

## FINAL\_2023 November 8 - Ottawa Area Intergroup Meeting

### Opening and Introductions

Chair opened the meeting at 7:00 pm with a moment of silence, followed by the Serenity Prayer.

Reading of the 12 Traditions.

**Roll Call and Voter count:** 22 Intergroup Reps and 7 Board members.

### **Acceptance of Minutes from the Last Meeting:**

September and October Minutes: Katerina Vanier Happy Nooners, Second: Paul Webmaster. **Approved.**

**Acceptance of Current Agenda:** Eric S, Marc J.

### **Reports:**

#### Chair - John D.

- Board positions up for vote in December: Newsletter, Telephone Answering, Spring Conference, Eastern Ontario Conference co-chair
- Richelieu Centre possibility for hybrid meetings (pilot?)
- Sunday McNabb possibility
- Alkathon still looking for a location; Bronson Centre booked by other events
- Bequests, GSO limit \$1,000
- Many thanks to all the volunteers who put on the Eastern Ontario Conference

#### Website Coordinator – Paul D.

- **Report Link** <https://ottawaaa.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/NOV23WebmasterReport.pdf>
- QUESTION - AL L what is the criteria for top meetings
  - number of clicks to the meeting listing

#### Newsletter – Dawn-Marie M.

- Looking for submissions
- Continuing with the month/step theme
- Investigating Online Community Billboard
- QUESTION - Kerry O - Can we stop using OPP as a shorthand
- QUESTION - Jeff L - Can we add celebrations to the newsletter
- Don't forget to subscribe to the newsletter distribution.
  - <https://ottawaaa.org/contact-us/> or email [newsletter@ottawaaa.org](mailto:newsletter@ottawaaa.org)

#### 12 Step Coordinator – Steve R.

- 60 members on the 12 Step caller list
- 54 Calls logged by TAS, 6 12-Step follow-ups

#### Telephone Answering Service – Eric S.

- Training new volunteers ongoing

- Call for volunteers
- Many volunteer slots are available
- Groups can volunteer for a timeslot

#### Literature – Walter H.

- Total sales, approximately \$600 at Eastern Ontario Conference
- Many Group sales in person on Saturday
- QUESTION - Tom K - Is there a local supplier for monthly chips?
  - Available from US supplier only

#### Secretary - Dick G.

- Send Intergroup Rep updates to [secretary@ottawaaa.org](mailto:secretary@ottawaaa.org)
- **Attendance below**

#### Treasurer - Stephan P. absent

- **Report below**
- Group insurance enrollment
- QUESTION - Nicky - Why does Intergroup have GICs
  - Unknown - currently locked in

#### Eastern Ontario Conference – Kerri-Jane D.

- Many thanks to all the volunteers who who helped
- Tip-tap - well used
- Comedy Night a success
- 259 banquet tickets
- 461 day tickets
- 720 attendees
- \$2,775 group contributions (\$300 pending)
- \$125 individual contributions
- \$875 7th tradition
- \$1,654.87 surplus
- For next year: perhaps a new venue, outgrown the Hellenic Centre

#### Area 83 Update – Amy L.

- **Report attached**
- AA Survey <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/XZXKWG5>

#### **New Business:**

- Marc J - Can we proceed on Hybrid
  - John D - investigate pilot at Richelieu, tech support, Intergroup office not viable
  - Stephan P - proposed Intergroup strike a committee to investigate and plan, come back to Intergroup with a report
  - Jeff - Freedom Group in support of hybrid
  - Nicky - concerns about cost
  - Tom - Intergroup should invest in tech for hybrid meetings
  - Al L - how long ago was the last vote on hybrid; is there really any interest
  - Quinn - proceed with hybrid
- VOTE - 50/50 split Hybrid vs Online
- John to contact Marc, Jeff, Dan to form committee
- MOTION - Stephan P /Al L - To strike a committee to investigate the possibility of hybrid meetings

**Old Business:**

Meeting closed at 8:35PM with the Responsibility Declaration.

Next meeting: December 14, 2023, at 7:00 pm

Zoom link:

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

## Treasurer Report for OAIG – Nov. 8, 2023

As of November 8, 2023:

- Cash in Bank: \$43,072.24 (OAIG/EOC)
- GIC Investments: \$12,932.01
- PayPal/PayPal Hold: \$538.21
- Cash on Hand: \$211.00
- **Total: \$56,753.46**

Dear Intergroup Representatives and Board Members,

I extend my sincere gratitude to all groups and members for your contributions and support. Your support enables Ottawa Area Intergroup to continue our shared mission of reaching out to those alcoholics in our region who still suffer. Our financial position remains solid, and your continued contributions are much appreciated.

As of Sunday, November 5th, all available cheques and cash from the Eastern Ontario Conference, sales from literature, chips, and medallions, as well as group contributions, have been deposited. We are now awaiting our bank's October statement and our bookkeeper's reconciliation of accounts to include expenses and reimbursements as well. Expect the total above to change drastically in the next month.

