

## Area Chair's Report

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We're on the web!

Website Access:  
[www.bcyukon-al-anon.org](http://www.bcyukon-al-anon.org)

To access "members"  
pages:

Username: **member**

Password: **Area81**

**(all one word)**

Hello Al-Anon Friends,

The Area Officers and Coordinators are now planning for our Area World Service Committee Meeting (AWSCM) which will take place over ZOOM on **May 28<sup>th</sup> eve and May 29<sup>th</sup> all day**. The AWSCM is where all the District Representatives from the BC Yukon Area come together to discuss and decide what business should come forward to Assembly for the Group Representatives to vote on.

Officers and Coordinators are required to attend both AWSCM and Assembly. The District Representatives are required as part of their duties to attend AWSCM, and the Group Representatives are required to attend Assembly usually in September; but all members are encouraged and welcome to attend both. The ZOOM link for the AWSCM will be sent out in the May Bulletin as will the Agenda.

I am submitting some background information on the topics we will be discussing at AWSCM in this Bulletin. This information is for all members to read. **You will need the information in both the April and May Bulletins for the meeting.** Please forward your thoughts and ideas to your District Representatives so they can bring them to the AWSCM for discussion. It is important for everyone to be informed as Al-Anon decisions are based on Knowledge-Based Decision Making (KBDM). Everyone has a voice in Al-Anon!!

If there are any new topics that you would like to bring forward, please let me know ASAP so that the information can be sent out to everyone ahead of time if possible.

We need to discuss whether there is a need in BC/Yukon for an Alateen Coordinator **and** an Area Alateen Process Person (AAPP) position. When this question came up, we had 48 Al-Anon Members In Alateen Service (AMIAS) and 6 Alateen groups with only 3 Alateens attending. Since that time the numbers have gone down even further, and at last

count there were a potential of 32 AMIAS and only one ZOOM Alateen group with few participants. Michelle W. has been managing both positions since that time. It seems there is a not a need for these two positions that have already been amalgamated; however, we need to have a discussion at Assembly and decide whether to bring forward a motion to combine the two positions.

There will be a Task Force Report prepared by Michelle W. and Ally G. using the KDBM questions for the May Bulletin regarding the Alateen question.

*Please see pages 3, 7-11 for the Motions and background information that will be up for discussion.*

**Schedule of Elections:** We have several positions coming up at the end of 2021. Coordinator positions are appointed by the Chairman after consultation with Delegate and Alternate Delegate. Officer positions are elected by the Group Representatives at Assembly. All elected and appointed positions are for a term of three years. Resumes are on the BC/Yukon AI-Anon Website.

**Upcoming Coordinator positions for Jan. 2022** are: **Alateen Coordinator** (depending on outcome of discussions at Assembly), **Group Records Coordinator**, **Public Outreach Coordinator**. The Archives position remains unfilled.

**Upcoming Officer positions are:** **Delegate and Alternate Delegate.**

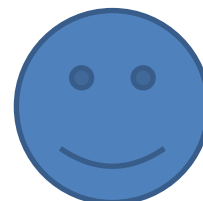
We will be asking for expressions of interest at AWSCM and Assembly (and anytime in between!)

We invite our Higher Power to guide us and follow our spiritual principles in our discussions in AI-Anon. We use our Traditions and Concepts and Knowledge Based Decision Making to help us with our decisions. And finally, we always Presume Goodwill.

Before I sign off, I want to let you know that Lynn B., our wonderful and dedicated Delegate, will be representing all of us from the BC/Yukon Area at the World Service Conference from **April 12<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>**. Instead of heading to the World Service Office and joining all the other members of the Conference in Virginia Beach, she will be hard at work in front of her computer screen at her home in Courtenay. Imagine 5 days of doing that!!

I know you all feel the same disappointment for her that I do, especially as she could not attend last year either. It is a real highlight of the Delegate's job to be able to meet with the other Delegates and WSC members and visit Bill and Lois W's home where our program began. Being the graceful person that I know she is, she would never complain; but if anyone feels so inclined, I think she just might feel a little better about it if she heard some encouraging words from us. You can send her a 'love note' or a few lines of support to **117-2828 Bristol Way, Courtenay BC V9N 0C5**. I am sure she would appreciate hearing from you!!

