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# THE INTER-COM

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Area 79 Public Information & Cooperation with the Professional  
Community Quarterly Newsletter for April 2019

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## What is the Inter-Com?

Inter-Com is our newsletter, by us, for us. The newsletter is for the exclusive use of A.A. members who wish to exchange information about Public Information (PI) and Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC) work within Area 79. The Inter-Com is a Quarterly publication - January, April, July and October.

It is a fantastic opportunity for Districts, specifically PI and CPC Committees, to share experience, strength and hope - new ways to reach the public and cooperate with the professional community - how and what you're doing in your district.

### Panel 69 PI & CPC DCMs

*PI Committee Districts: 8 28 43 51 62*

*CPC Committee Districts: 4 30 38 52 59*

### **Please Contact us:**

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Panel 69, BC/Yukon Area 79  
E-mail: [publicinformation@bcyukonaa.org](mailto:publicinformation@bcyukonaa.org)

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Panel 69, BC/Yukon Area 79  
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~We would love to hear from YOU~  
PI/CPC Committee news, events and  
shared experience are welcomed and  
appreciated!

## From Box 459 Spring 2013 Posthumous Anonymity

Q. "Does A.A. as a whole have a general policy about posthumous anonymity of co-founders Bill W. and Dr. Bob?"

A. "No. However, in 2001 the General Service Board approved the following policy to be used as guidance in any Public Information activity surrounding A.A.'s co-founders:

"The G.S.O. Public Information policy should maintain the anonymity of all A.A. members living or dead, including the co-founders, to the maximum extent possible.

"The Public Information desk of G.S.O. exists in relation to the general public as a source of information regarding the recovery program and Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous, not as a source of information regarding individual members of Alcoholics Anonymous, living or dead.

"To the extent that non-anonymous information concerning our co-founders exists in A.A. literature, which is already available to the general public, inquiries may be directed to that information. The Public Information desk can also provide copies of such information to the media. Additional information should not be volunteered or provided, out of respect for A.A.'s traditional principles of personal

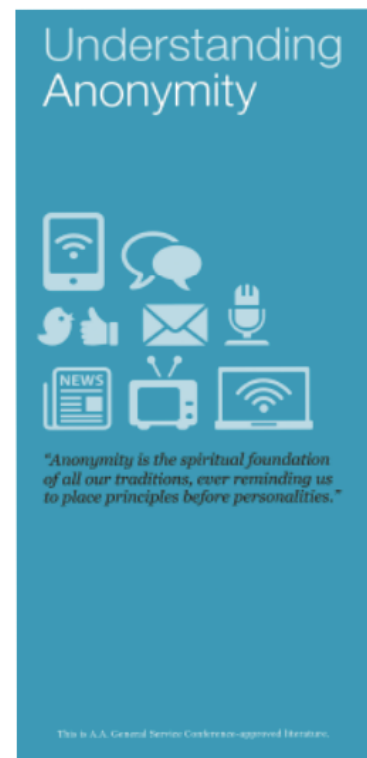
anonymity, and the honour accorded those

principles by the co-founders

themselves as members of the Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous.

"No information should be provided regarding any other A.A. members, past or present, under any circumstances."

*This pamphlet was last updated by the 61st General Service Conference in May 2011. Last fall the trustees' Public Information Committee requested that the cover be updated to better communicate to members that it contains a broad range of information on anonymity, including electronic media and social networking, as well as posthumous anonymity and how to talk about anonymity with your family members.*



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## **How co-founders Bill, Dr. Bob, and other early A.A.'s Cooperated**

Right at the beginning, A.A.'s co-founders set us good examples of how to cooperate with nonalcoholic professionals to help alcoholics.

Both the book A.A. Comes of Age and Bill's 1958 Grapevine article "Let's Be Friendly With Our Friends" are bright with the gratitude our Fellowship owes to so many nonalcoholics. They offer present-day A.A.'s practical guidelines.

With modesty and friendliness Bill and Dr. Bob tirelessly continued their efforts to be cooperative throughout their lives, building for A.A. a large reservoir of goodwill among professional men and women.

(from pg.11 of the pamphlet How A.A. Members Cooperate With Professionals)

## **Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC) is in full swing in Victoria.**

CPC for the Greater Victoria Area has been activated with Andy C and some Program friends.

One of the Committee members has agreed to contact Employee Assistance providers, a market segment for "The Hand of AA is Ready To Help" message. His research to date has yielded some contact information, and the next step is to design the presentation to these EAP professionals.