**Current Balance, EOC Funds, and Prudent Reserve:** We acknowledge that the current balance appears very high. I ask for your patience as we work towards providing a precise figure at the next meeting. We are still in the process of separating OAIG and Eastern Ontario Conference funds, expenses and reimbursements. This is part of our commitment to accountability and transparency.

Kevin O. (EOC Treasurer/Vice Chair), our bookkeeper, and I are focused on a thorough reconciliation. We aim to avoid rushing and to ensure accuracy — *EASY DOES IT!* Once we

finalize everything, the numbers will be reported, and I'll be in a position to present a detailed 2024 budget and establish a proposed prudent reserve. If needed, we'll then form a committee to guide the allocation of any surplus. I had engaging conversations with many members of our fellowship at the EOC about this issue, and I know there are great ideas out there.

Stepping into this role, my aim was to align the Intergroup's funds with our prudent reserve, avoiding the retention of excess funds that could be more effectively used to support AA's mission in our community. Your trust in me to achieve this is greatly appreciated.

**September's Balance Sheet Queries:** The negative balance for "Paid Insurance" was due to an automated entry in QuickBooks, which has now been fixed by our bookkeeper. A full spending and income statement, which was also requested, will be finalized after the EOC reporting is concluded. I was hoping to have this ready for November, but it will most likely come in December as we continue to finalize EOC reports and I get/fulfill requests for reimbursements from OAIG board members who are carrying costs while we sort out our credit card and PayPal situation (see below).

**Credit Card & PayPal:** Both are still pending due to the need to update our Government of Ontario Corporate Profile. As an incorporated not-for-profit organization, this update is required to legally recognize me and our Chairperson, John D., as OAIG directors and officers who can legally sign for these services. This is underway. Continued thanks go to Paul D. (Webmaster) and Walter H. (Literature Coordinator) for bearing considerable financial burdens between reimbursements while we work to resolve this matter.

**Group Insurance Coverage:** Stacey Mandigo at Co-operators has extended the group insurance policy to any group in Eastern Ontario struggling with high premiums or lack of coverage. For specific geographical details, please contact Stacey directly with the information provided below:

Stacey Mandigo | Commercial Insurance Specialist  
Michelle & Associates Inc. | Co-operators  
480 Somerset Street West, Ottawa, ON K1R 5J8  
Tel: 613-236-0781 Fax: 613-236-3266

Reminder for Insurance: The annual premium is \$105.00 plus 8% Sales Tax, totaling \$113.40. A form detailing the registration process and costs will accompany this report.

As we close, I am deeply thankful for your steadfast commitment and support. Should you have any inquiries or require further details concerning this report or any financial matters, please do not hesitate to contact me at [treasurer@ottawaaa.org](mailto:treasurer@ottawaaa.org).

Yours in loving service,

*Stephan P.*

Treasurer, Ottawa Area Intergroup of Alcoholics Anonymous

## **Area 83, General Service-related Items: Report for November 8, 2023, Ottawa Intergroup meeting**

1. Communication from the General Service Board

**Take The AA Membership Survey!**

**Survey Closes November 26, 2023.**

Link for the Survey is here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/YNV7DJS>

### **Where does this come from?**

(from Pg 44 in 73<sup>rd</sup> Final Conference Report) as suggestions for improvement for future surveys: Design a pilot study to complete two surveys using convenience sampling, which focuses on gaining information from participants (the sample) who are “convenient” to access. These samples could be collected using the **A.A. website**, and the **A.A. Meeting Guide App**, and these are the same questions as the 2022 A.A. Membership Survey.

The goal is to examine any potential differences in data patterns across the three different collections, the traditional A.A. survey process and the two channels listed above. Ideally, collection of this type of data would follow the collection of the traditional A.A. membership survey data within 1-2 years from 2022, so that no portion becomes dated. The committee requested that the trustees’ Public Information Committee design a pilot study and that it be brought back to the 2024 Conference Committee on Public Information.

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2. The Workshops for GSRs (formerly called GSR sessions) meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 8 pm. Upcoming activities will include:

- **November 21<sup>st</sup>, “Reporting back to your group after the Assembly weekend”**
- **December 19<sup>th</sup>, “Generating Interest in Concepts- What a CONCEPT!”** How to generate interest in the aforementioned within your Groups and Districts

***These sessions are open to anyone interested in General Service.***

3. If anyone know about online or in-person meetings available in other languages, I would be grateful to hear about them. It would be good to create a list of these meeting in other languages for our friends who would be more comfortable receiving the program in a language other than English. Please let me know

([Alt.delegate@area83aa.org](mailto:Alt.delegate@area83aa.org))

**flyer for a Chinese online meeting** (link to flyer is [here](#)):

Bridge to Hope AA Meeting 希望之橋嗜酒者互誠協會

Wednesdays and Saturdays:

8pm Pacific Daylight Time (March to November) **11 pm EST**

7pm Pacific Standard Time (November to March) **10 pm EST**

Zoom ID: 289 612 772

Passcode: unity

4. The InterArea Remote Communities working Group is hosting a forum. Attached are the flyers in English, French and Spanish. The event will be interpreted in these 3 languages and ASL: It is a 3-hour virtual event, from 2-5 pm, with 9 speakers and Q&As. We hope to expand everyone's idea of what IS a Remote community. links to the Flyer: in [French](#), [English](#), [Spanish](#)
  
5. Of Interest may be the [8th Hispanic Women's Workshop](#) put on by California Areas: 06, 07, 08, 09, 93 and Area 03, Arizona.
  
