

Ontario South Assembly Newsletter

Quick Links for Ontario South

- [Group Records Change Form](#)
- [Donation Form](#) or **E-transfers** can be sent to osatreasurer3@gmail.com. There is no need for a security question and answer. Please note **your district #, group # and group name in the memo section of the transfer.**
- [Form C for AMIAS](#)
- [Literature Order Forms](#) (Printable and Fillable)
- [Ontario South Assembly Area Policy & Guideline Manual \("Area Manual"\)](#)
- [Upcoming Events](#)

Al-Anon Declaration

Let it begin with me

When anyone anywhere reaches out for help, let the hand of Al-Anon and Alateen always be there and let it begin with me.

Statement of Purpose

Open Lines is published three times a year by Ontario South Assembly. This newsletter presents service-related news and information to Al-Anon groups in Ontario South to help keep them informed. Personal sharings of recovery should be sent to the Forum.

Subscription: Rates:

Free for personal email subscription.

If you wish to receive a paper copy in the mail, subscription rates for copies mailed in Canada are \$15.00 for 1 year.

Please send a request for NEW SUBSCRIPTIONS / RENEWALS to:
openlinesosa@gmail.com

Districts in Ontario South

- District 1** – Muskoka (Angus, Barrie, Bracebridge, Burk's Falls, Huntsville, Midland, Orillia, Parry Sound, Penetanguishene, Wasaga Beach)
- District 2** – Georgian Bay (Collingwood, Dundalk, Owen Sound, Lion's Head, Thornbury)
- District 3** – Bruce County (Hanover, Kincardine, Mount Forest, Port Elgin, Southampton)
- District 4** – Waterloo Region (Cambridge, Elmira, Fergus, Guelph, Kitchener, New Hamburg, Rockwood, Waterloo, Kitchener/Waterloo)
- District 5** – Huron Perth (Clinton, Exeter, Goderich, Listowel, St. Marys, Stratford)
- District 6** – London Region (London, Strathroy)
- District 7** – Sarnia region (Bright's Grove, Forest, Petrolia, Sarnia)
- District 8** – Windsor, Essex (Amherstburg, Essex, Harrow, Kingsville, LaSalle, Leamington, Windsor)
- District 9** – Chatham region (Chatham, Ridgetown, Wallaceburg, Tilbury)
- District 10** – Elgin region (Ingersoll, Port Stanley, Port Rowan, St. Thomas, Tillsonburg, Woodstock)
- District 11** – Brantford, Caledonia (Brantford, Simcoe)
- District 12** – Niagara region (Dunnville, Niagara Falls, Port Colborne, Ridgeway, Welland)
- District 13** – St. Catharines (Grimsby, St. Catharines)
- District 14** – Hamilton West {Amalgamated with District 15} (Hamilton, Burlington, Stoney Creek, Waterdown)
- District 16** – Mississauga (Mississauga, Oakville, Port Credit)
- District 17** – Peel, Halton (Acton, Bolton, Bramalea, Brampton, Erin, Georgetown, Milton, Woodbridge)
- District 18** – GTA North (Aurora, Beaverton, Bradford, Keswick, King City, Newmarket, Orangeville, Stouffville, Sutton West, Tottenham)
- District 19** – Toronto North (Don Mills, Richmond Hill, Thornhill, Toronto, Willowdale)
- District 20** – Toronto West (Etobicoke, Toronto, Weston)
- District 21** – Toronto Central (Toronto)
- District 22** – Scarborough (Agincourt, Markham, Scarborough, Toronto, Unionville)
- District 23** – Lakeshore (Ajax, Bowmanville, Orono, Oshawa, Pickering, Port Perry, Whitby)
- District 24** – Kawartha (Bancroft, Bobcaygeon, Fenelon Falls, Haliburton, Lindsay, Maynooth, Minden, Oakwood, Omemee)
- District 25** – Quinte (Belleville, Campbellford, Cobourg, Foxboro, Picton, Port Hope, Stirling, Trenton)
- District 26** – St. Lawrence (Brockville, Carleton Place, Gananoque, Kemptonville, Perth, Smiths Falls)
- District 27** – Seaway Valley (Cornwall, Lancaster, Morrisburg, Winchester)
- District 28/29** – Ottawa (Ottawa, Arnprior)
- District 30** – Ottawa Valley (Barry's Bay, Cobden, Pembroke, Renfrew, St. Joseph, Quebec)
- District 31** – Kingston region (Kingston, Napanee)
- District 32** – Kawartha South (Ennismore, Norwood, Peterborough)
- District 33** – Overlay

