either Task Forces or Committees, and I have been appointed to the Public Outreach Committee, and my first meeting will be this weekend. I'll take notes and fill you in later.

In getting ready for Conference, I have been assigned to a Trustee at Large and a Mentor to reach out to and help prepare to guide me through the conference. Just like in all of AI-Anon and Alateen service work, we are never alone.

Your trusted servant and Delegate,
Owen H.,
BC/Yukon Area Delegate
delegate@bcyukon-al-anon.org

2021 Membership Survey

The 2021 Membership Survey results will be posted on al-anon.org on Monday, and members will be able to quickly access it by visiting al-anon.org/surveyresults

Alternate Delegate

Hello BC/Yukon AI-Anon Family Group members,

I attended the Officers and Coordinators meeting in Nanaimo at the end of January, face-to-face along with some in hybrid attendance. Despite a few technical glitches, we accomplished much business as well as planning the Area World Service Committee Meeting (AWSCM) agenda.

I am excited for the **AWSCM; May 27-29**, where we will be meeting face-to-face. For me, there is a part of the fellowship in person that can't be experienced online. Members, I encourage you to talk to your group members about sending your District Representative or other alternate member to attend in person. AWSCM will also be available in hybrid for those who are unable to attend physically. We are an all-inclusive fellowship, and the greatest number depends on unity.

District Representatives (DRs) please keep watch for emails and the April Bulletin for the location details and any background discussion items regarding the agenda. If your District is unable to have someone attend in person, why not make a District event out of it? Secure a meeting place with strong Wi-Fi and invite members to attend via Zoom. Everyone is welcome; all BC/Yukon Area members are invited to attend. There will be information and a Zoom link in the upcoming Bulletin. Whichever way you plan to attend, in person or online, being a part of AI-Anon as whole is not only important, but most of all fun!

Prior to AWSCM, our newly elected Delegate Owen H. will be attending the 62nd Annual World Service Conference (WSC) in Tarrytown, New York. As part of his duties as Delegate, Owen plans to take along notes containing the messages, requests, questions, and votes of BC/Yukon

AFG members discussed at Assembly in September in an envelope and share them at the WSC to represent our voice. This is “*carrying the envelope*.” While there he will listen to presentations and participate in discussions on various topics and issues regarding the worldwide fellowship of Al-Anon that we the members of BC/Yukon are a part of. Owen will return with the background information from all the topics and present a Delegate’s Report that he will share at both the AWSCM in May and the Area Assembly in September. This allows an opportunity for all members of BC/Yukon to hear the report and to be informed about the big picture of worldwide Al-Anon.

District Representatives (DRs) will in turn report to the Group Representatives (GRs) at the district level and then the GRs will share the report with their group members. The members will discuss the report, give the GRs their feedback, and express their voice in the form of a group conscience. The GRs or their alternate will then attend Assembly in September, well informed with feedback from their group members. The Assembly Chair conducts the business meeting, where all the voices and votes are collated. The Delegate listens and notes the many thoughts, voices, and votes (group conscience) of the BC/Yukon members and repacks the pages into “the envelope.” The Delegate then returns to the WSC which is held every April; the process is repeated, and the links of service completed - a full circle thus the term “link.” The Delegate is a very important link in carrying “the envelope” that delivers the group conscience. To do this, the Delegate must travel for long hours, usually taking a full day. After arriving at the WSC, he participates in six days of agendas full of various sessions and topics, committee reports, and voting. He represents us, as our trusted Delegate to convey our voices in the pages he unpacks from the envelope. “Unpack the Envelope” Are you starting to see a common theme/tool here? The “envelope” represents the voice, the vote in the links of service.

As I shared in my initial Bulletin entry in January, my goal in serving as your Alternate Delegate is to help strengthen the links of service and directly support the DRs and GRs as I do this. The “envelope” is the analogy tool I plan use to describe each of us in the links of service. You will see more posts on “unpacking the envelope” in future Bulletins.

I would like to offer you an avenue to show appreciation, to encourage, and to acknowledge the hard work, commitment and sacrifice of time away from family and work that our Delegate commits to attend WSC on our behalf. You can do this, in the form of a card or note by mail to our Delegate’s home address, posted below prior to April 22nd. Owen can pack it in his bag and take it with him and read it while he’s in Tarrytown, New York. You can even put a note on the envelope to open on a particular day (April 25th to May 1st) if you choose. If your note arrives at his home address after he leaves, it will welcome him on his return.