6. The cutoff for Proposed Agenda Items for the 74<sup>th</sup> General Service Conference was in early September. Recently we received a final list of 117 Agenda Items. Background information for these items will be available in February 2024 and we will begin our deliberations on these items in early March. **As an Area we will have our deliberations via the PreConference Agenda Sharing sessions to take place in person on Saturday April 6<sup>th</sup>.** This will be part of the Spring Assembly weekend in Kingston: April 5-7, 2024
  
7. **Area 83's Service Information Day**, that usually is a 1-day event of Service-related workshops on the day before the Spring Assembly will take place as an ONLINE event on February 10, 2024. More information and an agenda will follow in the new year.

Groups In Attendance	8-Nov	
Voting		
Not Voting		

Group	Name	
12 & 12 @ 12		
12 & 3 Discussion		
12 Steps to Serenity		
Alta Vista 12 Step Group		
Attitude of Gratitude	Patti M	
Awakening Group		
Barrhaven Tuesday Night		
Beacon Hill	Geraldine H	
Bells Corners Big Book Discussion		
Beyond Belief Secular Group		
B-United		Barb
By the Book		
Carp Fellowship Group		
Carry the Message		
Centennial		
Chelsea Group		
Co-founders Newcomer Meeting		
Conscious Contact - 11th Step Meditation		
East End Group		
Easy Does It Group	Mark J	
Fellowship Group		
First Avenue to Recovery		
Fourth Dimension		
Freebirds		
Freedom	Jeff L	
Friday Night Chelsea Big Book		
Friendly		
From the Heart		
Gleaning the Big Book		
H.O.P.E. Group		
Hand in Hand		
Happy Hour		
Heritage	Jim M	
Hope in Recovery		

Hull Liberty		
Keep It Simple		
Labyrinth Young Peoples Group	Catherine B	
Laurier-Sandy Hill		
Live and Let Live	Dick G	
Lunch with Bill		
Manotick Gratitude		
Men's AA Newcomers Group		
Merivale Group		
Metcalfe Last Chance		
Morning Glory	Al L	
New Day		
New Day ONLINE	Randel R	
Oasis	Quinn	
One Day at a Time (Online)		
Orleans Hub		
Orleans Noon		
Osgoode Step		
Ottawa Men's Group		
Ottawa South		
Peace and Serenity	Chris M	
Pinecrest	Kerry O	
Podium/Hill Group		
Power Hour Virtual		
Queensway Carleton		
Rainbow		
Recovery on the Hill		
Remember When		
Richmond 11th Step		
Saturday Morning Big Book	David C	
Search for Serenity	Fraser	
Secular Sobriety Group		
Secular Sundays		
Serenity at Sunrise		
Share and Care	Diane L	
Share and Care Saturday		



Sisters of Sobriety		
Spirit Group		
Spirit of Hope		
Spirit of the Universe		
Step By Step		
Step Sisters	Laurie	
Stepping Ahead	Nicky	
Stittsville Second Chance		
Sunday Morning Venture Group		
Sunday Night 12 Step Meeting		
Sunday Night Big Book Study Group		
Tuesday/Friday		
Unity Group		
Vanier Early Birds	Inga	
Vanier Happy Nooners	Katerina	
Wakefield AA Awakenings		
We Can Recover		
West End Group	Tom K	
Westboro Big Book Study - Joe and Charlie	Yvonne P	
Saturday Westboro Speaker Meeting		
Women's Group		
Women in Step		
Voting Reps	21	1
<b><u>Attendance (Intergroup Board, Committee Reps, Liaisons)</u></b>		
<b>Position</b>	<b>Name</b>	
Chair	John D	
Vice-Chair	Vacant	
Secretary	Dick G	
Treasurer	Stephan P	
TAS Coordinator	Eric S	
12 Step Coordinator	Steve R	
Literature Coordinator	Walter H	
Website / Email	Paul D	

Newsletter Coordinator	Dawn-Marie M	
Voting Board Members	7	
Spring Conference Chair (2023)	Vacant	
Eastern ON Conference Chair (2023)	Kerry-Jane D	Kevin O
Intergroup Liaison D62 (2023)		
Intergroup Liaison D54 (2023)		
Ottawa Withdrawal Management Center		
Alt. Delegate Area 83 (2023)	Amy L	
Guest		
Guest		