From the Ontario South Delegate

Hello fellow Ontario South members,

I hope you're all having a wonderful summer with peace and serenity. I have been having such a great time in service as your Delegate, and I'd love for you to join me on this journey. Have you thought about what the next chapter of your service might look like? Have you reached out to another member in your group to tell them why you think they would do a great job as <insert service role here>?

I'm sure you've been feeling that joy from when we get to watch someone grow in our program, and page 268 in *From Survival to Recovery* talks about how we sometimes recognize that growth in other members before they see it in themselves. You telling them about the growth you see in them could be a wonderful compliment that makes their day. You could be the member who helps them recognize that they are ready to be the group's next secretary or treasurer, Group Representative, or perhaps one of the Area's next co-ordinators!

I'm looking forward to getting to spend some time with you in your Districts! This September, I've been invited to Al-Anon Days in Toronto, Coburg and Owen Sound, and I'll be in Cambridge in October. I hope we get a chance to see each other and exchange hugs!

Yours in Service,

Jason W. Delegate, Ontario South, ontariosouthdelegate@hotmail.com

From the Ontario South Area Chairperson

Hello Members of Ontario South!

In service as your Area Chairperson, and member of the Executive Committee, I am privileged to serve Ontario South and participate in the following activities:

Executive Meetings: The Executive Committee met on July 10th and 11th. AWSC 2026 Evaluation Forms were reviewed for feedback, workshop volunteers, and topic suggestions for planning future Assembly and AWSC meetings. The *News From Your Executive* flyer, July edition, includes some Area highlights.

Assembly 2026: The Chairperson serves as the Executive liaison to the Assembly Host Committee. Meetings are under way for planning Assembly to be held in Burlington, November 6-8, 2026, and hosted by District 14. The Assembly Information Package has been drafted and reviewed, and it will be distributed to the membership through the links of service two months prior to the date of Assembly.

Assembly will include elections for the incoming Executive for the service term 2027-2029. Resumes are required for any member standing for the Executive positions of Delegate, Alternate Delegate, Chairperson, Treasurer, and Secretary. Refer to Section 2A of the Area Manual for eligibility criteria for Executive positions. Section 5A.18 further identifies the AWSC members eligible to stand: DRs, Executive, Coordinators, AIS, Trillium, and OSAAC Chairpersons. Your Form 10-I (Member Profile and Resume Form) can be sent to me by 01Aug2026 to be included in the Assembly Information Package.

Items for Consideration: Members can send an Item for Consideration at any time to the Executive using the online form found on the Area website. Members will receive a response following the Executive meeting at which the

Item was discussed. Refer to Section 4 or Section 5A of the OSA Policies and Guidelines Manual (Area Manual) for reference. With permission, responses are also published in the Open Lines Newsletter.

AMIAS Letters: As Chairperson, I issue the Area letter for those members seeking a Vulnerable Sector Check as part of the AMIAS certification process. Please email me your request including your full legal name.

News From Your Executive: This news blast follows each Executive meeting to communicate some of what the Executive has been discussing or planning. Please look for these flyers from your links of service and share and discuss the information with your group members!