Love in Service,  
Shannon P  
BC/Yukon Area Chair  
[chair@bcyukon-al-anon.org](mailto:chair@bcyukon-al-anon.org)



## **Background Information on Motions for Discussion**

- **2019 Motion PO Move that the 2016 trial position of Public Outreach Institutions Coordinator be continued for 1 year. The BC/Yukon Officers will appoint a member to that position. Carried**

That motion overrode the **2016 Motion:** Move to create a new Area position, Public Outreach Institutions Coordinator, for three-year trial basis.

- **2019 Motion PO Move that the BC/Yukon Area Chair convene a task force to create an Area Strategic Plan to define parameters for Public Outreach service in BC/Yukon. Carried**

These **two 2019 Motions regarding Public Outreach and Public Outreach Institutions** and the prepared attached **Task Force Report** are being included on this year's agenda due to the decision to not have a virtual AWSCM last year. Going forward from the time that motion was made, both positions had been vacant (for 2 years) until last month when Gail S. was appointed to fill the remaining year of the term. It does not appear that we need to have two positions when we are having difficulty filling even one.

- **2021 Motion Webmaster That BC/Yukon create a Webmaster position as a one-year trial starting Jan. 1, 2021 and that it be a paid position of not more than \$80/month (960/yr.) Passed unanimously.**

The following explanation was submitted by the Chair in the January 2021 Bulletin:

Over the years advances in technology have impacted the level and type of website service provided to the BC/Yukon Area. We have been fortunate to benefit from the skills and talents of Annette P., past Website Coordinator, who upgraded and rebuilt BC/Yukon Area's website to provide improved and excellent technical website service to our members. Annette's three-year term ended December 31, 2019; and despite advertising, promoting, asking and sponsoring a virtual "Jump Into Service" workshop, a suitable Website Coordinator candidate has not been found nor come forward. In the meantime, we are grateful that Annette has generously continued to provide support during the past year; but we are also mindful of our principle of rotation of service.

To address this pressing situation, the Officers held a special meeting via Zoom on December 5<sup>th</sup>. Using our Traditions and Concepts in our discussion and considering unity and our elected roles as trusted servants, we held a group conscience with our collective Higher Power. A motion was made that we create a second website position on a one-year trial basis starting January 1, 2021, to deal with the strictly technical aspects of managing a website, namely a Webmaster.

The current Website Coordinator position Job Description has been edited to reflect the new duties and responsibilities and a Webmaster Job Description has been written to outline the duties and responsibilities of the new position. Annette has agreed to assume the position of Webmaster on a one-year trial basis and Patty T. has been assigned the Website Coordinator position for the two years remaining in the term (ending December 31, 2022).

Other Areas have also gone this route of a paid Webmaster position for the same reasons, and we chose an amount that seemed currently reasonable and fair, and that the Area could afford.

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## Delegate's Message

Dear Al-Anon/Alateen Family,

Happy Spring everyone! The days are seeming brighter not only in more daylight hours but also in terms of more optimism as we move closer to the waning of the pandemic. I have lots to share with you this month, especially as I approach my third and last World Service Conference.

### **Canada West Regional Trustee - Opportunity to Serve as Trustee of the Board**

Are you or do you know of someone who has been an active member of Al-Anon Family Groups for at least ten years, has served above the group level, has a passion for the Al-Anon program, and meets other requirements found at (<https://al-anon.org/for-members/board-of-trustees/wso-volunteers/>)? If so, perhaps this invitation can serve as a nudge from your Higher Power to apply or encourage someone else to do the same. Specifically, in 2021, the Board is seeking applicants for a Regional Trustee from Canada West (that includes BC, Alberta, and Saskatchewan) to serve a two-year term following a one-year appointment in 2021. Resumes for WSO level Volunteer positions can be found through the same link to [www.al-anon.org](http://www.al-anon.org). If you or a potential candidate is curious about the selection process for Trustees, please follow the link above to read or watch the timeline video.