The Committee met with a very friendly response from the Regional Council of Carpenters. The next step is a conference call with Regional Representatives of that Union throughout BC and Yukon. Cathi N of Nanaimo is going to help with the solicitation of A.A.s in the various cities where the Union has a business office.

The Committee has also engaged with the Lawyers' Assistance Program for BC. They have supported BC LAP at a University of Victoria (UVic) law school presentation. And the Committee is studying the Medical and Nursing School Program used in Calgary. The Committee hopes to replicate that program at UVic Medical School and Nursing faculties.

Finally, the GVA CPC is collaborating with GVA PI and will be attending their workshop this month.

The Committee is moving forward in new and exciting ways; and is looking for willing hands and minds to help.

**Article submitted by:** Andy C., CPC Chair, Victoria



## **District 39 CPC Update**

District 39 Abbotsford held our third annual CPC luncheon for the professionals in December 2018 with over 100 in attendance. We were pleased to have in attendance our Mayor, the Speaker of the House of Parliament along with business leaders from all segments of our community. The attendee list had about half professionals with members and chairs from other districts of A.A. and Al-Anon. The luncheon included a hilarious skit, speakers and a delicious lunch. We have had requests from other districts on how we organized the luncheons and are open to more. Diana Lewis CPC GSO has requested and we have sent info on the luncheon for her to make available to incoming CPC chairs across North America.

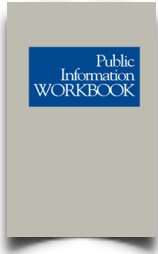
We have had requests for PSAs from the media in Abbotsford and referrals from these contacts to their other provincial offices. We look forward to contacting and working with the districts involved. Intergroup Vancouver has agreed to allow us to use their hotline number and will field and disperse all inquiries to the districts involved.

We are putting together, with the help of trusted servants, our district members along with guidance from our Area delegate, chairs and GSO a two minute statement about Alcoholic Anonymous works with professionals. This statement will be read out by a MLA later this spring at the BC Legislature about the benefits of AA. Any of our members who wish to attend we will be happy to let them know the date.

**Article submitted by:** Ranjit N, CPC Chair & Jim R CPC Media Liaison

A.A. does not provide medical advice; all medical advice and treatment should come from a qualified health care professional. The suggestions provided in the pamphlet "The A.A. Member-Medications and Other Drugs" may help A.A. members minimize the risk of relapse

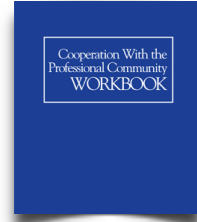
## What is Public Information work and Why Should A.A.s Do It?



Public Information (P.I.) in Alcoholics Anonymous means carrying the message of recovery to the still-suffering alcoholic by informing the general public about the A.A. program. We carry the message by getting in touch with and responding to the media, schools, industry, and other organizations which can report on the nature and purpose of A.A. and what it can do for alcoholics.

## CPC Work and Why A.A.s Do It

Cooperating with nonalcoholic professionals is an effective way to carry the message to the sick alcoholic. Such people often meet the alcoholic in places where A.A. is not present. Through professionals, alcoholics may be reached who might otherwise never find the program, or they may be reached sooner with the help of informed non-A.A.s.



**About A.A.**  
**Newsletter for Professionals**  
Visit [aa.org](http://aa.org) to subscribe to About A.A. via email.



## How To Make Submissions to the Inter-Com

We would love to hear from PI and CPC Committees with what is working, what is not working—looking for shared experience. Sharing experience, strength and hope within our Area.

It's as easy as 1, 2, 3

1. Email your story, submission, and/or question to: [publicinformation@bcyukonaa.org](mailto:publicinformation@bcyukonaa.org) or [cpc@bcyukonaa.org](mailto:cpc@bcyukonaa.org)
2. Please identify yourself by first name and last initial only, in keeping with our tradition of anonymity.
3. Please identify your contribution to the Inter-Com with district number and a brief review of where your district is within BC/Yukon and please specify if your committee is PI, CPC, or PI/CPC.

Remember that this current edition, as well as all archived editions, are now on the Public Side of our Area 79 Website under the NEWS tab for your reading pleasure.

**Disclaimer: Articles are not intended to be statements of A.A. policy, nor does publication of any article imply endorsement by either A.A. or BC/Yukon Area.**