Assembly 2027: The Area is asking Districts in the western portion of the Area (Districts 1 - 13) to put in a bid to host Assembly in 2027. District Representatives and other enthusiastic members are asked to support the Area by researching and costing local facilities that meet our needs as per the Assembly Bid Form, Form 10-F. Multiple bids may provide the opportunity to reduce costs. Having a signed contract in place for the incoming Executive in 2027 is priceless!

HopeUnityGratitudeService

Deborah F., Chairperson, Ontario South Assembly, Chairons86@gmail.com

From the Ontario South Treasurer

Hello Ontario South.

This is the last year of my 6-year term as Ontario South's Treasurer. Ontario South will be electing the 2027 – 2029 Executive team at Assembly, being held in Burlington in November this year.

Please consider this position if you have an accounting and/or financial background and love numbers and keeping everything balanced like I do. My personal growth, confidence and self-esteem have been immeasurable. It has been a joy to serve you.

As of the end of June, OSA has received \$18,450 in contributions from groups, 35% of the total budgeted but 50% of the year has already passed. Please remember to support your area with your 7th contribution. To those groups who have contributed. Thank you!

Donations to the area can be made either by e-transfer or by cheque.

E-transfers can be sent to osatreasurer3@gmail.com. There is no need for a security question and answer. **Please note your district #, group # and group name in the memo section of the transfer.**

Or, if you prefer, make your cheque payable to “**Ontario South Assembly**” not OSA, not OSA Treasurer, not Al-Anon, nor anything else. Mail to P.O. Box 1151, Station Main, Guelph, ON N1H 6N3. For proper accounting please use the donation form found in the area manual. Go to al-anon.alateen.on.ca, for members, donations.

The budgeted amount suggested from each group for 2026 is \$186(2025 – \$175).

Thank you for putting your trust in me. Enjoy the rest of your summer!

Janet B Treasurer osatreasurer3@gmail.com

From the Ontario South Secretary

Hello Ontario South,

I'm writing this from my sister Debbie's dining room table as I was super busy this week and didn't get a chance to do this report previously. I'm enjoying a sister's weekend with my 2 sisters in Kingston, an annual event. Area business is popping and keeping me quite busy, which I don't mind (much). The Executive committee just wrapped our July Executive meeting in Brantford last weekend where we got the Assembly package sorted out, News from your Executive (which went out last week) and some Items for Consideration, which will be published in this Open Lines newsletter. I had the great opportunity to speak on a family panel with 3 of my siblings at the Trillium Convention at the end of June and I feel it was received well. Thank you to the committee and all attendees, that convention was also a great success. The role of being your Area Secretary is keeping me engaged in my program and service work as I continue to respond to emails, attend area meetings and do research when appropriate to get the details right. I have enjoyed the opportunity to meet and engage with many of you while serving in this role and that is a joy. I encourage anyone who might be feeling the call to service to jump in! And speak to anyone around you who is currently serving if you have any questions. Looking forward to seeing you at Assembly for those of you who will be there. Hope you are enjoying and continue to enjoy the rest of your summer.

Submitted with respect and JOY,

Carrie E Secretary area86secretary@gmail.com

From the Ontario South Area Alateen Process Person (AAPP)

Hello everyone.

It was a very busy AMIAS Recertification season for 2026! We opened Feb. 1 and finished June 15. (Due to a 2 week WSO website closure.) We started with 12 Alateen Groups. 11 have recertified and 1 has closed their doors. The good news is there have been 6 new Groups registered and 1 more just putting in their paperwork. The new Groups are in Toronto, Campbellford, Queensville, Pembroke, Trenton and Guelph. The group soon to open will be in Windsor. A total of 18 Alateen Groups in Area 86!

To support those Groups we have wonderful, passionate AMIAS. I was lucky enough to meet many of them at our recent Trillium Convention along with an inspiring group of Alateens.

We started the process with 67 Certified AMIAS. 59 were Recertified and 8 were de-activated. We had 5 former AMAIS certify again and an amazing 19 NEW AMIAS certify. Our total is now 83!!