**Applicants must submit resumes to the Delegate before May 20** for approval at the Area World Service Committee Meeting to be held via Zoom May 28 & 29, 2021. Please contact me if you have further questions or would like more information.

### **Highlights from the Chairman of the Board Letter – January 2021**

Perhaps the biggest news continues to be that 2020 was an unprecedented year where contributions exceeded literature sales. Members overwhelmingly supported and saved the fellowship from a \$1.6 million deficit. Recognizing the huge increase in electronic meetings, the Electronic Meeting Work Group is continuing to work on ways to incorporate electronic meetings as groups into the service structure. I look forward to reporting recommended changes after World Service Conference. For full details the complete Chairman of the Board Letter and updates from the Conference Leadership Team, Policy Committee and Treasurer are posted on the BC/Yukon website in the Delegate's section (login information on page 1 of this Bulletin).

### **New Daily Reader**

I feel privileged to have been appointed to the Literature Committee for another year where I will continue to witness the process in developing Al-Anon's New Daily Reader, the first daily reader in 21 years! The stage we are at now is really interesting because all sharings have been reviewed and rated by all committee members, and the editor has assembled the sharings by date into a draft copy that is currently being read confidentially by all committee members. With the committee's approval by May 1, the book will proceed to the next stages with the goal of publication in time for the 2023 Al-Anon Convention in Albuquerque, NM. I can't reveal any details about the content; but I can enthusiastically say that it is filled with amazing shares, and I can't wait for the finished product.

### **World Service Conference, April 12-16**

I will be attending Conference virtually again this year and expect to be fully engaged in Al-Anon business for the week. Many documents for reading and feedback have already appeared in my inbox, and I have been doing my best to keep up with the flow. The Conference agenda is full but will

be enjoyable and very interesting. As your Delegate I aim:

- To bring the Area's viewpoint on matters affecting the entire fellowship to the Conference and to return with a broader perspective of AI-Anon worldwide.
- To be the bridge of understanding that links the groups in the Area with world AI-Anon to help them continue to function in unity.
- To be the servant of AI-Anon as a whole." (*AI-Anon/Alateen Service Manual 2018-2021*, page 147)

I am grateful for your prayers of support; and please know that I will be thinking of you all, especially while I prepare "Daily Digest" summaries at the end of each day of Conference that I will email to all DRs for sharing with groups. When I think of this as my last year as your Delegate, my heart is filled with gratitude for your trust in me.

With gratitude in service,

Lynn B., BC/Yukon Area Delegate

[delegate@bcyukon-al-anon.org](mailto:delegate@bcyukon-al-anon.org)

*Moving Forward with Unity, Courage and Perseverance*



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## Alternate Delegate

Hello AI-Anon Friends,

I hope that as you read this you are well and healthy; that the thoughts of spring just around the corner are giving you some hope and joy and something lovely to look forward to.

Hope is the concept we talk about in AI-Anon – something we share – our experience, strength, and hope. We find it mentioned in many pieces of our literature and it is the topic of meetings and a foundation of sponsorship. Hope is one of the spiritual principles of our program.

And here we are – easing into the second year of a global pandemic. Is there hope that we will get back to normal and be able to meet face to face again; hope that our large Area events will one day happen again, and we can share a hug and lunch together?

In our suggested welcome we read. "In AI-Anon we discover that no situation is really hopeless." So, I'm holding onto that – the global situation, which has affected each of us personally, is not hopeless.

There are two things I wanted to ask of you this month:

1. Please take a moment to send our Delegate a note or card to her home to let her know we are thinking about her as she prepares to willingly spend nearly a full week attending the World Service Conference (WSC) virtually. Her address is in this Bulletin. The amount of preparation and work required to 'do service' at this level is incredible and Lynn manages it with smarts, and confidence and grace. I hope she knows how grateful we are for her service.

