

# **BC REGIONAL SERVICE COMMITTEE of Narcotics Anonymous Guidelines**

## ***BCRSC Vision Statement***

All of the efforts of the Narcotics Anonymous British Columbia Regional Service Committee are inspired by the primary purpose of the groups we serve. Upon this common ground we stand committed.

Our vision is that one day:

- Every addict in the region has the chance to experience our message in his or her own language and culture and find the opportunity for a new way of life;
- NA communities worldwide and the BCRSC work together in a spirit of unity and cooperation to carry our message of recovery;
- Narcotics Anonymous has universal recognition and respect as a viable program of recovery;

As our commonly held sense of the highest aspirations that set our course, our vision is our touchstone, our reference point, inspiring all that we do. Honesty, trust and goodwill are the foundation of these ideals. In all our service efforts, we rely upon the guidance of a loving Higher Power.

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## **0. PURPOSE AND SCOPE**

- 0.1 The region known as the British Columbia Region of Narcotics Anonymous shall reside within the geographical boundaries of the Province of British Columbia.
- 0.2 The purpose of the British Columbia Regional Service Committee, (hereinafter referred to as the BCRSC), is to be supportive of the Areas, their members, and their primary purpose, by linking together the Areas within the Region, by helping Areas deal with their basic situations and needs, and by encouraging the growth of the NA fellowship.
- 0.3 In all matters before the BCRSC, the Traditions of Narcotics Anonymous, the Twelve Concepts, this document and the Guide to Local Service, will apply. All business will be conducted using Consensus Based Decision Making as outlined in Section 8: Consensus Based Decision Making Procedure.
- 0.4 All BCRSC Subcommittee elected by the BCRSC will be fully accountable to the BCRSC in carrying out their assigned functions. The BCRSC will be responsible for all reasonable Subcommittee expense, as per projected budgets presented by the Subcommittee Chairpersons.
- 0.4.1 BCRSC Subcommittees are required to have their own policy and procedures.
- 0.4.1.1 Where a discrepancy exists between the Regional Guidelines and a Regional Subcommittee’s Guidelines, the BC Regional Committee and the respective subcommittee will work together to reach consensus.
- 0.4.1.2 All subcommittee guidelines and policies shall be reviewed by the BCRSC Regional Service Board, and approved by the BCRSC prior to implementation.
- 0.5 The standing Subcommittees of the BCRSC are:
- 0.5.1 Public Relations;
- 0.5.2 Literature
- 0.6 The standing convention positions of the BCRSC are:

0.6.1 BCRCNA Chair;

0.6.2 PNW Chair

0.7 The BCRSC will meet four (4) times per calendar year, at a meeting place to be decided upon by the voting members at the close of the BCRSC (see section 19.)

0.8 A recognized Area, within the BC Region of NA, should meet the following requirements:

0.8.1 It should have two or more NA groups;

0.8.2 It should have a functioning Area Service structure, (as defined by the Guide to Local Service);

0.8.3 It should have an elected Regional Committee Member; and

0.8.4 It should be registered with the NA World Service Office.

## **1. NOMINATIONS & ELECTIONS**

1.1 Elections of Officers and Subcommittee chairpersons for the BCRSC will be held annually, at the summer meeting.

1.2 The Administrative positions open for annual nomination and elections shall be that of Facilitator, Co-Facilitator, Secretary and Treasurer.

1.3 Nominations for any vacant RD or RD Alternate positions will be accepted at this time (please see polices 4.6 & 5.6.2). The RD Alternate may, with a vote of confidence, move into the vacant RD position.

1.4 The two positions for CANA Delegates shall be filled with the Regional Delegate, and the Alternate Delegate.

1.5 Chairpersons shall be nominated and elected at the same time for the following standing Regional Subcommittees:

1.5.1 Public Relations;

1.5.2 Literature;

1.5.3 Outreach;

1.6 Nominations for these elections may come from:

1.6.1 Any member in attendance.

1.7 All nominations must be in writing and be accepted by the nominee.

1.8 Nominees that live over 150 km from the regional service committee election meeting may have the option to videoconference for the position they want.

1.9 Each nomination will be accompanied by a written NA Service Resume. After nominations are closed, members of the BCRSC may ask the nominees to respond to questions concerning their ability to fulfill the position of which they are nominated.

1.9.1 Nominees must disclose their border crossing status if applicable, and begin waiver procedure upon election, and keep this body posted on progress of same.

1.9.2 All nominations must be accompanied by a reference regarding their service experience from their Area Service Committee or the Regional Service Committee.

1.10 All elections will take place by secret ballot.

1.11 Vote counters will be appointed by the Facilitator from non-voting NA members in attendance.

1.12 All ballots will be destroyed after each count.

## **2. ELECTION VOTING RIGHTS**

2.1 All area elected members (including RCMs and RCM alts) of the BCRSC shall have a single vote in an election.

2.2 All elected members of the BCRSC have a single vote in an election.

## **3. ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS**

3.1 The minimum requirements for any elected position on the BCRSC shall include:

3.1.1 A commitment to service;

3.1.2 Service experience;

3.1.3 The willingness to give time and resources necessary to do the job; and

3.1.4 A good working knowledge of the Twelve Steps, the Twelve Traditions, the Twelve Concepts and the Guide to Local Service of Narcotics Anonymous.

3.2 Facilitator, Co-Facilitator, Secretary, Treasurer, RD and RD Alternate must be willing to have first name and phone number on the Region PI Contingency Plan.

## **4. TERM OF OFFICE**

- 4.1 The BCRSC Officers and Subcommittee Chairperson shall begin serving office upon the completion of the BCRSC Election Meeting and shall continue to serve until the close of the next Election Meeting, a period of one year. The RD, RDA, Literature chairperson, trustee 1&2 , Guidelines Point Person and Archivist shall have 2 year terms.
- 4.2 With the exception of the RD/RDA, Literature chairperson, trustee 1&2 and the Archivist, no officer or subcommittee chairperson shall serve more than 2 consecutive one year terms in the same service position.
- 4.2.1 For the RD/RDA positions, the term will follow a rotation of the WSC with each position attending 2 consecutive WSC's within a 4 year period. The officers will stand for consecutive terms with a vote of confidence from the BCRSC.
- 4.3 Anyone resigning from the position of RSC Officer or Subcommittee Chairperson, before the end of his/her term of office, shall not be eligible for election to any RSC Office or Subcommittee Chairperson for a period of six months, following such resignation. The exception to this rule shall be when a member resigns one Regional Position to accept nomination or election to another Regional position.
- 4.4 Any elected RSC Officer or Subcommittee Chairperson may be removed from office by a two-thirds majority vote of the BCRSC voting Areas.
- 4.4.1 If any elected RSC Officer or Subcommittee Chairperson is absent from 2 consecutive RSC meetings, they may be removed.
- 4.5 An interruption of continuous abstinence constitutes and automatic immediate resignation from any office of the BCRSC.
- 4.6 When an Officer or Subcommittee Chairperson resigns or is removed during their term of office, or a new position is created:
- 4.6.1 The RSC Facilitator appoints a person to fulfill the duties of that position until the next RSC meeting;
- 4.6.2 The position shall be open for nominations at the next BCRSC meeting;
- 4.6.3 The term of office for the new officer shall be from their election date until the close of the next regular Election Meeting;
- 4.6.4 The abbreviated term of office shall count as one term of office.

## **5. JOB DESCRIPTIONS**

### **5.1 Regional Facilitator**

- 5.1.1 Presides over all of the activities of the BCRSC;
- 5.1.2 Has such powers and performs such duties as may be required by the BCRSC;

- 5.1.3 May appoint and define the duties of special subcommittees as authorized by the BCRSC;
- 5.1.4 The Facilitator shall be a member of the Administrative Committee with the accompanying responsibilities; and
- 5.1.5 Has at least five (5) years of continuous clean time.

## **5.2 Co-Facilitator**

*A Co-Facilitator normally serves for a period of two (2) years. The first year as Co-Facilitator and the second year, subject to a vote of confidence from the BCRSC, as Facilitator.*

- 5.2.1 Performs all duties of and has all the powers of the Facilitator in his/her absence;
- 5.2.2 Has such powers and performs such duties as may be required from time to time by the BCRSC;
- 5.2.3 Shall be a member of the Administrative Committee with the accompanying responsibilities; and
- 5.2.4 Has at least four (4) years of continuous clean time.