Send mail to:

Owen Hughes
607 – 8 Laguna Court
New Westminster, BC
V3M 6M6
or e-mail delegate@bcyukon-al-anon.org

(no reference to Al-Anon) *please note in this case using a surname in a report when the members consents are okay because this Bulletin is on the internet, but access is by passcode

As your Area Forum Coordinator, I will close with some *tidbits* of our **AI-Anon Three Legacies** from the March 2017 *Forum*:

Step 3: Trusting my Higher Power for 'my care package' *"What do I trust my HP to do for me I ask myself?" ... "I soon saw that I, too, was looking to God for 'my own care package'...that turning over my will and my life achieves an awareness that God cares. I matter to God. What happens to me matters to something greater than myself. How does God manifest caring for me? Through Other People. Today members love me in their own special way. I trust my HP that letting others care for me is far more powerful than what I alone can do for myself"*

Tradition 3: We all share the same Story. *"I did not know at the beginning that these were my teachers." (ref AFG members) "A few things I've learned instead of isolating, AI-Anon asked me to identify, to set aside all my prejudices, and to listen. I am most humbly grateful for all of my teachers."*

Concept 3: Doing my part but also trusting others *"Good management seldom means the full exercise of ultimate rights" (p,185 SM) This means there is a place between 'all' and 'nothing' when it comes to exercising my authority. I do my part, but I also trust others."*

Together we learn in AI-Anon,
Nancy M., Alternate Delegate
altdelegate@bcyukon-al-anon.org

Group Records

Hello AI-Anon Family,

I have been enjoying this new opportunity for AI-Anon service as your BC/Yukon Group Records Coordinator. Please remember to include your District #, Group Name and Group ID # when sending changes to grouprecords@bcyukon-al-anon.org. I will be checking emails on Wednesdays and Sundays.

Love in service,
Sarah O.
BC/Yukon Group Records Coordinator
grouprecords@bcyukon-al-anon.org
Your "One Stop Shop" for Group Information

Treasurer

Hello to my AI-Anon friends,

We are pleased to announce that we have a new BC Yukon Area bank account and can now accept contributions using e-transfer. Members can still send contributions by cheque and this additional service will be useful for members who prefer electronic transfers. Please follow the directions below to ensure your contributions are correctly allocated to your group.

Your officers and coordinators have been hard at work preparing for upcoming opportunities to participate in Area World Service Committee Meeting (AWSCM) in May either in person or on zoom. To that end, we have purchased the basic equipment needed for conducting a hybrid meeting – with a mix of in-person and online participants. We hope to have everything in place to ensure all participants can fully hear and see all presentations and discussions. We encourage those who can attend in person to do so. Meeting in person allows for a greater degree of fellowship. This can be a huge benefit to members who want to connect and learn from other members both during the meeting and informal discussions throughout the weekend. However, for a variety of reasons, some members may find it necessary to attend online. It is our intention that all online members will be able to participate fully in the meeting agenda on Friday night and all-day Saturday. Please encourage your District Representatives and other interested members to join us in whatever way works best. We are particularly interested in seeing DRs from regions of our Area that are not always represented. We would really like to meet and welcome members from Northern BC, Yukon, Kootenays and Peace River Region!

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to any officer or coordinator.

With gratitude,
Janis A, Area Treasurer
treasurer@bcyukon-al-anon.org

Contributions to BC Yukon Area

By cheque: Payable to “BC Yukon Area Assembly”

Mail to the current treasurer using contribution form (in Feb Bulletin or on website)
Janis Armit (no reference to AI-Anon please)

27111, 0 Avenue – Unit #3

Langley, BC V4W 2S9

Receipts can be sent by e-mail if an email address included

By e-transfer: BC Yukon Area Assembly treasurer@bcyukon-al-anon.org

If you need to enter a security question, make the answer Tradition7 (no space)
In the message, **please note your district # or city, and group name**
(If you miss the message, please send a follow up email with that information)
Your receipt for e-transfers will be the email confirming accepted deposit

Literature Coordinator

Hello everyone,

I was delighted to attend my first Officers and Coordinators meeting via Zoom on Saturday, January 29th, 2022. Along with other new and interesting information that I heard at the meeting was a report from our Central Services Office Committee Chairperson, Lynne G. Lynne G. reported that the most popular book sold through the literature distribution center in Burnaby last year was Paths to Recovery.