2. Reach out to a member you haven't seen or heard from in a while. I am hearing from members who are feeling very alone and isolated. Pick up the phone or send a card and say, "Hi, I'm

thinking about you.” Not all members have the technical skills or equipment to attend a Zoom meeting, but everyone has a phone. Share your experience, strength, and hope.

Stay well friends – you are loved.

# HOPE!

Ally G.  
Alternate Delegate  
BC/Yukon AI-Anon

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## Treasurer

Hello to my AI-Anon friends,

As I receive the contributions for our Area, it would appear there are some members who do not have current mailing information. Nancy M is still receiving cheques in her mailbox which she needs to repackage and forward in the mail to me. We all appreciate Nancy’s work as Area Treasurer and she tells us it was a great experience for her. Now, as she ‘retires’ from this service position, it would be great if we could relieve her of this responsibility.

Wouldn’t it be great if everyone read our Area Bulletin? Apparently, some members do not. For those that do read the Bulletin, could you please pass along the current Area Treasurer mailing information? The updated form is also available on the BC/Yukon Website (not everyone uses the website either).

The correct mailing address to send your Area contribution is:

Janis Armit (no need to write AI-Anon)  
27111, 0 Avenue, Unit #3  
Langley, BC V4W 2S9

To find the form on the BC/Yukon Website: <https://www.bcyukon-al-anon.org/member-resources/> Scroll down to the Financial Forms section on this page. (user name: member, password: Area81)

Of course, we also hope that you encourage your group and district members to read the Bulletin and to use our Area Website to help everyone learn and understand how our Area supports our members.

Thank you all for your contributions and ensuring your group information is complete. Our Area has a healthy balance and we will be able to afford meeting again when it is safe for us to do so.

With gratitude in service,

Janis A.  
Area Treasurer  
[treasurer@bcyukon-al-anon.org](mailto:treasurer@bcyukon-al-anon.org)

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## Public Outreach

Hello, my Al-Anon friends,

I am happy to report I had a successful first month in my role of Public Outreach Coordinator BC/Yukon. I am so grateful for those of you who reached out to me to help me with information, welcoming me and inviting me to your meetings. I am always happy to attend any of your District or Group meetings and offer encouragement to all members to reach out to others in and out of Al-Anon to offer them hope and information on our wonderful program.

My timing was great, and I was able to attend a Public Outreach WSO meeting that is held twice per year. I learned many things and met other POC's. One interesting point was that Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism will no longer be dated. In this pandemic we found ourselves with a lot of booklets dated for 2020 (which everyone decided can still be handed out). The new ones will enable us to hand them out at in any year and order abundantly without worrying we will be left with stock. I will be forwarding information from the WSO meeting and a Meeting that was held by Districts 2, 10,11,12. I would be happy to attend any of your meetings to talk about Public Outreach and hear your ideas for what you are doing to reach out and keep our connection going.

I have had many responses to the Questionnaire and will have the results of the survey by next Bulletin. In the meantime as a sneak preview we have some creative ways different individuals, groups and districts are reaching out to institutions, professionals and individuals using business cards, sending out telephone challenges and putting the 20 questions in Information Rest Stops.

Till next time, stay safe.

Hugs in Service,

Gail Schuler  
Public Outreach Coordinator BC/Yukon  
[publicoutreach@bcyukon-al-anon.org](mailto:publicoutreach@bcyukon-al-anon.org)

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### **Report from the Public Outreach Task Force**

*Submitted by Lois K., Nancy M. and Grant S.*

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#### **What is Public Outreach?**

“Public Outreach **informs** the general public through the media, professionals, facilities, and organizations about who we are, what we do, and how to get in touch with us. Our goal is to **attract** to our program those whose lives are or have been affected by someone else’s drinking, so that those who need our program can find the help and hope we offer. We also strive for name recognition and credibility as a community resource.” (G-10, “Al-Anon/Alateen Public Outreach Service”)

#### **Who is responsible for Public Outreach?**

Public Outreach includes activities of individual members, groups, Districts, Areas and the World Service Office. According to Guideline G-10 (“Al-Anon/Alateen Public Outreach Service”), Public Outreach “is a way for us, as individuals or as a group, to grow and develop in our recovery.”