## **5.3 Secretary**

- 5.3.1 Records and distributes the advance reports from all administrative, subcommittee chairpersons and area representatives 1 week prior to each BCRSC meeting
- 5.3.2 Sends out email reminders prior to each BCRSC meeting to all participating members of the regional body to send in advance reports
- 5.3.3 Records and distributes the minutes of each BCRSC meeting; within 10 days of the regional meeting
- 5.3.4 Updates the BCRSC mailing list of each BCRSC meeting; within 10 days of the regional meeting
- 5.3.5 Updates the mentorship list of each BCRSC meeting, and gives out the information as needed
- 5.3.6 Updates the policy and financial log after every BCRSC meeting
- 5.3.7 Types and sends any letters and/or correspondence as the BCRSC dictates;
- 5.3.8 Keeps records for the BCRSC for the archives; and
- 5.3.9 Shall receive and distribute event flyers and/or other correspondence from other areas/regions.
- 5.3.10 Has at least four (4) years of continuous clean time
- 5.3.11 Facilitates correspondence outlined in 12.4.

## **5.4 Treasurer**

- 5.4.1 Keeps an accurate record of the financial transactions of the BCRSC;
- 5.4.2 Prepares and presents a financial report at each regular BCRSC meeting;
- 5.4.3 Is responsible for and BCRSC bank account(s); and



- 5.4.4 Dispenses monies to the BCRSC officers or subcommittees. However, all cash disbursements require the approval of the BCRSC.
- 5.4.5 The Treasurer's signature is required on all BCRLC expenditures.
- 5.4.6 Has at least five (5) years of continuous clean time.
- 5.4.7 Generate and display a spreadsheet showing all funding requests of the BCRNA at the Sunday morning meeting.

### **5.5 Regional Delegate**

- 5.5.1 Is the delegate of the BCRSC to the WSC;
- 5.5.2 Shall be a delegate representing the BCRSC at CANA;
- 5.5.3 Shall provide reports on WSC/CANA matters and other related activities;
  - 5.5.3.1 A detailed written report of the WSC and a visual report will be presented to the BCRSC (within two RSC meetings) directly following the WSC.
- 5.5.4 Shall attend a subcommittee meeting of the BCRSC at the BCRSC meeting; and
- 5.5.5 When possible shall attend as many ASC meetings within the BCRSC as requested.
- 5.5.6 Has at least five (5) years continuous clean time.

### **5.6 RD Alternate**

- 5.6.1 Performs all the duties of the RD in his/her absence;
- 5.6.2 May, with a vote of confidence, and upon completion of the term of RD Alt., move to position of RD;
- 5.6.3 Shall be a delegate representing the BCRSC at CANA;
- 5.6.4 Shall attend all BCRSC meetings;
- 5.6.5 Shall attend a subcommittee meeting of the BCRSC at the BCRSC meeting; and
- 5.6.6 When possible shall attend as many ASC meetings within the BCRSC as requested;
- 5.6.7 Has at least four (4) years continuous clean time.

### **5.7 Sub-Committee Chairperson**

*A Subcommittee Chairperson normally serves for a period of two (2) years. The first year as Vice-Chairperson and the second year as Subcommittee Chairperson.*

- 5.7.1 Shall provide a subcommittee report to the BCRSC at each regular BCRSC meeting;
- 5.7.2 Shall attend all BCRSC meetings; and
- 5.7.3 Shall chair a subcommittee meeting at all regular BCRSC meetings.
  - 5.7.3.1 If a subcommittee is not meeting at the BCRSC, then the Sub-committee Chairperson shall attend another subcommittee meeting (in order to best utilize their knowledge and experience).
- 5.7.4 Has at least two (2) years clean time. Each subcommittee may increase this as per their own policy and/or guidelines.
- 5.7.5 Shall fill out a Regional Subcommittee update form.

## **5.8 Archivist**

- 5.8.1 Shall receive, classify and index all relevant material, including but not limited to, administrative files and records, correspondence, and literary and factual works considered to have historical importance to groups, areas and regions in the BC Region.
- 5.8.2 Shall create and maintain a mobile history display(s) available for Conventions and special events in the BC Region and beyond as long as the funding and/or reimbursement for such related costs such as transportation and room and board are funded by either the region or requesting service committee.
- 5.8.3 Shall function in a two-fold manner: primarily, a custodian responsible for assuring the physical integrity of the collection, storage of artifacts and its availability to persons with a valid reason. Secondary, a parallel and critical role of data gatherer.
- 5.8.4 The BC Region was designated as the primary repository for archives since its inception; therefore, the BC Region provides adequate space for the collection, cataloging and preservation of historical materials.
- 5.8.5 Letters, books, booklets, pamphlets, world directories, area and regional meeting lists, event and conventions flyers and memorabilia for groups, areas and regions in the BC Region along with documents and memorabilia from WSC/WSO/WCNA, area and regional newsletters, area and regional service committee minutes, written histories, photographs, audio and videotapes and digital records serve as the foundation of the archival library.
- 5.8.6 Shall develop and maintain a detailed inventory of all items in the regional archives.
- 5.8.7 Shall develop ways and means to enhance the archival inventory by creating a method for donors to have some assurance that their gift will be treated and handled with care for generations to come.
- 5.8.8 May recruit other volunteers to act as Assistant Archivists (these assistants shall meet the same qualifications and requirements as the archivist).
- 5.8.9 Shall not remove any material from the BC Regional Archives unless the material is to be used as part of a mobile history display or to be repaired by a professional. The Archivist will cross-reference and inventory those items removed from the Archives via a checklist to insure all the materials that were taken have been returned in their entirety and in good condition.
- 5.8.10 Is responsible for the physical integrity of the collection, documents and artifactual items; therefore, the archivist maintains proper methods of storage for such items.
- 5.8.11 Is responsible for ensuring the protection of the anonymity of members, and the confidentiality of the records.
- 5.8.12 In keeping with Tradition seven, the archives ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions (with the exception of archival materials). It is better that funding for the archives are derived from an overall budget within the service structure.
- 5.8.13 Maintains regular communication with the World Service Office, and other regional Archivists. The position of Archivist is a resource coordinator position. They may meet

with the Regional Administrative Committee as deemed necessary from time to time in regards to the archive collection.

5.8.14 Has at least 2 years clean time

### **5.9 Trustee 1 & 2**

*Working closely together, the Trustees will act as a resource and guide the BCRSC in procedural matters.*

5.9.1 Assists with Strategic Planning

5.9.2 Keeps in close contact with both former and current BCRSC Administrative and Subcommittee chairs. Ensures that communication occurs between the two groups.

5.9.3 Identifies issues that come up during discussion, and keeps a list of issues that require follow up

5.9.4 Adheres to a set of checks and balances re: Audits, inventories, signing authorities

5.9.5 Provides guidance and oversee follow through with assigned projects and tasks (workgroups)

5.9.6 Is entrusted with all templates required for regular BCRSC business, and provides the resources needed to any trusted servant (includes templates for treasurer, minutes, mentor and contact list, orientation package and policy document)

5.9.7 Facilitates conflict resolution including redress

5.9.8 Point persons for mentorship

5.9.9 Directs trusted servants to the correct person for information regarding any aspect of service (ex: for WSC info, directs to the RD team; for PR info directs to PR chair/vice chair)

5.9.10 Provides quarterly reports to the regional body

5.9.11 Is a participating member of the Regional Service Board and the Executive Committee

5.9.12 Has at least five (5) years continuous clean time.

5.9.13 Minimum 2 years previous BC Regional Service Committee experience

5.9.14 Trustee 1 will make sure all matters pertaining to the BCRNA insurance policy are taken care of.

### **5.10 Guidelines Point Person**

5.10.1 Has current copies of the BC Regional Policy document available at the RSC meeting

5.10.2 Keeps the Policy document current by ensuring all changes approved by the Regional body are included

5.10.3 Has a high level of familiarity with the BC Regional Policy document and can disseminate the information for the body

5.10.4 Is a participating member of the Regional Service Board and the Administrative Committee

5.10.5 Has up to date copies of all subcommittee policy documents available

5.10.6 Ensures that the subcommittee policies are aligned with regional policy

- 5.10.7 Provides quarterly reports to the regional body
- 5.10.8 Has at least three (3) years continuous clean time
- 5.10.9 Minimum 1 year previous BC Regional Service Committee experience

#### **5.11 Regional Venue Coordinator**

- 5.11.1 The Regional Venue Coordinator works with Regional Administrative to arrange, coordinate and administer the non-rotating BCRSC Meetings.
- 5.11.2 The Regional Venue Coordinator shall negotiate contracts with the facility and be the single point of accountability for the BCRSC to the facility liaison.
- 5.11.3 The Regional Venue Coordinator shall keep track of all bookings for meals and accommodations, collect funds, and provide a financial report to the treasurer at the end of each RSC meeting.
- 5.11.4 The Regional Venue Coordinator shall provide to the BCRSC Facilitator and/or Co-Facilitator copies of all correspondence with the facility, as well as regular updates of booking information.
- 5.11.5 Refer to 19.0.1.1
- 5.11.6 The RVC can send out notices regarding accommodations and meals without having to go through the secretary to do so