It seems we have the commitment from our AI-Anon members to support our teens. I pray that we can attract the teens and share the program and the new way of living that we have been blessed with. I put it in God's hands and trust the future. Take care everyone. See you at Assembly.

In Service to our Teens

Chrystal P, Area Alateen Process Person (AAPP) aapp.ontariosouth@gmail.com

From the Area Literature Coordinator

It has been a privilege to facilitate and participate in **Al-Anon book clubs** and **writing workshops** throughout the area. I encourage anyone who wants more information about how to go about organizing this in your district to connect with me so that I may share my experience, strength and hope with this.

We have amazing **Al-Anon Conference Approved Literature** to use for **Public Outreach** as a district or as a group project. What has worked for your district or group? You can look for literature to order through our amazing **Literature Distribution Centre (LDC)** <https://al-anon.alateen.on.ca/literature-distribution-centre/> Just click on **Public Outreach** when you open the **electronic order form**.

Help create **Conference Approved Literature**: The World Service Office (WSO) is looking for members to submit shares on the topic of: ***Your relationship with finances in Al-Anon Recovery***. You can find more about the writing guidelines here in [French](#), [Spanish](#) and [English](#).

Why does my group need an updated copy of the **Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual (P 24/27)**? Here's some of what you'll find in our Service Manual: *Meeting Opening; Suggested Al-Anon/Alateen Welcome; Reading of Al-Anon/Alateen's Three Legacies; The Meeting Program; Passing the Basket; Suggested Al-Anon/Alateen Closing; Starting Al-Anon Family Groups; Basics for Group Meetings; Personal and Group Sponsorship; Group Service Positions; Group Business and Health* and so much more! Purchase a hard copy for your group from the LDC or download your own copy now for free: https://ecomm.al-anon.org/ItemDetail?iProductCode=P24_27&WebsiteKey=db6e68f1-b2fe-4aaa-baea-928d4e696dcc

You might even want to start an **Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual book study** in your district! Get some members together and start reading and discussing! Keep it Simple!!

Finally, I'd like to start an on-line 12 week, Al-Anon Concepts of Service book study in the fall, using the beautiful Al-Anon book, **Reaching for Personal Freedom: Living the Legacies (P-92)**. Let me know if you might be interested in helping to organize it.

Yours in love and service,

Sue M. Literature Coordinator Ontario South osalitcoord86@gmail.com

From the Alateen Coordinator

We continue to find more AMIASs throughout Ontario South.

The role of Alateen Group Organiser seems to be working well. This position is specifically to have one designated person to open a new Alateen Group. The Organiser will find Al-Anon members in their district to register as AMIASs and help sponsor the upcoming group, find a venue, register the group with WSO, look for seed money. We currently have 19 Alateen groups in Ontario South with a few more on the way. People are working on opening meetings in Windsor, Kingsville, Bracebridge, Owen Sound and Peterborough.

The AMIAS have been meeting on the first Sunday of every month. We average attendance of 8 or 9 people. We have been discussing challenges with our groups, the new eASBR (online Alateen Safety and Behavioural Requirements) public outreach, conferences, challenges with groups who don't have teens attending.

I have been having discussions with some of the AMIAS who are interested in participating in an AMIAS Training session. Because it is summer, we are looking at September at the earliest. Anybody interested in joining, please reach out to me.

The Alateen program at Trillium was a success. A special Thank you to Lynne T., Alateen Advisor and the Alateen Co-ordinator. We had 14 Alateens in attendance. The Alateens showed unity and presence at the conference.

For Trillium 2027, Lynne T has agreed to serve as the Alateen Advisor once again. One of the Alateens has stepped up as Alateen Co-ordinator. Thank you for all your hard work.