Page 137 in the *Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual 2018-2021* says that an “Area Coordinator



unifies one of the Al-Anon special services for an Area”.

### **What was the task force asked to do?**

Charge: “to create an Area Strategic Plan to define parameters for Public Outreach service in BC/Yukon” (Motion #5 from BC/Yukon 2019 Assembly).

### **What have we decided to recommend?**

#### ***Recommendations:***

1. That the Area terminate the trial period for the Public Outreach Institutions Coordinator and revert to having one Public Outreach Coordinator, with a three-year term (rotation based on the existing Schedule of Elections and Appointments)
2. That the Area Officers, in consultation with the Public Outreach Coordinator, appoint a Public Outreach Committee to support the Public Outreach Coordinator (to be reassessed at the end of a three-year trial period.)
3. That the Public Outreach Coordinator job description be revised accordingly.

#### ***Format (how it works)***

The Public Outreach Coordinator would continue to fulfil the responsibilities outlined in Guideline G-38 (“Area Public Outreach Coordinator”), including: serving as a communication link between the World Service Office and the BC/Yukon Area; motivating Districts and AISs to form public outreach committees; making presentations or holding workshops at Area Assemblies; etc.

The Public Outreach Coordinator would facilitate meetings of the committee by phone or internet when needed.

The Public Outreach Committee could include past Area Officers; members new to Area service; and members from the various geographic parts of the Area.

Each committee member would serve a one-year term. Appointments could be staggered, at the discretion of the officers, to ensure continuity on the committee.

The Public Outreach Committee could provide ideas and support to the Public Outreach Coordinator. During the three-year trial period, the committee and the coordinator should have latitude to determine the role and duties of the committee based on experimentation and the people involved. As a suggested starting point, the committee could:

- help with the coordinator’s duties in the geographic part of the BC/Yukon Area where they live (e.g., working with local or District public outreach committees; making presentations or holding workshops at District events; etc.);
- help develop presentations or workshops for use at Area and District events;
- support the coordinator in determining themes or areas of focus for the coordinator’s activities.

#### ***Reasoning:***

Having one coordinator and a committee could encourage participation, generate ideas and enthusiasm, and provide better support for the Public Outreach Coordinator.



One-year terms for committee members could encourage participation and provide rotation, and could create a pool of people who might be willing to step into the Public Outreach Coordinator position in future.

Having committee members throughout the province could ensure perspectives from all regions are represented. Committee members could hold workshops in their region, but would not necessarily need to travel to Area events, thereby saving money on travel.

## **Background**

Until the mid-90's, our World Service Office structured Public Outreach under three headings: Public Information (PI), Institutions, and cooperating with the Professional community (CPC). Our World Service Office later combined the three under the heading Public Outreach (PO).

Most Areas adopted this change, including BC/Yukon in 1997, for a 2-year trial, making it permanent in 1999.

At Assembly in 2016, BC/Yukon members voted to have a 3-year trial of a Public Outreach Institutions Coordinator. Concerns at the time were, "avoiding double headed management, the cost involved, and how we can measure the effectiveness of the new position". (Thought Force Report September 2019)

This trial period would have ended on December 31, 2019, but at the 2019 Assembly it was extended for one year (to December 2020). It was also decided that the Area Chair should convene a task force to create an Area Strategic Plan to define parameters for Public Outreach service in BC/Yukon.

Guideline G-9 ("Outreach to Institutions) notes that "Public Outreach includes Outreach to the Public/Media, Outreach to Professionals, and Outreach to Institutions. Your Area and/or District may choose to combine these service areas under Public Outreach, or to maintain separate coordinators and/or committees. All those in Public Outreach are encouraged to work together to avoid duplicating efforts." Guideline G-38 ("Area Public Outreach Coordinator") adds: "However your area structure is organized, we encourage all areas to have Public Outreach or "action" committees. Many areas have incorporated such committees into their structure and have found a new level of enthusiasm and dedication to Public Outreach service."