#### **5.12 Administrative Committee**

- 5.12.1 The Administrative Committee shall be comprised of the Facilitator, Co-Facilitator, Secretary, Treasurer, Regional Delegate, Regional Delegate Alternate, guideline person, and Trustee 1&2.
- 5.12.2 Four of the Administrative Committee members shall be the signing officers of any BCRSC bank account(s) unless they cohabitate.
- 5.12.3 Administrative Committee members shall attend all BCRSC meetings;
- 5.12.4 As trusted servants of the BCRSC, the Administrative Committee may make any extraordinary decisions between regularly scheduled BCRSC meetings; and
- 5.12.5 Administrative Committee shall form the basis of the Regional Service Board and shall attend all Regional Service Board meetings of the BCRSC;
- 5.12.6 One member of the Regional Body will be assigned the positions of “Postal communication Liaison” by the BCRSC. The postal communication liaison is responsible for collecting the Regional mail at least 2 times a month, opening letters, and forwarding any time sensitive documents to the appropriate regional officer, subcommittee chair, or RCM.

#### **5.13 Regional Service Board**

- 5.13.1 Shall consist of:
  - 5.13.1.1 Facilitator
  - 5.13.1.2 Co-Facilitator

- 5.13.1.3 Secretary
- 5.13.1.4 Regional Delegate Team
- 5.13.1.5 Trustees 1 and 2
- 5.13.1.6 Guidelines Point Person
- 5.13.1.7 Any interested member
- 5.13.1.8 The Treasurer may be required to attend, at the request of the service board, when financial forecasting issues arise
- 5.13.2 Duties of the Regional Service Board:
  - 5.13.2.1 Reviews standing committees guidelines for congruency with Regional policy
  - 5.13.2.2 Facilitates conflict resolution
  - 5.13.2.3 Provides recommendations to regional body for needed changes
  - 5.13.2.4 Provides options for format changes
  - 5.13.2.5 Discusses referred items from regional body and provides solutions and needed information to the regional body to help facilitate consensus
  - 5.13.2.6 Addresses policy ambiguity (lack of clarity)
  - 5.13.2.7 Provides clarity and suggestions on issues that arise regarding regional business
  - 5.13.2.8 Organizes and monitors strategic plan
  - 5.13.2.9 Monitors workgroups
  - 5.13.2.10 Coordinates Regional Assembly

#### **5.14 Web Coordinator**

- 5.14.1 Suggested clean time is two years.
- 5.14.2 have an Internet capable computer and have a reliable Internet connection.
- 5.14.3 have a sufficient understanding of the Traditions and Concepts of N.A.
- 5.14.4 be willing and able to communicate with Service Bodies on both sides of the Service structure

The suggested accountability and workflow of the Web Coordinator is as follows;

- a) The Web Coordinator (WC) will be accountable to the Admin Committee.
- b) The WC will be responsible for liaising with the CANA/ACNA Web Servant and any other technical persons relating to the domain and/or hosting of the web site.
- c) The WC will be responsible for coordinating set up of BC Regional email on website and/or Gmail
- d) The WC will be responsible for coordinating updates for Members/Users list on BC Regional Website
- e) The WC will be responsible for updating events on BC Regional Website
- f) The WC will be responsible for coordinating the posting all resource files to the private and public resource areas of the web site. (It is suggested to limit all posted files to PDF where possible.)

- h) The WC will be responsible for coordinating with the website managing company to ensure that the web site meets suggested guidelines as set out in the relevant documentation provided by the World Service Board and for investigation of any issues brought to the attention of the Web Coordinator with the World Service Board.
- i) The WC will be responsible for working together with the Literature Chair to ensure that a current price list and/or facility for ordering literature is available from the Web Site.
- j) The WC will be responsible for replying to all relevant enquiries made of the WC within 7 days and maintain a proper archive of all communication in that regard.
- e) The WC will be responsible for providing the Admin Committee with a written report reflecting changes and activity on and from the web site prior to each Regional Committee meeting.

## **6. PACIFIC NORTHWEST CONVENTION TRUSTEES**

- 6.1 In accordance with the PNWCNA Guidelines (approved by the BCRSC in February of 1993) which state that the Board of Trustees shall be composed from each Region, the BCRSC will elect 2 members. This election will normally take place at the meeting preceding the PNWCNA.
- 6.2 A written report will be provided to the BCRSC following the annual Board meeting.
- 6.3 The PNW Board Representative need only attend the regional meeting preceding the convention, and the regional meeting following the convention.
- 6.4 Funding for attendance to the PWCNA board meeting will be as follows:
  - 6.4.1 Travel to and from PNWCNA as per travel policy
  - 6.4.2 Hotel accommodations for one night if PNW is located over 150 km away
  - 6.4.3 Per diem for one day based on current policy

## **7. SEATING PROCEDURES**

- 7.1 During the RSC meeting, only RCM's, RCM Alternates, or selected representatives, Administrative Committee members, Subcommittee Chairs and Vice Chairs may be seated at the table as space permits.

## **8. CONSENSUS BASED DECISION MAKING PROCEDURE**

### **8.1 LEVEL ONE:**

- 8.1.1 Proposal or item is presented with budget implication if any; any clarification needed is provided, short discussion period if warranted
- 8.1.2 Facilitator asks for consensus. Does item receive 100% approval or rejection? If 100% approval, proposal carries, if 100% rejection, proposal fails, record the results in the minutes. If item does not receive 100% in either go to **LEVEL TWO**.

### **8.2 LEVEL TWO:**

- 8.2.1 Facilitator facilitates consensus building. More information is provided, with full intent for proposal. A brief break may be necessary. Discussion is had for/against the proposal; small group discussion may be warranted.
- 8.2.2 Facilitator asks for consensus. Does item receive 100% approval or rejection? If 100% approval, proposal carries (go to # 9), if 100% rejection, proposal fails (go to # 10), if item does not receive 100% in either go to **LEVEL THREE**.

### **8.3 LEVEL THREE:**

- 8.3.1 Straw Poll: If 85% in favour/15% opposed: listen to the minority point of view or have small group discussion; discuss to reach consensus. Accept the proposal as proposed
- 8.3.2 If 50% in favour/50% opposed, 40%/60%, 25%/75% we need reflection: Delay the decision to next area doing one of the following:
  - 8.3.2.1 Form an expert group
  - 8.3.2.2 Seek more information to present at the following meeting
  - 8.3.3.3 Send back to the groups

### **8.4 Stand Aside:**

When a concern has been fully discussed and cannot be resolved, the person with the concern is willing to stand aside: that is, acknowledge that the concern still exists, but allow the proposal to be adopted.

### **8.5 Block:**

A blocking concern must be based on a generally recognized principle, not a personal preference, or it must be against the entire group's well being. Before a concern is considered to be blocking, the group must have already accepted the validity of the concern and a reasonable attempt must have been made to resolve it. If legitimate concerns remain unresolved and the person has not agreed to stand aside, consensus is blocked.

\*\*\*See flow chart in Addendum C

## **9. DECISION MAKING RIGHTS AND PROCEDURES**

9.1 A quorum is established by the attendance of fifty percent or more of the elected representatives of recognized Areas (RCM or RCM Alt.), and the Outreach Subcommittee Chairperson. If less than fifty percent are present only housekeeping issues will be decided.

9.2 The BCRSC utilizes a consensus based decision-making process as detailed in Section 8: Consensus Based Decision Making Procedure. All effort should be made to further understand and discussion of any issue on the floor until a consensus is reached.

9.3 Candidates can run for positions in person or via technology.

#### **9.4 Procedure for Elections:**

9.4.1 One Candidate: The candidate must be elected with 60% or more of those voting in favour of the nomination. (Note that abstentions do not count – either as “for” or “against”)

9.4.2 Two Candidates: When two candidates have been nominated for a position, one candidate must be elected with 60% or more of those voting in favour of the nomination. (Note that abstentions do not count – either as “for” or “against”)

9.4.3 Multiple Candidates: In case of multiple nominations for the same position, voters cast a single vote in favour of their chosen candidate. However, if no candidate receives 60% or more of those voting in favour of the nomination then all but the two candidates receiving the most votes are eliminated, and a second round of voting occurs.