Paths to Recovery (B24) is a 354-page, hard covered book published by WSO in August 1997. There is also a workbook (P93) available for group or individual study. The book deals with all Three Legacies; the Steps, the Traditions, and the Concepts. Each chapter ends with a series of questions designed to help the reader “work” the principles just reviewed.

For example, on Page 135 the principle is explained followed by Members Share Experience, Strength and Hope. Tradition One – Our common welfare should come first; personal progress for the greatest number depends upon unity. “Remembering our common welfare helps us learn how to use our meeting effectively. What is “common welfare”? For AI-Anon members it means familiarity with our primary purpose – to help families and friends of alcoholics. It means recovery, sharing at meetings, personal growth, participating in worldwide fellowship, and understanding a common problem – alcoholism.”

This book is useful to both newcomers and for seasoned members who want to gain a deeper understanding of the program. The Forum Magazine – Conference Approved Literature (CAL) Corner Topics: This department is featured each month in The Forum magazine. It includes members' sharing's on how a particular piece of our literature has enhanced their recovery.

April's topic is on Opening Our Hearts, Transforming Our Losses (B-29).

Happy reading,

Audrey E.

BC/Yukon AI-Anon Literature Coordinator

literature@bcyukon-alanon.org

Service Manual Update

The **2022-2025 AI-Anon/Alateen Service Manual version one** (1) [P-24/27] will be available electronically in English, French, and Spanish at al-anon.org this April.

Every AI-Anon and Alateen member is encouraged to actively use and study this *Manual*. It gives a clear and concise picture of the AI-Anon fellowship, its purpose and functions, and how it helps us to resolve group problems and maintain unity." [2018-2021 AI-Anon/Alateen Service Manual version two (2), page one]

Updates to the *Manual* will be noted with the use of vertical lines in the outer margins.

The printed version will follow in late summer.

Suzanne Martin, Associate Director- World Service Office

Opening Our Hearts, Transforming Our Losses (B-29) Now an e-Book

Grief and loss affect every aspect of living with or having lived with alcoholism. In *Opening Our Hearts, Transforming Our Losses (B-29)*, members share how they have learned to acknowledge and accept these losses with the help of Al-Anon Family Groups. *Opening Our Hearts, Transforming Our Losses* can now be purchased in softcover or as an e-book. And more exciting news: the audiobook is coming soon. Visit the Al-Anon online store for pricing and links to e-book vendors.

Alateen

Dear Al-Anon and Alateen members,

Due to the limited number of sharing's received so far from Alateen members for the new Just for Tonight Alateen Bookmark, the deadline of **December 31, 2021, has been extended to March 31, 2022**. The new deadline has been added to the Online Sharing Form and the writing guideline found at: al-anon.org/for-members/members-resources/literature/...

Because the previous deadline is in the latest *Alateen Talk* newsletter, which is currently in the mail to all subscribers, please let members in your Area know of this extended deadline and that the Literature Committee still needs sharing's from Alateen members for the bookmark.

In addition to submitting sharing's online at: al-anon.org/for-members/members-resources/literature/..., Alateen members can email sharing's to wso@al-anon.org (with "Alateen Just for Tonight" in the subject line), or mail to AFG, Inc., 1600 Corporate Landing Parkway, Virginia Beach, VA 23454-5617, Attn: "Alateen Just for Tonight."

Love In Service,
Michelle W.
BC/Yukon Area Alateen Coordinator
alateen@bcyukon-al-anon.org

Public Outreach

Hello everyone,

I'm hoping when you receive this bulletin Spring will be sprung or close to it. We had a successful first meeting of Public Outreach and have new ideas for reaching out to the public and out groups.

I am currently doing a Public Outreach Power Point that Districts will receive and can then send on to the Groups. I hope to have it done by the next bulletin for April.

Also, we are reaching out to institutions and jails, prisons as to what we can do for those who do not have access to outside meetings.

