

# British Columbia Region GSR Basics



*This packet was created as an informational resource to help GSRs effectively serve their Groups. It is not meant to be the final word or a complete description of their duties but merely a suggested guide. We hope this will be an inspiration to serve in the GSR position more effectively.*

# 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 their 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;
- Every member, inspired by the gift of recovery, experiences spiritual growth and fulfillment through service.

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.

## The Twelve Concepts for NA Service

1. To fulfill our fellowship's primary purpose, the NA groups have joined together to create a structure which develops, coordinates, and maintains services on behalf of NA as a whole.
2. The final responsibility and authority for NA services rests with the NA groups.
3. The NA groups delegate to the service structure the authority necessary to fulfill the responsibilities assigned to it.
4. Effective leadership is highly valued in Narcotics Anonymous. Leadership qualities should be carefully considered when selecting trusted servants.
5. For each responsibility assigned to the service structure, a single point of decision and accountability should be clearly defined.
6. Group conscience is the spiritual means by which we invite a loving God to influence our decisions.
7. All members of a service body bear substantial responsibility for that body's decisions and should be allowed to fully participate in its decision-making processes.
8. Our service structure depends on the integrity and effectiveness of our communications.
9. All elements of our service structure have the responsibility to carefully consider all viewpoints in their decision-making processes.
10. Any member of a service body can petition that body for the redress of a personal grievance, without fear of reprisal.
11. NA funds are to be used to further our primary purpose and must be managed responsibly.
12. In keeping with the spiritual nature of Narcotics Anonymous, our structure should always be one of service, never of government.

## The Twelve Traditions of NA

1. Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends on NA unity.
2. For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority—a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern.
3. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop using.
4. Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or NA as a whole.
5. Each group has but one primary purpose—to carry the message to the addict who still suffers.
6. An NA group ought never endorse, finance, or lend the NA name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property, or prestige divert us from our primary purpose.
7. Every NA group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.
8. Narcotics Anonymous should remain forever nonprofessional, but our service centers may employ special workers.
9. NA, as such, ought never be organized, but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve.
10. Narcotics Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues; hence the NA name ought never be drawn into public controversy.
11. Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio, and films.
12. Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our Traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities.

# BC Region Service Forms

[BC Group/Event Insurance Request Form](#)

## Regional Information

[BC Regional Area Directory](#)

[Regional Guidelines](#)

[BCRSC PR Guidelines](#)

[Nomination Form](#)

[Standardized Election Questionnaire](#)

[Acronym List](#)



## Useful Links (use search engine at na.org)

Fellowship Services Team

[fsmail@na.org](mailto:fsmail@na.org) or 818.773.9999 x771

[How to Start a Meeting](#)

[Virtual Meeting Starter Kit](#)

[Locally Developed Service Materials](#)

[Funding NA Services](#)

[NA Logos & Style Guide](#)

[Suggested Ground Rules](#)

## NA Handbooks

[The Group Booklet](#)

[Service Pamphlets](#)

[Service Handbooks](#)

[Guide to Local Service in NA](#)

[12 Concepts Booklet](#)

[Money Matters Self-Support in NA](#)



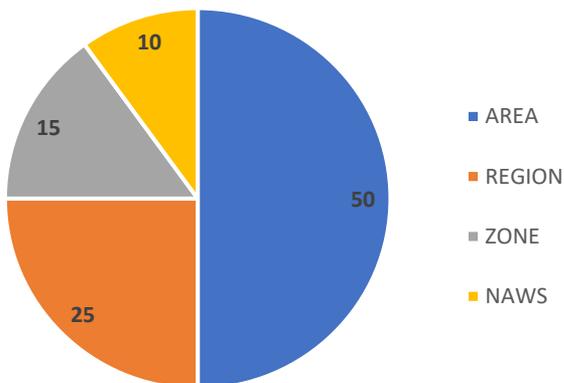
## Our Service Structure & Funding it

The NA service structure has been created by the groups to serve the common needs of the groups. Our fellowship's service boards and committees exist to help groups share their experience with one another, provide tools which help groups function better, attract new members to group recovery meetings, and carry the NA message further than any single group could carry it alone. Because the groups have created the service structure, they have final authority over all its affairs. By the same token, the groups also have the responsibility to support of all its activities with both financial and human resources necessary to fulfill its needs.

The NA groups bear the final authority in all our fellowship's service affairs and should be routinely consulted in all matters directly affecting them.

### Suggested Fund Flow

1. Groups can donate directly to each level of service.
2. Areas serve as funnels for all group contributions.
3. Areas can donate to region, zone & NAWS.
4. Region & Zone can donate to NAWS.



## Group Service Representative (GSR)

Each group elects one group service representative; even those groups hosting more than one recovery meeting elect just one GSR. These GSRs form the foundation of our service structure. GSRs provide constant, active influence over the discussions being carried on within the service structure. They do this by participating in area service committee meetings, attending forums and assemblies at both the area and regional levels, and sometimes joining in the work of an ASC subcommittee. If we are vigilant in choosing stable, qualified leaders at this level of service, the remainder of the structure will almost certainly be sound.

GSRs bear great responsibility, they are not mere group messengers. They are selected by their groups to serve as active members of the area service committee. As such, they are responsible to act in the best interests of **NA as a whole, not solely as advocates of their own groups' priorities.**

As participants in the ASC, GSRs need to be as well informed as they can be concerning the affairs of the area. They study the reports, after carefully considering their own conscience and what they know about how their group to form the group conscience.

GSRs link their groups with the NA service structure, through the information conveyed in their reports to and from the area. At group business meetings, the GSR report provides a summary of area activities, in group recovery meetings, GSRs make available fliers announcing area and regional activities.

At ASC meetings, GSR reports provide perspectives on group growth vital to the committee's work. If a group is having problems, its GSR can share those problems with the committee in their report. And if the group hasn't found solutions to those problems, the discussions can gather the experience others have had in similar situations.

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## **GSR Participation**

## Guidelines

### Do

- Submit your group report at least 1 week in advance.
- Read all advance reports and prepare questions in advance.
- During the ASC we only ask questions about reports, we do not read them out loud.
- Ask Questions
- Sit with an experienced member
- Carry the conscience of your group not your own.
- Stay focused on the task at hand.
- Take notes, you will need these for your report back to your group.
- Get involved.
- Attend a subcommittee meeting.
- Stay in contact with other GSR's between monthly meetings.
- Check your service email often.
- Read the [Group Booklet](#).

### Don't

- Arrive late or leave early
- Sit quietly, when you do not know what is going on, **ASK**.
- Don't repeat the same thing over & over again.
- Talk while other are speaking.
- Don't vote for something just because everyone else is. ----  
Think of your group and what they would want, carry their conscience.