9.4.3.1 During the second round of elections, one candidate must be elected with 60% or more of those voting in favour of the nomination. (Note that abstentions do not count – either as “for” or “against”)

9.4.3.2 In the second round each voter is entirely free to change the candidate they vote for.

## **10. PROPOSALS**

10.1 All RCM’s or their Alternates, and area’s selected representative, RSC Officers and Subcommittee Chairpersons are allowed to make proposals at the BCRSC Meetings.

10.2 Discussion is welcome from all attending the BCRSC meeting; any proposals must be submitted in writing by the RCM’s or their Alternates, RSC Officers and Subcommittee Chairpersons.

10.3 All discussion at the BCRSC meeting will pertain only to specific proposals introduced, except under special circumstances, as determined by the BCRSC Facilitator.



10.4 Proposals that go back to Areas (Groups) have: the intent of the proposals; a copy of the policy in question to refer to; and the financial impact included.

## **11. REGIONAL SERVICE COMMITTEE FUNDS**

### **11.0**

- 11.0.1 All monies accumulated from Area contributions, and other Narcotics Anonymous sources, shall be maintained in a bank account subject to disbursement to Regional Subcommittees, and paying other Regional obligations.
- 11.0.2 Any Area making a contribution to the BCRSC may bring forth a proposal, under New Business, requesting specific disbursement of funds.
- 11.0.3 A prudent reserve should be kept by the BCRSC. (See Section 11.2)
- 11.0.4 Each Subcommittee may maintain its own operation bank account.
- 11.0.5 Any service position required to be at an event will be funded in full to attend that event.

### **11.1 Operating Expenses**

- 11.1.1 Regional operating funds shall be disbursed in the following order:
  - 11.1.1.1 BCRSC quarterly meeting space rental;
  - 11.1.1.2 Administrative Operating Expenses;
  - 11.1.1.3 Regional Delegates Operating Expenses;
  - 11.1.1.4 Travel to and from RSC
  - 11.1.1.5 Subcommittee Operating Expenses.
- 11.1.2 All reasonable expenses (telephone, mail, mailbox rental, photocopying, and reproduction costs) of the Administrative and Subcommittees shall be the responsibility of the BCRSC.
- 11.1.3 To that end, as requested, the Treasurer shall submit for BCRSC approval an annual expense budget. The Treasurer shall consult with other Administrative and Subcommittee Chairpersons in preparing this submission.
- 11.1.4 Cheques to be issued at each BCRSC meeting, in advance.
- 11.1.5 Accounting of Operating Expenses shall be included in BCRSC Meeting Reports. Annual accounting reports of operating funds shall be submitted at the BCRSC meeting immediately prior to regularly scheduled elections. All excess funds will be returned to BCRSC at this meeting; similarly, any outstanding expenses will be reimbursed.
- 11.1.6 BCRSC shall reimburse the hosting ASC for Saturday and Sunday meeting space (this is to include sufficient space for Sat. afternoon Subcommittee meetings).
- 11.1.7 That all workshops, learning days and Subcommittee meetings (not held at the RSC) plan a fund raising event, to be included in the agenda of their activities, to defer Costs of these events.

- 11.1.7.1 All fundraising efforts will follow WB Bulletin #30, found in Addendum A
- 11.1.8 Financial reports, including receipts (or copies) shall be included with all quarterly reports to BCRSC. Annual financial reports, including last quarter's receipts (or copies) and bank records, to be included in year's end report (August). These yearly books will be reviewed by the newly elected Regional Treasurer, and another appointed member, during the first quarter. If the Treasurer is taking the position for a second term, two members will be appointed to review that Treasurer's books. The Literature Subcommittee will be exempt from the above due to volume of transactions. The Literature Subcommittee's review will be done separately by two appointed members.
- 11.1.9 25% of the current annual cost of the BCRCNA insurance policy is to be allocated quarterly.

### **11.2 Prudent Reserve**

- 11.2.1 A prudent reserve shall consist of sufficient funds to:
- 11.2.1.1 Have each Committee/Administrative/RD's operate between meetings;
  - 11.2.1.2 An estimated amount of Travel Expenses to attend one meeting; and
  - 11.2.1.3 An estimated cost of BCRSC meeting space.
- 11.2.2 This amount shall be considered separate from expendable funds. Currently (August 2012) this amount is set at six thousand eight hundred and fifty dollars (\$6850.00).
- 11.2.3 That six thousand (\$6,000.00) be earmarked and set aside as seed money for each BCRCNA. (See also BCRCNA Section 16.4.3)
- 11.2.4 That a review of funds earmarked will be done annually. Funds held in earmark to be returned to BCRSC if no clear supportable rationale exists after review.

### **11.3 Voting on Financial Expenditures**

- 11.3.1 There is to be no funding of non-BCRSC events and BCRSC or its Subcommittees may not adopt any Area events without going back to Areas for group conscience.
- 11.3.2 All proposals requiring expenditures of BCRSC funds shall require consensus.

### **11.4 Banking Procedures**

- 11.4.1 Financial – All monies accumulated from Area contributions and other Narcotics Anonymous sources shall be maintained in a bank account subject to disbursements to BCRSC Subcommittees and other BCRSC obligations. Any two of the signing authorities referenced in 5.12.1 shall be required on all disbursements.
- 11.4.2 Each subcommittee bank account shall require a minimum of two signatures for all disbursements.

## **11.5 BCRSC Travel Fund (to and from BCRSC meetings)**

### **11.5.1 Purpose of the BCRSC Travel Fund:**

11.5.1.1 The purpose of the BCRSC Travel fund is to facilitate the required attendance of elected BCRSC members at regularly scheduled BCRSC meetings.

### **11.5.2 INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE ELEGIBLE FOR THE BCRSC TRAVEL FUND:**

11.5.2.1 Eligible Administrative Officers and Subcommittee Chairpersons are:

11.5.2.1.1 BCRSC Facilitator;

11.5.2.1.2 BCRSC Co-Facilitator;

11.5.2.1.3 BCRSC Treasurer;

11.5.2.1.4 BCRSC Secretary;

11.5.2.1.5 Regional Delegate;

11.5.2.1.6 Regional Delegate Alt;

11.5.2.1.7 All standing BCRSC Subcommittee Chairpersons or their elected representative

11.5.2.1.8 Appointed Members

11.5.2.1.8.1 Only members specifically requested to attend the regional meeting are required to attend

11.5.2.1.9 Regional Venue Coordinator

11.5.2.1.10 PNW Board Rep 1 and PNW Board Rep 2

11.5.2.1.11 Guidelines Point Person.

11.5.2.2 Qualifications for Regional Committee Members Travel Funding:

11.5.2.2.1 Areas requesting travel reimbursement or prepayment must submit Area financial statements.

11.5.2.2.1.1 As long as an area is in their prudent reserve, and they follow the above policy then they are eligible to receive the above funding

11.5.2.2.1.2 BCRSC will offer the above area assistance and accommodation subsidy per policy 11.5.3.4 and 11.5.3.5 to areas that have not attended the Regional meeting for the past 2 meeting. (Up to a maximum of \$700.00)

11.5.2.2.1.3 A seated Regional position and/or an Area may apply for air travel funding for an RCM or other representative, to attend the BCRSC if the road travel exceeds 8 hours one way.

### **11.5.3 COSTS ELIGIBLE FOR REIMBURSEMENT:**

11.5.3.1 The fund will reimburse travel expenses to and from the BCRSC and ferry reservation costs only.

11.5.3.2 Members are encouraged to use this fund with discretion and respect for our primary purpose. To that end, sharing travel expenses with other members whenever and wherever possible is recommended.