## **How did the Task Force reach its recommendation?**

We reached the recommendation after a process of Knowledge-Based Decision Making.

The Task Force considered four options outlined in Guideline G-38 ("Area Public Outreach Coordinator"):

- A. Three Separate Public Outreach Coordinators: PI, CPC, and Institutions.
- B. One Public Outreach Coordinator and/or Public Outreach Committee
- C. One Public Outreach Coordinator and a Co-Coordinator
- D. Public Information Coordinator and a combined CPC and Institutions Coordinator

We also considered the two options from BC/Yukon's recent experience:

- E. One Public Outreach Coordinator
- F. One Public Outreach Coordinator and one Public Outreach Institutions Coordinator

## **The Knowledge-Based Decision-Making Questions:**

1. **What do we know about our membership's needs, wants and preferences that is relevant to this discussion?**

- We know that the membership spoke out at Assembly; that they want Public Outreach and find it to be essential to Al-Anon's existence and a strong fellowship.
- They asked this Task Force to examine more than just the role of liaison between WSO and Districts, and asked for a **broader** picture of what BC/Yukon wants PO to look like.
- We know that private treatment facilities (according to the recent Thought Force's findings) are not interested in having Al-Anon participation since they have their own programs.
- Members want the Area to support PO but the membership is unclear as to what that support should be.

**2. What do we know about our “capacity” (resources) and strategic position of our fellowship that is relevant to this discussion?**

- Financially we know it costs approximately \$1500 per year per Coordinator.
- We know it's a challenge finding people willing to fill service positions (as of March 2020, no one has stepped into either of the existing Public Outreach positions)
- We know that the Public Outreach Coordinators have had a difficult time getting volunteers including volunteers to go into correctional facilities
- Some past area officers have expressed a desire to continue in service work.
- We know our membership is aging, and that the number of groups and members is declining.
- We have excellent Guidelines that we can follow (G-38, G-29, G-9, G-10, G-22, G-14), as well as the *Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual* (particularly the section on Public Outreach in the Digest of Al-Anon and Alateen Policies and our Steps, Traditions and Concepts).
- We have the information provided by past Area servants to draw on, including the proposal to “Create a new coordinator position, Public Outreach –Institutions Coordinator” (*Bulletin*, April 2016) and the “Public Outreach Institutions Thought Force Report” (*Bulletin*, September 2019).
- We have BC/Yukon job descriptions for Public Outreach Coordinator and Public Outreach Institutions Coordinator posted on our website.
- We know we can use all the above to strengthen and change what is already in place.

**3. What do we know about the changes happening within our world around us, within our community and that are relevant to this discussion? (This could mean the economy, conflicts, culture, etc.)**

- People are more attached to screens and the comfort of their own homes and may reach out to friends through social media and text messages. Reaching prospective members is different than in the past when Public Service Announcements (PSAs) on television, radio and in newspapers, reached a broader audience, and when everyone used phone books.
- There are more on-line meetings, which are sometimes easier to attend, but may have no connection to WSO.
- There is a greater variety of self-help groups than there were when Al-Anon first appeared.
- Concepts of self-help and emotional self-reflection have spread into other aspects of society such as schools thereby expanding people's options and possibly making it easier to overlook the unique value of Al-Anon's approach.
- Treatment program methods are no longer limited to 12 Step programs and they are less likely to refer people to Al-Anon.

- There is more access to Employment Assistance programs, psychologists and psychiatrists.

#### **4. What are the ethical implications of our choices (pro and cons)? (How will our choice affect others?)**

Considerations in choosing among the options include:

- Cost
- Workload
- Challenge of finding members to fill service positions
- Concept 4: Participation is the key to harmony
- Concept 9: Good personal leadership at all service levels is a necessity
- Concept 10: Service responsibility is balanced by carefully defined service authority and double-headed management is avoided

#### **5. What do we wish we knew but don't? Maybe one of these answers is "What are the unintended consequences of our actions?"**

What we wish we knew:

- Whether the recommended option will be suitable for our BC/Yukon Area.
- Why we are not attracting more members of demographics that are underrepresented in our program (e.g., visible minorities, younger members, men).
- On the other hand: why we sometimes do succeed in attracting members of these demographics.