OSAAC (Ontario South Alateen Advisory Committee) met at Trillium and have also met online since. The topic of discussion is the new eASBR (online Alateen Safety and Behavioural Regulations). We are still figuring out how to fund attendance at Assembly for a few of the Alateens because they want to make sure Area 86 is aware of their thoughts and feelings regarding the eASBR. I'm very happy the Alateens are uniting over this issue; it is making OSAAC stronger and has given them a purpose.

Carole S is working as the Alateen Advisor for ORC 2027 along side with the Alateen Co-ordinator. Thank you to both of you for all your hard work.

The AMIASs of Together We Can Make it were attempting to bring UNITY Conference back but were not able to find an affordable venue. I hope Unity can be brought back during the new Alateen Coordinator's term that starts in January 2027.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your Alateen Co-ordinator.

Yours in Service

Judith W., Alateen Coordinator os.alateen.coordinator@gmail.com

From the Group Records Coordinator

It has been an honour and pleasure to have served Ontario South as a Group Records Coordinator for the past 2 1/2 years. I have thoroughly enjoyed this position, updating group information, attending AWSC, attending Assembly and reading and responding to emails.

I attended my last AWSC in May in my current position. It was a wonderful weekend, meeting with fellow coordinators, executives and DR's. I chaired the workshop on Friday night, Smooth Moves, Rotation of Leadership and Tips for a Smooth Handover. I was reminded of the three C's of Service, Year One – Confused, Year two- Comfortable and Year Three – Confident, which I have experienced in each year that I have been in Service.

Many of you maybe ending your service position this year please consider being a Coordinator at the Area Level. My position as a Group Records Coordinator has been challenging and wonderful, it has stretched me in my program and it is vital to our Area to have Coordinators.

Ask yourself the following questions about the position of Group Records Coordinator:

Do you like a challenge?

Do you like to solve puzzles?

Are in need of a service position at the Ontario South level?

Hugs in service

Christina L, Group Records Coordinator grpsec@hotmail.com

From the Open Lines Coordinator

Thank you for placing your trust in me and giving me this opportunity to serve. I am so very excited to share this edition of Open Lines with you! As you read these amazing reports may you be as inspired as I am by the Service being done to carry the message of Hope to those affected by the family disease of Alcoholism.

In this issue many Districts have shared ideas that you may want to expand to your District concerning how they are:

- planning for upcoming rotation of Leadership
- expanding Alateen message of hope
- sharing Experience Strength and Hope through workshops, Al-Anon Days, cooperation with AA etc.
- sharing the Joys and rewards of Service and Fellowship
- collaborating with each other for outreach and "in-reach"

If you are considering serving our amazing fellowship in any position at the Area level, I encourage you to get out of your comfort zone in this year of service rotation. The growth I have experienced is something I never imagined.

Open Lines is published three times a year by Ontario South Assembly. This newsletter presents service-related news and information to Al-Anon groups in Ontario South to help keep them informed. Thank you to all of the Executive, Coordinators and District Representatives who submit to each issue of Open Lines.

The deadline **(mark your calendars)** for submissions to Open Lines each year are:
March 11 (April 1 issue) July 11 (August 1 issue); **November 11** (December 1 issue)

If you do not currently receive your own email copy, please email me at openlinesosa@gmail.com to receive your very own free email subscription.

This quarter I completed my goal of organizing our member subscription database as a result our newsletter now reaches over 900 subscribers!! That is in addition to every District Rep, Coordinator and Executive who receive their copy.

Please spread the word that every member can receive their very own copy free to their own email! The next issue is December 1, 2026.

Yours in Joyful service,

Loretta V, Open Lines Coordinator openlinesosa@gmail.com

From the Technology Coordinator

Hello members of Ontario South AI-Anon,

Since my last update in April 2026, I have been busy with the Hybrid AWSC and Assembly Task Force, researching equipment to use for the Hybrid meetings, purchasing some equipment, and trialing that equipment at the AWSC held at the end of May 2026.