- 11.5.3.2.1 Travel expenses will be paid to and from the BCRSC at the rate of 30 cents per kilometer traveled.
- 11.5.3.3 Reimbursement may be requested with a proposal under new business.
- 11.5.3.4 For those who travel more than 1 hour one way and are required to attend the BCRSC Saturday and Sunday and are not already funded by their Area, the BCRSC may provide a subsidy towards accommodation at the central meeting location. Those that travel under 1 hour would be eligible for lunch and dinner subsidy.
  - 11.5.3.4.1 Positions eligible for this subsidy are:
    - 11.5.3.4.1.1 Administrative including Facilitator, Co-Facilitator, Secretary, Treasurer, Regional Delegate, Regional Delegate Alternate, Trustee 1, Trustee 2 and Archivist
    - 11.5.3.4.1.2 Subcommittee Chairperson
    - 11.5.3.4.1.3 Subcommittee Vice Chairperson
    - 11.5.3.4.1.4 RCM
    - 11.5.3.4.1.5 RCM Alternate or the area elected representative
    - 11.5.3.4.1.6 Regional Venue Coordinator
    - 11.5.3.4.1.7 PNW Board Rep 1 and PNW Board Rep 2
    - 11.5.3.4.1.8 Appointed Members
      - 11.5.3.4.1.8.1 Only members specifically requested to attend the regional meeting are required to attend
      - 11.5.3.4.1.9 Those serving in a subcommittee secretary or treasurer position
    - 11.5.3.4.2 A minimum of eight days notice is required to receive a full refund on booked accommodations. If you cancel within eight days prior to the RSC meeting you will be responsible for 50% of the cost.
  - 11.5.3.5 For those who submit a meal reimbursement form, the BCRSC may provide a subsidy towards lunch at the central meeting location for those who do not have accommodation at the facility.
    - 11.5.3.5.1 Positions eligible for this subsidy are:
      - 11.5.3.5.1.1 Administrative including Facilitator, Co-Facilitator, secretary, Treasurer, Regional Delegate, Regional Delegate Alternate, Trustee 1, Trustee 2 and Archivist
      - 11.5.3.5.1.2 Subcommittee Chairperson
      - 11.5.3.5.1.3 Subcommittee Vice Chairperson
      - 11.5.3.5.1.4 RCM
      - 11.5.3.5.1.5 RCM Alternate or the area elected representative
      - 11.5.3.5.1.6 Regional Venue Coordinator
      - 11.5.3.5.1.7 PNW Board Rep 1 and PNW Chairperson
      - 11.5.3.5.1.8 Appointed Members
        - 11.5.3.5.1.8.1 Only members specifically requested to attend the regional meeting are required to attend

- 11.5.3.6 For those who travel more than 1 hour one way and are required to attend the BCRSC Saturday and Sunday and are not already funded by their Area, the BCRSC may provide a subsidy towards dinner Friday and lunch Sunday for a total of \$30.

#### **11.6 RD, RD Alternate Travel Fund**

- 11.6.1 Fifteen percent of BCRSC gross receipts shall be set aside as the RD, RD1 travel fund.
- 11.6.2 Direction shall be taken from voting members with respect to any amounts in excess of budget forecasts.
- 11.6.2.2 At this time, RD's shall provide a projected travel budget for one year.
- 11.6.3 WSC ATTENDANCE:  
*The following expenses will be paid for the RDA to attend the World Service Conference:*
- 11.6.3.1 Transportation to and from airports;
- 11.6.3.2 Return airfare;
- 11.6.3.3 One half the expense of a double room per day; and
- 11.6.3.4 Per Diem meals equal to the WSC per diem provided to the RD (any excess to be returned to Regional)
- 11.6.4 CANA ATTENDANCE: As above

#### **11.7 Travel Outside of Canada**

- 11.7.1 Any member seeking finding form the BCRSC to travel outside of Canada must disclose his/her border crossing status. Those with a criminal record must provide written documentation showing legal clearance prior to receiving funds.

#### **11.8 Outreach Travel Fund**

- 11.8.1 (*Repealed Nov.2009*)

#### **11.9 Literature Subcommittee**

- 11.9.1 The BCRSC requires our Literature Subcommittee to sell NA literature at no more than 7% above cost. Cost is understood to include our own handling costs. With this principle in mind, the pricing of NA literature, medallions, etc. if left to the discretion of the Literature Subcommittee.
- 11.9.2 The Literature Subcommittee must first support itself. After paying its bills, any remaining funds should be placed in the Literature Subcommittee's bank account, accumulating a stockpile of literature adequate to supply the Region for a minimum of one quarter. After this stockpile has been established, excess funds will be diverted to the BCRSC.
- 11.9.3 The Literature Subcommittee obtains an insurance policy (re: theft, water damage, vandalism, etc.) to cover the maximum amount of literature in the stockpile.
- 11.9.4 The BCRLC accepts payment for literature by certified cheque, money order, or direct deposit only.

11.9.5 Two signatures are required on all BCRLC expenditures, one of the signatures being one of the BCRSC Administrative Committee.

11.9.6 Newly elected BCR Literature committee Treasurer be ratified by the regional body.

11.10 The PR subcommittee shall supply literature, when requested by the facility, to all Federal and Provincial jails and all youth detention centers.

## **12. REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE**

12.1 All RCM's, Officers and Subcommittee Chairpersons are required to submit a report to the secretary two weeks prior to the upcoming BCRSC meeting.

12.2 Any and all proposals contained within the body of a report will be dealt with in the appropriate area of New Business.

12.3 Accounting of Operating Expenses and inventory, where applicable, shall be included in BCRSC Meeting Reports. Annual accounting reports of operating funds shall be submitted at BCRSC meeting immediately prior to regularly scheduled elections. All excess funds will be returned to BCRSC at this meeting; similarly, any outstanding Expenses will be reimbursed.

12.4 Unless privileges have been granted as per the respective trusted servant's duties and descriptions, all correspondence (eg: emails) directed to the Regional Body Distribution List, is to be first submitted to the secretary. All correspondence is limited to NA business matters only.

## **13. AMENDMENT OF POLICY AND PROCEDURES**

13.1 Any RCM, Officer or Subcommittee Chairperson may propose an amendment to the BCRSC Policy and Procedures at a regular meeting. The proposal must be submitted in writing. If the amendment changes policy, it will be voted on at the next BCRSC using Consensus Based Decision Making. In cases where this is not possible, written ballot (voting) is used. All items of business that are forced into written ballot can only be carried with 2/3 majority to honor the principle of the group conscience, as per policy 8.8.

13.1.1 Tabled proposals coming back from an area that have been blocked as per policy 8.5 (A blocking concern must be based on a generally recognized principle, not a personal preference, or it must be against the entire group's well being. Before a concern is considered to be blocking, the group must have already accepted the validity of the concern and a reasonable attempt must have been made to resolve it. If legitimate concerns remain unresolved and the person has not agreed to stand aside, consensus is blocked.), shall not move to written ballot. The proposal will be considered defeated.

13.2 The amendment shall go into effect upon its adoption, unless otherwise specified.

13.3 Corrections to Policy & Procedure document of grammatical, spelling and typing errors, and the numbering system may be made by a Policy Committee decision providing the intent of the document is not changed.

13.4 Proposals pertaining strictly to procedural matters of the BCRSC may be decided at a BCRSC meeting by the group conscience of the RCM's present.

## **14. BC REGIONAL MEETING DIRECTORY**

14.1 The BC Regional Meeting Directory shall contain all pertinent information except the group name of the meeting(s).

14.1.1 Meeting names will not contain profanity.

14.2 To remove isolated (loner) meetings from BC Regional Directories list if time and location cannot be confirmed for one quarter (three months).

## **15. WORLD SERVE CONFERENCE AGENDA REPORT (CAR)**

15.1 The RSC shall, on the RSC meeting following publication of the CAR, hold a workshop hosted by the RD(s) for the benefit of RCM's, their Alternates and any interested members. This workshop is to ensure contents of the CAR reach the fellowship.

15.2 The RSC shall provide one CAR, at its expense, to each Area, Subcommittee chairperson, and Regional Administrative committee member at the RSC meeting following the publication of the CAR.

## **16. BRITISH COLUMBIA REGIONAL CONVENTION GUIDELINES**

### **16.1 Name**

16.1.1 That the convention be known as the British Columbia Regional Convention of Narcotics Anonymous, abbreviated as BCRCNA.

### **16.2 Bid Process**

16.2.1 That any Bid Committee competing for the BCRCNA will use WSC approved Convention Guidelines as a basis for its written submission. Minimum information to be provided with each bid includes:

- 16.2.1.1 Proposed date (consideration to be given to the benefits and difficulties of various geographic areas keeping in mind location, accessibility and conflicting events);
  - 16.2.1.1.1 With friendly direction given to hold BCRCNA between the spring and fall BCRSC meetings.
- 16.2.1.2 Proposed location and confirmation of tentative reservation;
- 16.2.1.3 Proposed hotel accommodations and approximate rates for single, double, triple and quad;
- 16.2.1.4 Proposed committee administrative including full NA service resumes
- 16.2.1.5 Proposed budget; and
- 16.2.1.6 Proposed convention program.
- 16.2.2 Written Bids for BCRCNA are to be submitted to the regional body at the regional meeting prior to the current convention.
- 16.2.3 The current BCRCNA Committee will provide a written report with its recommendations for the next location at the RSC meeting following the convention.
- 16.2.4 The site selection will be ratified at the RSC meeting following the convention.
- 16.2.5 In the event that no bids are received by the current BCRCNA Committee by the above noted deadline, this Committee will advise the BCRSC Administrative Committee through the RSC Facilitator. It will then be the responsibility of the BCRSC Administrative to contact each area in an effort to have a bid for the next BCRCNA at or before the RSC meeting after the Convention.
- 16.2.6 The outgoing BCRCNA hosting committee will provide full meeting minutes and financial records as early as possible to the next Host Committee to assist them in their planning efforts.
- 16.2.7 The outgoing Hosting Committee executive will serve as consultants to the next Host Committee.
- 16.2.8 The newly elected BCRCNA Chairperson will be ratified by the BCRSC at the BCRSC meeting immediately following the formation of the BCRCNA host committee.

