

December 8, 2021 Ottawa Area Intergroup Meeting

Attendance (Intergroup Board)

Position	Name	Position	Name
Chair	Harry B.	Literature	Al L.
Vice-Chair	Mary K.	Webmaster	Carolyn O.
Secretary	Charlene S.	Newsletter	Dawn-Marie M.
Treasurer	Tim W.	<i>Spring Conference</i>	Dick G. (<i>Absent</i>)
<i>TAS Coordinator</i>	<i>(Vacant)</i>	<i>Eastern Ontario Conference</i>	
12 Step Coordinator	Natalie L.		

Groups in Attendance

B-United, Barrhaven Tuesday Night, Back to Basics, Beacon Hill, Beyond Belief, By the Book, Fellowship, Live and Let Live, Morning Glory, Oasis, Parkwood Hills, Podium Hill, Queensway Carleton, Saturday Morning Westboro, Search for Serenity, Sisters of Sobriety, Spirit of Hope, [Orleans] Stepping Ahead, Stittsville 2nd Chance, Uptown, Vanier Early Birds.

Guests: Area 83 Liaison, Liaison District 54, P&P Chair

Opening and Introductions

Chair opens the meeting at 7:00pm with a moment of silence, followed by the Serenity Prayer and the reading of the 12 Traditions;

Roll Call and Voter count: 27 voters (22 group reps, 5 executive committee); 9 non-voters

November's Minutes and financial statements are tabled for approval:

Motion to approve minutes and financial statements: Michel D.

Seconded: Al L.

Motion passed by the membership.

Reports:

Chair (Harry B.): chair@ottawaaa.org

- 1) Chair thanks the membership for his opportunity to act as Vice-Chair and Chair of Ottawa Area Intergroup for the past four years;
- 2) We are in good financial standing and 7th tradition contributions have been very generous; we have hired a bookkeeper to help keep us on track;
- 3) The office remains closed to the public and general membership, though curbside pick up continues to be successful. Chair confirmed that we have not been paying for Mac Hall throughout the pandemic, but only the Office space;
- 4) One of the biggest accomplishments over the past few years is updating a Policies and Procedures document to accompany the OAIG Bylaws and to go into more detail about how Ottawa Area Intergroup functions;
- 5) Positions up for election or re-election: Chair, (which will automatically be filled by Mary K., current Vice-Chair), Newsletter Coordinator (though Dawn-Marie has only been in the position for

a year so far and could stand for re-election) Vice-Chair (since Mary K will move on to Chair position), Secretary, and 12-Step Coordinator. The TAS Coordinator position is also open, as the former Coordinator resigned. Additionally, the following positions need to be filled: Spring Conference Vice-Chair, and the 2022 Eastern Ontario Conference Chair and Vice-Chair.

a) Elections will be held in December 2021, with terms beginning in January 2022.

Guest Speaker: CFT Chair (Elaine H.): cft@ottawaaa.org and btg@ottawaaa.org

- Elaine presented the idea of re-invigorating the “Bridging the Gap” program, the goal of which connecting someone leaving a treatment centre with a member of the community who can help them navigate the AA community where they will be living.
- Considerations: We cannot divulge who has vaccinations so meeting in person would be at the volunteer’s discretion; 12-Step list is more up to date; all volunteers will be contacted to ensure they are willing to be put on both volunteer lists.

Vice-Chair (Mary K.): vicechair@ottawaaa.org

Nothing to report.

Secretary (Charlene S.): secretary@ottawaaa.org

Nothing to report.

12-Step Coordinator (Natalie L.): 12step@ottawaaa.org

- 1) Anyone who is interested in volunteering, please contact the coordinator. (Minimum of one year of sobriety is recommended). Multilingual volunteers are especially in demand.
- 2) No new volunteers in quite some time; asks members to go back to their home groups.

Literature Coordinator (Al L.): literature@ottawaaa.org

- 1) Online orders with curbside pickup continue on Saturday afternoons between 2-4pm.
- 2) Inventory has been completed and lists are up to date;
- 3) Chair reconfirmed that the office will not yet be reopening, though discussions are ongoing and frequent.

Newsletter Coordinator (Dawn-Marie M.): newsletter@ottawaaa.org

- 1) December edition is available online and features information on the rotation of Service positions.
- 2) Any member is welcome to submit articles, editorials, creative corner submissions, etc. by the 21st of the month.

Treasurer (Tim W.): treasurer@ottawaaa.org (see attached Treasurer Reports for details)

- 1) OAIG finances remain stable and the group remains comfortable financially. Prudent reserve is adequate to fulfill our financial obligations for up to a year in case it becomes necessary. Total equity of the group is up from last year. Group donations are much appreciated.