Thankfully a member, Carol D, of my home group in Ottawa, participated in 4 pre-AWSC equipment sessions with me to test out equipment. These were impromptu sessions, just before the AWSC.

Overall, the equipment trial went well and was not disruptive to the members who attended in-person. At least I didn't get any complaints :) One of the Task Force members attended parts of the AWSC meeting using Zoom, and I believe they were able to see the presenters and their presentations. The audio from the microphone at the podium was audible but the audio from the second microphone was more difficult to hear since the webcam at the podium was being used to send audio to Zoom. I knew going into the AWSC that the audio was going to be a challenge, so this was not unexpected. Based upon this trial, I provided an equipment list for additional items to be purchased.

For the upcoming Assembly I had a meeting with our hotel liaison to gather information about what equipment is provided, and what has to be rented, and costs. Still on my todo list is to call the Audio/Video company the hotel works with to get quotes on the cost to rent four wireless microphones, an audio mixer, and microphone stands.

My hope for Assembly 2026 is for members to step forward if you are interested in learning more about the equipment that will be required to hold the Hybrid AWSC and Assembly, as well as members interested in being Zoom hosts, cohosts, or just listening in. As I mentioned in my April report, I have found the details of making a Hybrid AWSC and Assembly operate smoothly to be challenging. Thankfully we have a few committed members on the Task Force and are working through the details. Other Areas hold hybrid meetings, so we know this is possible. I believe we need more Ontario South members to develop the experience with holding these Hybrid business meetings.

My term as Technology Coordinator comes to end at the end of this year. If you are interested in learning more about the position, please send me an email, and we can chat over Zoom or the phone.

Thank-you for the opportunity to serve as your Technology Coordinator.

Anthony S., Technology Coordinator os.tc.a86@gmail.com

From the Trillium Chair

Greetings Ontario South AI-Anon

I'm Don V and I had the honor of Chairing Trillium 2026, this will be my last Open Lines report on Trillium 2026 and I am so grateful for the entire experience.

Trillium 2026 Kicked off on June 26, 2026 at Trent University in Peterborough Ontario and what a wonderful opening it was. We had 12 amazing speakers from across Ontario, speaking for AI-Anon, Alateen and AA, and what a wonderful job they all did. We also had 6 Workshops that were all open to anyone in attendance. Alateen provided many activities as well as, Alateen's Hugs for Healing which was an open meeting so all could attend and also Alateen closed meetings for Alateen attendees to participate in.

I would like to thank the wonderful committee that I was able to work with this year; they all showed up and gave 110% throughout the past 10 months and I was humbled and honored to be able to work with this amazing group of individuals. As we all know,

service opportunities such as this quite often take people out of their comfort zone and there is always a learning curve for everyone. This committee did so well dealing with issues, working as a team to solve problems, putting their heads together to decide the best course of action and really relying on each other to get the job done. For me personally, this service experience allowed me to connect on a whole new level with my Higher Power and use many tools that the AI-Anon program has to offer. This is a service experience that I will carry with me for a very long time and the growth I have gained from it cannot be measured.

I would also like to thank the Ontario South Executive Team for all their support, Kathleen S for all her help with the Website and making sure everything was in order for Registration and posting our many flyers, Deborah F. Area Chair for answering many questions and pointing us in the right direction, Carrie E Area Secretary for distributing our many flyers to the Links of Service in Area 86, Janet B. for her patience in helping us navigate the financial end of things, Sharon R. Area Alternate Delegate for sitting on the committee as OSA Executive Liaison and helping us to stay on track and not bend any Policies and Procedures during the process, and Jason W. for reviewing some very important documents so we could keep the flow going. They were all so amazing and helpful.

Attendance was fantastic with a total of 325 registrations. We were so pleased with the support we received from all corners of our Province and beyond. We had members from New York City, Quebec, Newfoundland and of course Ontario.