### **16.3 Convention Site Rotation**

- 16.3.1 Starting with the 1999 British Columbia Regional Convention, the annual rotation will be:
  - 16.3.1.1 Year 1 – Vancouver Island, Greater Vancouver area;
  - 16.3.1.2 Year 2 – Interior British Columbia

### **16.4 Finance**

- 16.4.1 The BCRCNA is responsible to the British Columbia Regional Service Committee and as such the BCRSC is responsible for any losses incurred by the Convention.
- 16.4.2 All funds generated by the BCRCNA are to be forwarded to the BCRSC along with a complete statement of Income and Expenses by the fall meeting of the RSC. A short



general financial report should be ready for the RSC meeting following the annual Convention.

16.4.3 The BCRCNA hosting Committee shall receive six thousand dollars (\$6,000.00) as start-up funds at the fall RSC meeting.

16.4.4 The BCRCNA shall maintain its own operating bank account.

## **17. SPECIAL EVENT COMMITTEE GUIDELINES**

17.1 That any BC Region special event committee will coordinate with the Activities Subcommittee within the Area before the fundraiser date is set.

17.1.1 For fundraising guidelines see Addendum A

17.2 Upon receipt of BC Regional funds, that any special event committees, including Ad-Hoc, requiring its own operating bank account, must have a minimum of two signatures for all disbursements.

## **18. STANDARD FORMAT FOR AGENDA**

18.1 BCRSC Meeting to take place over a two-day weekend period commencing Saturday morning at 8:00 am precisely;

18.1.1 Facilitator calls the meeting to order:

18.1.1.1 Full moment of silence;

18.1.1.2 Serenity Prayer;

18.1.1.3 Read 12 Concepts;

18.1.1.4 Read the long form of a Concept.

18.1.2 Roll Call;

18.1.2.1 Acceptance of new Areas.

18.1.3 Minutes from the last meeting.

18.1.3.1 Facilitator asks for any errors and/or omissions.

18.1.3.2 Adoption of last meetings minutes with any errors and /or omissions noted.

18.1.4 Officers' reports:

18.1.4.1 Treasurer's report;

18.1.4.2 Generate and display a spreadsheet showing all funding request of the BCRNA at the Sunday morning meeting.

18.1.4.2 Secretary's report;

18.1.4.3 RD's reports;

18.1.4.4 Co-Facilitator's report.

18.1.4.5 Archivist

18.1.5 Subcommittee reports:

18.1.5.1 Public Relations;

18.1.5.2 Literature;

18.1.5.3 Outreach;

18.1.5.4 BCRCNA;

18.1.5.6 Other reports.

18.1.6 Regional Committee Member's reports.

18.1.7 Sharing Session (time permitting).

18.1.8 Closing prayer.

18.1.9 Saturday afternoon – break for Subcommittee meetings.

18.1.10 BCRSC to reconvene Sunday morning at 8:00 am precisely.

18.1.11 Old business;

18.1.11.1 Business arising from the minutes of the last meeting.

18.1.12 New Business;

18.1.12.1 Proposals pertaining to reimbursement of funds; (created Aug/00)

18.1.12.2 New business arising from Officer's reports;

18.1.12.3 New business arising from Subcommittee's reports;

18.1.12.4 New business arising from RCM's reports;

18.1.12.5 Other new business.

18.1.13 Sharing Session

18.1.14 Announcements

18.1.15 Closing Prayer

18.2 Breaks to be called at the Facilitator's discretion.

18.2.1 Roll call to be call after each break.

## **19. BCRSC MEETING – SCHEDULE, LOCATION AND HOSTING**

### **19.0**

19.0.1 The BCRSC Meeting will be held 3 times a year in a central meeting location in August, November and February. The May meeting will be held outside a central meeting location ***if*** a bid from an area received one year in advance, is approved.

19.0.1.1 The BCRSC facilitator will appoint a Regional Venue Coordinator whenever necessary.

19.0.2 To hold the BCRSC Meeting on the last weekend of the months of February, May, August and November as those dates become available.

### **19.1 Bid Process**

- 19.1.1 ASC's bidding on hosting the British Columbia Regional Service Committee (BCRSC) meeting, must submit written bids to the BCRSC Facilitator outlining the facility where the BCRSC will be held, the total estimated RSC expense for rent, food and beverage.
- 19.1.2 All proposed bids will be brought before the RSC for selection as the last order of business of each BCRSC meeting.
- 19.1.3 The BCRSC will be responsible for its share of the meeting space that is rented by the host area. (0800 to 1700 on Saturday and 0800 until meeting closes on Sunday).
- 19.1.4 The host are may choose to hold a dance or other event to promote Unity and Fellowship on Saturday evening. Proceeds from the dance or other event may help offset the hosting area's cost of hosting the event.

### **19.2 BCRSC Bid Committee**

- 19.2.1 Hosting a regional meeting can be an overpowering endeavor; therefore, efforts should be made to select people who have prior event planning experience. Adhoc committees usually consist of the host area's Regional Committee Member (RCM) and the RCM Alternate. When bidding for the BCRSC, and Adhoc committee should be formed to prepare a bid. This committee should be aware of the following criteria once the bid has been awarded.
  - A. Provide meeting space large enough to hold 50 people in a hollow box style set up with seating for members to observe.
  - B. Provide adequate meeting space for subcommittees Saturday afternoon.
  - C. Provide tea, coffee, fresh fruit and assorted breads, pastries and muffins Saturday and Sunday mornings only for RSC participants.
  - D. Provide access to photocopying i.e.: (rent photocopier). RSC participants will be responsible for their own photocopying expenses.
  - E. Please reference addendum B for more detailed information.

## **ADDENDUM A- WSB BULLETIN #21, Revised 2002**

#21 - The generation of funds (fundraising) and the seventh tradition in narcotics anonymous  
*This article was generated in December 1991 and revised in 2002 in response to the needs of the fellowship. It represents the views at the time of its writing.*

Questions about fundraising and how fundraising relates to the traditions, especially Tradition Seven (“Every NA group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.”) have been asked on numerous occasions in the past few years. As groups, areas, and regions grow, the perceived need for finances to help fulfill the Fifth Tradition (“Each group has but one primary purpose—to carry the message to the addict who still suffers.”) may also grow. When the cost of ancillary services—such as helplines, meeting lists, and literature for use in H&I meetings, among others—is considered, many groups, areas, and regions find themselves in the position of needing or wanting more funds than are provided by members' donations to the “basket” at the group level. It is at these times that questions arise as to how to fund the services that help carry our message to the still-suffering addict. This bulletin will attempt to answer some of these questions as well as offer some simple guidelines about raising funds. We will try to provide a brief historical perspective on fundraising in NA, look at some of the problems that may result from various efforts, and strive to show the relationship of Tradition Seven to this issue.

In looking at this topic, it is helpful to understand how fundraising started in our fellowship. Many early groups held a variety of activities such as dinners, picnics, and other social events to promote recovery, unity, and a sense of belonging. While these activities were not specifically intended to raise funds, a number of them turned out to be financially successful, allowing the host group to purchase additional literature or other supplies for their meetings. As the fellowship grew and the need or want for additional services became greater, the purpose of some of these activities changed; instead of celebrating recovery, they were designed to raise funds.

As the fellowship continued to grow and more area and regional service committees were formed, the focus continued to change—in some instances, to make up for the perceived lack of funds being donated from the groups' Seventh Tradition collections. As time went on, more and more service committees began relying on this form of funding, reaching the point, at times, where the success or failure of an event such as a convention determined the area or region's ability to provide services and participate in the fund flow. In other instances, groups, areas, and regions had such success with their social events that they began to put an extraordinary amount of time and effort into these activities, becoming invested in having a “successful” convention, dance, or campout.