TAS Coordinator (Vacant): TAS@ottawaaa.org

- 1) *TAS is always seeking volunteers, and time commitments can be as low as three hours per month. The schedule for shifts is available online so it is simple to see where shifts still need someone to cover them. This is a good opportunity for service, especially for sponsees (minimum of one year sobriety is recommended).*
- 2) *Webmaster stresses the importance of TAS volunteers reviewing the instructions.*

Webmaster (Carolyn O.): webmaster@ottawaaa.org

- 1) Thanks the outgoing Board members for their work
- 2) Meetings: Webmaster encourages groups to create a generic email account for the group so it can be published on the ottawaaa.org website. In addition, Zoom meeting passwords should be numeric so that people dialing in are able to join. Groups that have both an online and in-person meeting will have two listings.

Spring Conference Coordinator (Dick G.):

- 1) Still searching for a Vice-Chair, requests Intergroup members let their groups know the position is available.

Committee Reports:

Policies & Procedures Committee (Clint M.): policies@ottawaaa.org

- 1) Several sections in the Policies and Procedures Manual have been updated: History, Standing Committees for the Spring and Fall Conferences. The updated manual will be distributed to members and will be voted on at the next Intergroup meeting.
- 2) An introduction to the Policies and Procedures Booklet has been written, as well as a description of the Spring and Eastern Ontario Conferences

Public Information and CP Committee: (Michel D.): cpc@ottawaaa.org

- 1) CPC-PI has created a Google Drive account so that all documents can be easily archived, updated or shared. This will be especially helpful for new committee members.
- 2) CPC-PI held elections for their two elected committee members at their November 15th meeting. Jamie B. was voted in as new Chair, and Barry D. as new Treasurer. The Event Coordinator and Secretary positions will be up for election next year.
- 3) A new Medical Clinic Initiative was launched, with packages prepared to be distributed to approximately 150 medical clinics in the city;
- 4) Michel D. will be stepping down as CPC/PI Intergroup Liaison. Any incoming or outgoing Intergroup Rep interested can attend the next meeting which will take place on Monday, 20 December at 6:30 p.m.
- 5) CPC-PI meets Mondays at 6:30 p.m. Anyone who is interested in doing service with the professional community or public information is welcome to attend. The committee can be contacted at pi@ottawaaa.org or cpc@ottawaaa.org. Zoom ID 815 4385 6025, password - PICPC.

Area 83: (James O'D): area83altdelegate@gmail.com

- 1) Upcoming Conferences and Meetings
 - a) Area Committee Meeting - January 8, 2022
<https://area83aa.org/about-area-83/area-committee-meeting-2>
 - b) Ontario Delegates Committee (ODC) - March 4-6, 2022
In person at the Holiday Inn Burlington Hotel and Conference Centre.
 - c) Eastern Canada Delegate Orientation (ECDO) - March 20, 2022
 - d) Area 83 Assembly - March 25-27, 2022
 - e) Pre Conference Agenda Sharing - March/April 2022 (dates to be announced)

- f) 72nd General Service Conference - April 23-30, 2022
- g) Eastern Canada Regional Forum - May 13-15, 2022 Charlottetown, PEI
<https://ecrf.peiaa.ca/>
- 2) News and Notes from G.S.O.
 - a) Is a quarterly news bulletin from the U.S./Canada General Service Office. This newsletter includes information about A.A. service, literature, events, sharing from groups, service committees and individual U.S./Canada A.A. members.
https://www.aa.org/newsletters/en_US/en_box459_holiday21.pdf

Nominations:

Election of OAIG Executive Committee members for 2022-2024: Vice-Chair, Secretary, 12-Step Coordinator, TAS Coordinator, Eastern Ontario Conference Chair (Clint M., Nominating Committee Lead) Article 10.03

Note: Voting will take place in accordance with the Third-Legacy Procedure (first candidate to receive ⅔ of vote will be elected)

Chair calls for anyone who wishes to stand for a position or to nominate someone to do so when we come to that position:

- 1) **Vice-Chair:** John D. nominates himself for this position. He has been involved with Hull Liberty Group for many years, and has held the positions of both Treasurer and Intergroup rep. He has 29 years of sobriety. John D. becomes the new Vice-Chair by acclamation.
- 2) **Secretary:** no nominations or volunteers for secretary; Chair asks that Intergroup Reps ask their group members to consider volunteering.
- 3) **12-Step coordinator:** Adele M. nominates herself for this position. She helped ensure that the Morning Glory group meetings transitioned smoothly to virtual, and has extensive experience chairing meetings. She has also been on a community Board in a similar coordinator role. Adele becomes the new 12-Step Coordinator by acclamation.
- 4) **TAS Coordinator:** Eric S. nominates himself for the position. His sober date is April 12, 2020, and has been involved with volunteering since. He Chairs home group meetings for Vanier Early Birds, and also volunteered both at the Ottawa Spring Conference and for the TAS. Eric S. becomes the new TAS Coordinator by acclamation.
- 5) **Newsletter Coordinator:** Dawn-Marie M. nominates herself for the position, since she took over this position mid-way through the previous coordinator's term and would like to continue. Dawn-Marie continues as the Newsletter Coordinator by acclamation.
- 6) **Vice-Chair for 2022 [Virtual] Spring Conference:** no nominations or volunteers for Vice-Chair
- 7) **Eastern Ontario [Fall] Conference Chair:** Mary K. nominates Janet C., but she declines. No one else is nominated or volunteers, so the position remains open.