I am so honored to be a part of Trillium 2026 and enjoyed every aspect of the experience and I am blessed to be a member of the AI-Anon Fellowship. With gratitude for the experience. I am honored to pass the torch on to the Trillium Chair for 2027, Cheryl T.

Hello Ontario South Alanon

I am Cheryl T and I was the Shadow Chair for the 2026 Trillium this year. It was the most amazing journey for me. I was so grateful and blessed to have worked alongside Don V and his amazing 2026 Committee. Don and his committee were with me every step of the way and I met so many amazing members and took so much away with me at Trillium. There was a lot of strength, hope, support, love and the list goes on. Thank you to Don V and all the 2026 committee and all who were right there with me at Trillium 2026.

I am now so excited and thrilled to be taking the torch from Don V and will be the Chair for Trillium 2027. I have most of my committee for 2027 and I am looking forward to embarking on another amazing Journey with the amazing committee I have assembled for 2027. Our goal is to put together a Trillium Program that will match all the past Trilliums and to welcome all of you back next year.

We have a lot to get ready for and with this amazing committee I am looking forward to a wonderful 2027 Trillium.

Looking forward to seeing you at 2027 Trillium

Yours In Service

Cheryl T, Chairperson, Trillium Convention 2027

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

NO	DATE	NAME	ITEM
1	30Apr26	Kathleen S. Website Coordinator	Centralized Assembly (3-Year Trial with Travel Equalization) That Ontario South Assembly implement a centralized Assembly model for a three (3) year trial period, with travel equalization for voting members as defined by current policy, and for any members whose Assembly costs are reimbursed by the Area, with the objective of improving accessibility, participation equity, and achieving cost neutrality or overall cost reduction. The Assembly shall be held at a consistent hotel/conference location for the duration of the trial, subject to appropriate contract review and approval processes, and selected based on accessibility by both personal vehicle and passenger rail within a major inter-regional corridor, to support equitable participation across districts. An Assembly Planning Committee shall be established with rotating representation from Central, East, and West Districts to ensure fairness and shared responsibility. As part of the trial, a comprehensive review of Assembly space requirements shall be conducted, including whether dedicated rooms (e.g., Coordinator meetings) are justified relative to duration and cost. The review shall also evaluate: - Hybrid/virtual participation and accessibility - Wi-Fi, technology, and A/V costs - Lodging affordability and amenities - Cost per attendee and participation levels Findings shall be reported annually, with Assembly retaining authority to amend or discontinue the trial.
RESPONSE: Thank you for your suggestions. Section 5A of the OSA Policies and Guidelines Manual (Area Manual) confirms that it has been traditional to rotate the location from East to West to Central to allow all members to experience an Assembly. A central location is preferred for the year when elections will be held to allow as many groups as possible to be represented. This rotation			

currently provides for shared opportunity and responsibility across multiple Districts. A central location but with a Host District from the west or east may present different challenges.

The voting members at Assembly are the GRs or Alternates and their travel costs are covered by their groups. This is in keeping with Tradition 7 and the 2026-2029 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual, Group Finances, page 52.

A Task Force has been formed as a result of the motion at Assembly 2025 to implement a hybrid AWSC in 2027 with the intention to offer a hybrid Assembly that same year. As part of its charge, the Task Force may have to consider and recommend changes to the traditional format of our area Assembly, including those you are suggesting. The Task Force is also charged to provide the Executive with information and feedback to assist in the Area's evaluation of the implementation of a hybrid model.

At this time, it seems prudent to allow the Task Force to work through their mandate and reassess the format of our Assembly at the appropriate time. Thank you again.