A considerable number of problems arose from such practices. The accountability of service committees to their groups was affected as the committees began to rely upon these events instead of on contributions from the groups' Seventh Tradition collections for their funding. In some cases, the various service bodies began to get diverted from their original purpose by “money, property, and prestige.” Some groups and service committees began to amass huge “prudent reserves,” in some cases amounting to many thousands of dollars. For some groups and committees, this “prudent reserve” grew so large that the body holding it did not have to rely upon contributions for upwards of six months or more, despite the fact that in various fellowship service publications the recommended amount for a prudent reserve is one month's expenses. Merchandising efforts became a “business” in some cases, leading us away from the spiritual focus of our program. It became harder and harder to insure that donations to our fellowship came only from our members at various social events. And some members began to raise concerns that we could be perceived by those outside our program as a fellowship that is more involved with social functions and merchandising efforts

than with helping addicts recover from the disease of addiction. As these problems became apparent, members began to share their concerns and started questioning the need for such practices. Some of the questions focused on the relationship between Tradition Seven and fundraising.

While this tradition specifically talks about self-support—declining donations from outside sources—some of the principles underlying the tradition, such as simplicity and faith, may prove to be of assistance in answering questions about funding our services. Our experience has shown that, as recovering addicts, all of our needs add up to the need for ongoing freedom from active addiction. To attain this freedom, we need the principles contained in the Twelve Steps and the Twelve Traditions of NA; recovery meetings where we can share our experience, strength, and hope; and other recovering addicts to help us apply these spiritual principles in our lives. These three things are simple; they do not require us to obtain college degrees or expend vast sums of money.

In our active addiction, most of us seemed to have one thing in common: self-centeredness. As we begin the recovery process, we learn that we “keep what we have by giving it away.” We start to learn the value of being a contributing member of our fellowship and of society as a whole. We begin to learn the simple truth that if we want to keep attending NA meetings and help carry the message, we need to contribute our fair share financially as well as contribute our time and energy. Self-support, within the context of Tradition Seven, goes far beyond mere financial support. Along the way, we learn that contributing our fair share is one way in which we can express our gratitude for what has been freely given to us. Over time, we develop faith that as long we are doing what we're supposed to—practicing the principles of our program—the God of our understanding will take care of us and show us a new way to live.

When looking at the needs of the group, simplicity once again comes to mind. Our needs are simple: a place where we can hold our meetings, literature to help carry our message and, in most cases, simple refreshments. We do not need spacious, luxurious meeting facilities, excessive quantities of literature, or refreshments of every type to attract addicts to our meetings. The simplicity of our message and the effectiveness of our program are sufficient. We do not need large financial reserves if we have faith that the God of our understanding will take care of our needs. Our experience has shown that, when a group's financial needs are not met and that fact is communicated to the members, those needs are generally taken care of. The simplicity of our needs is reinforced by the simplicity of our primary purpose—to carry the message to the addict who still suffers. Our experience has shown that we must carry out this simple task to the very best of our ability, for it is the essence of who we are and what we do in NA. We have discovered that, if everything we do is done to fulfill that purpose, generally, we will find the funds necessary to do what we must.

Many groups and service committees have decided to avoid controversy by simply seeking to carry the message to the addict who still suffers. In this manner, they rely solely on attracting new members to their groups by striving to strengthen their personal recovery, working and living NA's Twelve Steps. As new members are attracted, groups grow, Seventh Tradition collections increase, and more money is available for group needs. Accordingly, funds are donated to the area, the region, and world services. (For further information on this topic, please refer to IP #28, Funding NA Services.) As services are funded more efficiently, the NA message of recovery is carried farther and better than ever before. The result is that more addicts seek recovery through Narcotics Anonymous and more NA meetings begin. This approach is seen as practical and realistic by many members of our fellowship. These members have reported that frustration over lack of funds and the sense of urgency to raise money can be counterbalanced by the spiritual unity that results from this focus on our primary purpose.

One of the things that has become evident over the past few years, however, is that large segments of the fellowship want activities and merchandise. If we don't assist in these efforts, members may end up

conducting them on their own. Whenever this has occurred, the resulting problems have had considerable impact on all elements of NA, affecting our fellowship's overall success in achieving its primary purpose. We strongly believe fundraising activities that divert us from the spiritual nature of our program are inappropriate and should not be encouraged within the fellowship. Social activities designed to enhance recovery and further unity and members' sense of belonging, however, are not only acceptable but should be encouraged.

We believe that fundraising for the sake of fundraising is questionable, at best. There may be times, however, when a group or service committee finds itself in extraordinary financial constraints and begins to consider holding a fundraiser. At such times, we suggest that careful attention be given to the following questions: Are the funds collected from ordinary Seventh Tradition contributions enough to support the group or service committee's actual needs? Are wants supplanting needs? Is the need for the fundraiser of such a nature that not holding it will result in our primary purpose going unfulfilled? In addition to these questions, we recommend that all aspects of sponsoring a fundraising event be carefully considered.

When these events are held, members of the hosting group or service committee should examine the event with respect to all our traditions, lending their collective experience, strength, and hope to these examinations. One of the major points to consider is the motivation for holding such an event. An examination such as this helps keep us in tune with our principles. The following general concepts have arisen from the experience of our fellowship, and we present them here as starting points for your consideration:

Fundraising activities at an NA meeting are not usually appropriate because they may detract from our primary purpose and can present an inaccurate impression of the NA message, especially in the eyes of the newcomer or the non-addict visitor.

In order to follow the guidance of our traditions, a fundraising event should be planned and held by and for Narcotics Anonymous members.

In order to conform to the ideals of the Seventh Tradition, donations from non members should not be accepted.

Since there are often times when we sponsor activities where there is a fixed charge for full participation, the term "donation" should not be associated with these types of fees. In this way, we are not confusing contributions with assessed charges for activities.

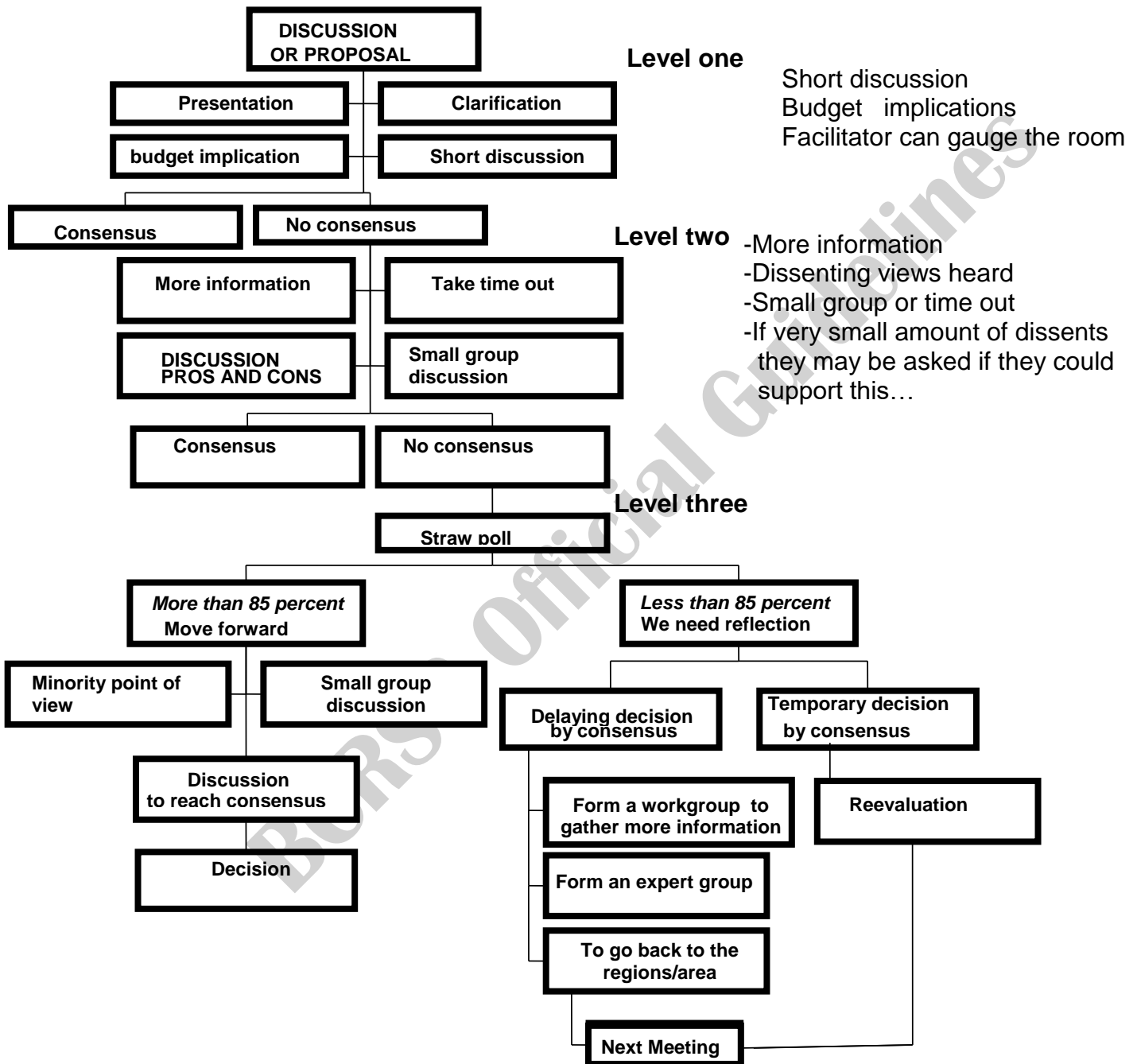
It must be determined whether the local NA community is willing and large enough to support the event.