Possible unintended consequences:

- That no one comes forward and the position(s) remains vacant.

That the need to work with a committee makes the Public Outreach Coordinator position less, rather than more, attractive to potential coordinators.

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## **Group Records**

Hello BC/Yukon!

Welcome to April. As we are getting warmer weather and starting to venture out and see people from our AI-Anon family, ask yourself can a newcomer find you? Please go on the website and check out your groups contacts & meeting information and let me know if there are any changes we can make to be there for the newcomer. When emailing me please refer to your District & Group ID#.

In Service,

Jody S.  
BC/Yukon Group Records Coordinator  
Your "One Stop Shop" for Group Information

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## Literature Coordinator

Hello everyone,

Newcomers are so important and we need to get helpful information to them as soon as possible. The Area now has available electronic newcomer packets that contain all sorts of information that will be helpful to the newcomer at your meeting. This packet can be obtained from your local AI-Anon office. For Victoria please send an email to [alanonvictoria@gmail.com](mailto:alanonvictoria@gmail.com), for the Lower Mainland send it to [afgcentraloffice@gmail.com](mailto:afgcentraloffice@gmail.com) and for the Kelowna area send your email to [ldcokanagan@yahoo.ca](mailto:ldcokanagan@yahoo.ca). The WSO is also working on an electronic version of their newcomer packet (K-10). They will announce when it is available. In the meantime, newcomers can go to [al-anon.org/welcome](http://al-anon.org/welcome) and can enter their email address to receive newcomer info that way.

The New Daily Reader is also progressing nicely. Once the draft has been reviewed by the Executive Director, the book will be given a title and the look of it will be designed. The final step, which can take a year and a half, is to translate it into French and Spanish. All language versions will be released at the same time. The hope is to have it ready at the 2023 AI-Anon International Convention. This is indeed something to look forward to!

In the meantime, if you have the desire to write, check out the member blog at [al-anon.org/member-blog](http://al-anon.org/member-blog). Monthly contributions are needed on all sorts of topics such as the Steps, the Traditions, and the Concepts of Service. Send something in and make your mark!

You are encouraged to also check out *The Forum* magazine, in particular “CAL Corner”. This is an article that touches on how AI-Anon literature has impacted the lives of our members. You can read a review on a piece of literature or you can write a review yourself and send it in! Currently, they are seeking reviews on the following pieces of literature: *Hope & Understanding for Parents & Grandparents*, *AI-Anon’s Twelve Steps & Twelve Traditions*, *Living Today in Alateen*, *Discovering Choices and Opening Our Hearts*, *Transforming Our Losses*. If you have not already read these titles, they are very worthwhile and then you can share your review. The writing guideline for this can be found at [al-anon.org/pdf/CALcornerSharingRevised%202018.pdf](http://al-anon.org/pdf/CALcornerSharingRevised%202018.pdf).

Happy reading and writing!

Amy G.

[literature@bcyukon-al-anon.org](mailto:literature@bcyukon-al-anon.org)

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## Archives

### How time has been the propellant of change.

As you can see back in 2011 BC/Yukon saw the need to connect in different ways and started on a path to see **by the following Technology Thought Force Report** how we could best accomplish that. Along came the outbreak of a pandemic in 2020, and we were challenged to embrace a new way to connect. Yes, technology provided that much needed change.

## Technology Thought Force

Mandate: to discuss the use of technology to help connect Area 81 and its remote communities.

Background: At the 2011 Area 81 Assembly, it was proposed we create two thought forces: one on uses of technology and another on connecting with remote communities. Recognizing the value of using technology to connect, we amalgamated these two thought forces into one.

Team: Neil B., Owen H., Diana H.