We have a great group of individuals on the Committee that meets once per month Saturday morning at 10:30 a.m. and the next meeting will be March 19th. Please join us we'd love to hear your ideas and share our ideas with you.

Hugs In Service,
Gail S.
BC/Yukon Public Outreach Coordinator
publicoutreach@bc yukon-al-anon.org

Central Service Office

Hello Al-Anon members,

Need to know information from last bulletin.

The Officers, Co-Ordinator's, and Liaisons of BC/Yukon Area World Service Committee met since the last Bulletin some in person in Nanaimo and the rest by Zoom. The chair of Central Services Office fills a Liaison position in this meeting to dialogue on matters affecting our program of recovery, some which come from World Service Office and some from the members. The meeting was also attended by the present Delegate (term started Jan 2022 for three years) and the past Delegate

We celebrated the filling of positions except for Archives Co-Ordinator and got to know each other a little better and made decisions on the agenda items. I know there will be lots of information from the Officers and Co-Ordinator's in this bulletin, they are an enthusiastic service panel I am honored to serve with.

I just have to say, there is so much unconditional love in Al-Anon, not only from our Higher Power but from each other. I have been reading Chapter 14 titled "Service" in "How Al-Anon Works" which helped me to see some of the ways volunteering for service can be satisfying in my recovery and the possibilities for satisfaction in your recovery. "Together we can make it" Alateen slogan.

Back at the Office:

Director and Volunteer Judy K. and Office Manger Cynthia Y. are busy collecting the "History of Groups" information, hopefully you have received and are finding a way to complete the information.

We will have had our Office Committee Meeting and we hope an alternate Group Representative or any representation from your Group attended. These quarterly meetings are held on the third Sunday of the month at 11:00 am. We are now using the platform ring Central Services, and you will receive the sign-in by email if you are a member of the Society or call the office for it. Come and attend and you will link your Group to the services of your Literature Depot and Information Centre: Central Services Office.

Next meeting **May 15, 2022**, but please come and visit us before then.

Yours in service,

Lynne G. Chair Central Services Office phone: 604-688-1716

Al-Anon Central Services Society

afgcentraloffice@gmail.com

<http://afgcentraloffice.blogspot.ca>

AL-ANON CENTRAL SERVICES SUBMISSIONS FOR FEBRUARY, 2022 BULLETIN

AL-ANON CENTRAL SERVICES JANUARY 2022

CONTRIBUTIONS, CALLS, VISITS, EMAILS

Contributions - \$891.84

Calls 40— Visit 21 — Email Mtg Info – 27 –

Email Literature Info. - 16

ABBOTSFORD FRIDAY MORNING, BURNABY SOUTH MONDAY NIGHT,
COQUITLAM SERENITY SATURDAY, NORTH SHORE STEPS TO SERENITY,
NORTH SHORE SERENITY BY THE SEA, NORTH SHORE COMFORT IN THE COVE,
WHITE ROCK NEW BEGINNINGS, PERSONAL (7)

Event

Save the date: District 17, Victoria is hosting a **Zoom workshop** on **Saturday, April 30**.
Invitation & details will be in the April Bulletin,
contact bcyukon.alanon.dr17@gmail.com or

Officers and Coordinators 2021

Shannon P	chair@bcyukon-al-anon.org	Audrey E	literature@bcyukon-al-anon.org
Owen H	delegate@bcyukon-al-anon.org	Michelle W:	alateen@bcyukon-al-anon.org
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		Ernie W.	equipment@bcyukon-al-anon.org

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Email your submission to the bulletin in plain text or "pdf" format by the **15th of each month** to bulletin@bcyukon-al-anon.org or follow the links on the website. You can also submit to both the website and the Bulletin from the link on the "Events" page on the website www.bcyukon-al-anon.org.

1. An electronic version of the BC/Yukon Area Bulletin is available free online at www.bcyukon-al-anon.org in the "**Members**" section. Username "**member**", password "**Area81**".
2. **Sign up for automatic monthly email delivery** by visiting <https://www.bcyukon-al-anon.org/bc-yukon-bulletin/>

Paper Copies of the Bulletin:

Payment information: Make the cheque for \$24.00 out to "**BC/Yukon Area Assembly**" and mail to Jean Hopley (no reference to Al-Anon), 7213 Aldeen Rd., Prince George, B.C. V2N 5P7.