Meeting closed at 8:06pm with the responsibility pledge.

Next meeting: January 12th, 2021 at 7pm

Zoom link for next meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82438786359?pwd=a3FoYVl4eXlJVkVraGtjV3VXM2hOdz09>



Ottawa Area Intergroup of Alcoholics Anonymous

Treasurer Report

November 27 , 2021

1. Cash in the Bank \$20,729.79, value of GIC's \$13,583.35.
2. Total balance is \$34,313.14.

I have not included reports this month due to emails regarding concerns about the accuracy of the reports. I will have them in the next report if they are correct. I have started updating quickbooks myself, as the bookkeeper is not doing much. He has promised me that the book inventory will be up to date by the end of December. If this doesn't happen I will be requesting a new bookkeeper.

All checks have been deposited, and I want to thank all groups and individuals for contributions.

I think we are doing great financially, and look forward to giving a more detailed report at the end of December. Any questions are welcomed.

Yours in Service,

Tim W.

Standing Committees

Spring Conference

The Ottawa Spring Conference has been an annual tradition of Alcoholics Anonymous in the National Capital Region since at least 1979. The event is hosted by the Ottawa Area Intergroup of Alcoholics Anonymous with the gracious support of A.A. groups and members across our region.

It is usually a one-day event including speakers, panels, a banquet, hospitality suite, a dance and, of course, the fellowship of other A.A. members in our community and beyond.

Planning for the conference begins many months in advance. Led by the Spring Conference chair (elected the previous year by Intergroup) and supported by a vice-chair (elected in the current year at Intergroup), a new committee is formed each year consisting of member volunteers. Positions such as treasurer, secretary, registration, hospitality, safety coordinator, ticket sales, and other positions at the pleasure of the committee are available for members to do service outside their home groups.

Policies and procedures for this event are contained in the separate document "AA Ottawa Conference Guidelines." Committees may want to also read the GSO A.A. Guidelines on Conferences, Conventions, and Roundups.

Fall Conference

The Eastern Ontario Fall Conference has been an annual tradition of Alcoholics Anonymous in the National Capital Region since at least 1951. The event is hosted by the Ottawa Area Intergroup of Alcoholics Anonymous with the gracious support of A.A. groups and members across our region.

It is usually a weekend event including speakers, panels, a banquet, hospitality suite, a dance and, of course, the fellowship of other A.A. members in our community and beyond.

Planning for the conference begins many months in advance. Led by the Fall Conference chair (elected the previous year by Intergroup) and supported by a vice-chair (elected in the current year at Intergroup), a new committee is formed each year consisting of member volunteers. Positions such as treasurer, secretary, registration, hospitality, safety coordinator, ticket sales, and other positions at the pleasure of the committee are available for members to do service outside their home groups.

Policies and procedures for this event are contained in the separate document "AA Ottawa Conference Guidelines." Committees may want to also read the GSO A.A. Guidelines on Conferences, Conventions, and Roundups.

About Ottawa Area Intergroup

History

Ottawa Area Intergroup had humble beginnings in the basement of a local member, Jimmy T., the Pool Hall Guru. His wife Ruby answered the phone installed in their basement. A sales guy from North Bay (friends with Jimmy and another AA guy) was instrumental in getting Intergroup started in Ottawa, in the early 70s.

Intergroup was first named the Central Office, maybe because of location. The first employee's name was Patricia, who ran the office at the corner of Charlotte St. and Rideau St. – it was a hole- in-the-wall room on the 5th floor above the drugstore. Later, the office moved to Bank St. near Heron Rd. in a set-back strip mall. Pat was revered. Nothing moved without her say so, *so to speak*.

She was replaced in 1984 by another employee. Since then, the office has operated on and off with an employee and has always been supported by a large number of member volunteers.

There is one member who remembers that the office was once at the corner of Carling Ave. and Bronson Ave.

It is not known when Intergroup was first moved to the Bronson Centre, but it has had an established presence there for at least 20 years. We maintain an office, staffed by volunteers, who answer the phone and sell literature.

In 1992, Intergroup was incorporated as a non-profit organization in the Province of Ontario. It is the primary point of contact in Ottawa (other than individual meetings) for those seeking help with the problem of alcoholism.