### Questions

- How can we use technology to allow the Area to communicate with and connect the membership together? **We already are; through the Area website, emails, and Alateen online chat rooms, the membership has started to connect. We have no information if these initiatives are being used in the Northern communities.**
- Can we use technology and not alienate the membership unable/unwilling to use what is implemented? **No one is being alienated on purpose. Members need to work through these feelings with their sponsors.**
- Does the implementation affect anonymity? **For the Task Force and Assembly when discussing the implementation.**
- How much does the technology cost? **Most solutions are free or near free. Would our website coord charge more for a chat room? Besides monetary, is there any other costs (anonymity, advertisements, spam)? The Alateen chat rooms are successful and only limited by volunteers to chair the meetings.**
- Does "it" need to be real time communication (Skype vs email)? **Either works for peoples' needs.**
- Does using a third party infringe on Tradition 6 (discussed by WSO with regard to using Facebook and Twitter)? **WSO answered "no" to this as was reported at Assembly 2012.**
- Do northern BC groups access the website (would be a pre-indicator
- of successful implementation of Internet based solutions)? **The website coordinator is unable to verify the location of visitors.**
- how do we connect everyone using the technology of today and not forget to embrace the technology of yesterday and pick up the phone? **People will do what they feel comfortable doing or as the need arises. Even if we implement a chat room, members who prefer the telephone will probably still do that. Necessity is the mother of invention.**
- Can we use the Bulletin, Forum, and web to host some "how to" items to assist people using technology? **For the Task Force.**
- Suggesting a "technology" sponsor?
- Possibility of direct calling/ mailing to these remote people/groups to reduce the distance from themselves and the area? Who would do the calling; an officer/coordinator? **For the Task Force**
- Do we want to put a time frame on any decisions as a trial period? **To be decided by Assembly through the Task Force.**

Limiting factors: Not everyone has access to computers and the Internet. Not everyone can use a computer/Internet even if they have access.

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## Events

Vancouver Island Al-Anon Speakers Meeting “Say Yes to Life” **Saturday, April 17<sup>th</sup> – 9:30 am-2 pm.**

9:30 am -10 am- Chat  
10 am – 10:15 am Welcome  
10:15 am – 11 am Speaker – Rick J., Toronto  
11am – 11:15 am Sharing  
11:15 am – 11:30 Coffee Break  
11:30 am – 12:15 pm Speaker – Stephanie, Texas  
12:15 pm - 12:30 pm Sharing  
12:30 pm – 12:45 Lunch break  
12:45 pm – 1:30 pm Speaker – Gaye, Sooke  
1:30 pm – 2:00 pm Sharing and Closing

Tradition Seven will go to the World Service Office.  
**Zoom ID: 897 4410 6907 – Password - 2021041**



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## Officers and Coordinators 2021

Shannon P:	chair@bcyukon-al-anon.org	Vacant:	po_institutions@bcyukon-al-anon.org
Lynn B:	delegate@bcyukon-al-anon.org	Amy G:	literature@bcyukon-al-anon.org
Ally G:	altdelegate@bcyukon-al-anon.org	Michelle W:	<a href="mailto:aapp@bcyukon-al-anon.org">aapp@bcyukon-al-anon.org</a>
Ann A:	secretary@bcyukon-al-anon.org	Michelle W:	alateen@bcyukon-al-anon.org
Janis A:	treasurer@bcyukon-al-anon.org	Patty T:	website@bcyukon-al-anon.org
Jody S:	grouprecords@bcyukon-al-anon.org	Jean H:	bulletin@bcyukon-al-anon.org
Gail S.	publicoutreach@bcyukon-al-anon.org	Vacant:	archives@bcyukon-al-anon.org
		Annette P:	webmaster@bcyukon-al-anon.org

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1. An electronic version of the BC/Yukon Area Bulletin is available free online at [www.bcyukon-al-anon.org](http://www.bcyukon-al-anon.org) in the "**Members**" section. Username "**member**", password "**Area81**".
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**Payment information:** Make the cheque 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.

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