All aspects of the fundraising event should be consistent with our goal of encouraging recovery from addiction. We should avoid hosting events that might encourage gambling, appear to offer "something for nothing," or award prizes that are either not recovery-oriented or that otherwise may be seen as inappropriate. For example, a raffle prize such as a car or a television might make someone's living circumstances more comfortable, but at the same time may not be directly related to his or her recovery, here as a prize of NA literature or tickets to an NA workshop or convention would be recovery-oriented. It should also be noted that, in many USA states and in some other countries, raffles are illegal. It may also be helpful to consider whether raffles—and especially cash raffles or lotteries—appeal more to the spirit of self-interest than the spirit of voluntary support implicit in our Seventh Tradition.

All of the solutions we see to the problems addressed in this bulletin involve communication. We believe that improved communication about the needs of our service bodies results in increased support from NA groups and members. Improved communication improves the accountability of the service structure to our groups and members. Finally, improved communication helps us maintain our focus on spiritual principles such as faith and trust, leading us away from fear, distrust, and self-centeredness.

**ADDENDUM B- CONSENSUS BASED DECISION MAKING FLOWCHART**

**Consensus Process**



Assent with Reservations –

*“I think this may be a mistake but I can live with it”  
(going along with this so we can move forward but not fully on board – not stopping what I see what the group wants to do)*

Stand Aside –

*“I personally can’t do this, but I won’t stop others from doing it.”  
(basically taking myself out of the equation – do not agree but will allow the group to move forward)*

Block –

*“I cannot support this or allow the group to support this.  
It is against our principles.”*

*Blocking is a rare and extreme form of dissent taken only if you honestly believe that one of the Traditions or Concepts is directly violated by a proposal or that some very fundamental moral position would be violated.*

BCRSC Official Guidelines



## **ADDENDUM C – SUGGESTED GUIDELINES FOR HOSTING A BC REGIONAL SERVICE COMMITTEE MEETING**

Basic Meeting Space Guidelines – Note\* Host Area may rent hall for dinner and dance. BCRSC shall only pay for meeting room space & possible PA system.

### **Suggested Building criteria: Preference Should be given to Buildings with:**

- Accessibility for wheelchairs or persons with disabilities
- Good acoustics of possible PA system
- Ventilation
- Washrooms – handicap accessible
- Banquet hall --- 5:30 pm to 1 am Saturday night (suggested)
- Large Room for 75 --- 7:30 am to 1 pm Saturday and Sunday
- 6 smaller room (2 for 25, 1 for 15, & 3 for 10) – 1:30 to 5:30 pm Saturday

### **Supplies**

- Coffee for 100, Tea, Herbal Tea, Decaf Coffee, Ice Water, Cream, Milk or Coffee Whitener, Sugar, Sugar Substitute, Hot Water for 30 , Cups, Spoons
- Fruit and Muffins for 7:45 am Saturday and Sunday
- !!! - Coffee and Hot Water to be READY for 7:45 am !!!
- Tables and Chairs for all Meeting Rooms – Large Room to be set up by 7:45
- Photocopying and a person to facilitate the photocopying
- Information on Hotels, Camping and Restaurants close by

### **Committees**

- Contact Name and Number for Billeting
- Inform Phonenumber of where the Regional Meeting Places are
- Send out flyers to All Areas with Info: Where, When, How Much, Name and Number for Inquiries, Info on Nearby Hotels, Meeting Info (i.e. meeting lists), ASAP after bid is accepted at the BCRSC
- Basic Info needed by travelers (i.e. directions, ferry info if applicable)

## **ADDENDUM D: Acronym List**

ASC	Area Service Committee
BCRCNA	BC Regional Convention of NA
BCRLC	BC Regional Literature Committee
BCRSC	BC Regional Service Committee
CANA	Canadian Assembly of NA
CAR	Conference Agenda Report
CAT	Conference Approval Track
CBDM	Consensus Based Decision Making
CCNA	Canadian Convention of NA
FD	Fellowship Development
GSF	Group Support Forum
H&I	Hospitals & Institutions
IDT	Issue Discussion Topic
IP	Information Pamphlet
LSC	Local Service Committee
LSU	Local Service Conference
NA	Narcotics Anonymous
NAWS	NA World Services
PI	Public Information
PNWCNA	Pacific NorthWest Convention of NA
PR	Public Relations
RCM	Regional Committee Member
RD	Regional Delegate
RDA	Regional Delegate Alternate
RSC	Regional Service Committee
RVC	Regional Venue Coordinator
SP	Service Pamphlet
SSP	Service System Project
WB	World Board
WCNA	World Convention of NA
WSC	World Service Conference
WSO	World Service Office

## **ADDENDUM E - B.C. Regional Service Committee: Email Contact List**

<b>ADMIN</b>	
BCRSC Facilitator	facilitator@bcna.ca
BCRSC Co-Facilitator	facilitator2@bcna.ca
BCRSC Secretary	secretary@bcna.ca
BCRSC Treasurer	treasurer@bcna.ca
BCRSC Trustee 1	trustee1@bcna.ca
BCRSC Trustee 2	trustee2@bcna.ca
BCRSC RD	rd@bcna.ca
BCRSC RD Alternate	rda@bcna.ca
BCRSC Archivist	archives@bcna.ca
BCRSC Guidelines	guidelines@bcna.ca
BCRSC Admin	admin@bcna.ca
BCRSC Web Coordinator	webcoordinator@bcna.ca
BCRSC Venue Coordinator	venue@bcna.ca
<b>PUBLIC RELATIONS</b>	
BCRSC PR Chair	pr@bcna.ca
BCRSC PR Vice Chair	pr2@bcna.ca
BCRSC PR Secretary	pr.secretary@bcna.ca
BCRSC PR Treasurer	pr.treasurer@bcna.ca
BCRSC Jail Liaison	jail.liaison@bcna.ca
BCRSC Phone Line	phoneline@bcna.ca
BCRSC Writing Steps for Recovery	wsr@bcna.ca
<b>LITERATURE</b>	
BCRSC Lit. Treasurer	lit.treasurer@bcna.ca
BCRSC Literature Chair	lit.chair@bcna.ca
BCRSC Literature Orders	orders@bcna.ca
BCRSC Literature Secretary	lit.secretary@bcna.ca
<b>REGIONAL MEETING DIRECTORY</b>	
BCRSC Directories	directories@bcna.ca
<b>REGIONAL CONVENTION</b>	
BCRSC Convention	convention@bcna.ca
BCRSC Convention Info	convention-info@bcna.ca
BCRSC Convention Registration	convention-registration@bcna.ca

<b>PNWCNA</b>	
BCRSC PNWCNA	pnw@bcrna.ca
<b>AREAS</b>	
BCRSC RCM COASC	coasc@bcrna.ca
BCRSC RCM CVIASC	cviasc@bcrna.ca
BCRSC RCM KASC	kasc@bcrna.ca
BCRSC RCM NBCASC	nbcasc@bcrna.ca
BCRSC RCM NOASC	noasc@bcrna.ca
BCRSC RCM RSDASC	rsdasc@bcrna.ca
BCRSC RCM SOASC	soasc@bcrna.ca
BCRSC RCM SOFASC	sofasc@bcrna.ca
BCRSC RCM SVIASC	sviasc@bcrna.ca
BCRSC RCM TCASC	tcasc@bcrna.ca
BCRSC RCM UFVASC	ufvasc@bcrna.ca
BCRSC RCM VASC	vasc@bcrna.ca
BCRSC RCM VINPRASC	vinprasc@bcrna.ca
BCRSC RCM WCASC	wcasc@bcrna.ca