NO	DATE	NAME	ITEM
2	30Apr26	Kathleen S. Website Coordinator	Review and Restructuring of the Area Policy and Guideline Manual That Ontario South Assembly establish a representative Committee to conduct a comprehensive review and restructuring of the Area Policy and Guideline Manual, with the objective of improving clarity, accessibility, and usability for all members. The Committee shall include broad representation from Ontario South Assembly, including Alateen, to ensure diverse perspectives are reflected. The Committee shall be mandated to: - Review the Manual in its entirety - Identify redundancies, inconsistencies, and overly complex sections - Restructure and condense content to create a more concise, user-friendly document - Ensure alignment with current Service Manual guidance and Area practices The Committee shall be exempt from reviewing the Alateen Area

			Safety and Behavioural Requirements, which are subject to a separate review process. The Committee shall be responsible for reviewing and bringing forward all proposed changes to the Manual, rather than changes being managed solely by the Executive, to promote transparency, accountability, and shared ownership. Recommendations shall be brought forward to Assembly for approval, with progress updates provided regularly.
RESPONSE			
Thank you for your suggestion. The OSA Policies and Guidelines Manual, Section 1, item 5, Maintenance of the Manual, states that “maintenance of the manual is an administrative task and will be the responsibility of the Policies & Guidelines Manual Committee. This Committee has as its members the Alternate Delegate or Executive member who makes the revisions, the Area Secretary who updates the motions from Assembly and AWSC and the Website Coordinator who posts the revision on the website. The manual will be reviewed periodically as determined by the Executive. Revisions will be compiled and organized by the Alternate Delegate or Executive member.” The current sections of the Area Manual include General, Service Positions & Responsibilities, Executive Meetings, AWSC, Assembly & Host Committee Guidelines, Motion Summaries, Trillium Convention & Committee, Finances, Literature Distribution Centre, Ontario South Forms, Alateen, and Records & Information Management. Sections of the Area Manual are reviewed at each of the Executive Committee meetings and revisions are made as requested and/or required. The policies and guidelines have been compiled from information on the decisions, made by the groups, that were discussed and agreed to by vote at past Assemblies and AWSC, from Executive meetings, and from the shared experience of members who have held service positions over the years and who have taken the time to document useful information about tasks and suggested practices. For example, if review and revision is needed to Section 12, Records & Information Management, the Archives Coordinator and/or their committee members are invited to provide feedback to the Executive Committee and together inform appropriate changes to the guideline. Or for example, the Trillium Committee or the Assembly Host Committee (the members holding those service positions) are invited to provide feedback on the guidelines for			

the purpose of bringing them up to date with current practice. Items for Consideration may also be submitted to inform the Executive Committee of a change in practice.

Because most of this is strictly an administrative function, it may not be appropriate (unless otherwise stated in a current guideline) or time efficient to provide updates or seek approval of the Assembly members. The current practice works well and promotes shared accountability and responsibility.

Accessibility and usability of the current online Area Manual may be improved when members know to look for it at www.al-anon.alateen.on.ca under For Members>>Ontario South Assembly Resources.

NO	DATE	NAME	ITEM
3	30Apr26	Kathleen S. Website Coordinator	Review and Update of the Trillium Charter and Guidelines That Ontario South Assembly establish a Committee to conduct a comprehensive review and update of the Trillium Charter and Guidelines to ensure they reflect current practices, financial accountability, and the needs of the fellowship. The Committee shall include Al-Anon and Alateen participation and ensure alignment with the Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual and the Ontario South Area Policy and Guideline Manual. The review shall include clarification of governance, financial, and operational expectations, including: - Affirming that any surplus funds from Trillium are returned to Ontario South Assembly - Clarifying that Committee members shall not receive stipends - Ensuring Committee members and registered volunteers are not required to pay registration fees - Reviewing financial reporting and alignment with Area oversight - Considering formal inclusion of the Website Coordinator to support continuity, registration, and communications - Recognizing virtual and hybrid committee operations - Ensuring use of existing OSA resources prior to incurring new expenses

			The review shall also ensure alignment between Committee autonomy and OSA responsibility and consistency between the Trillium Charter and Guidelines. Recommendations shall be brought forward to Assembly for approval.
RESPONSE			
Thank you for your suggestion to revisit Section 7 of the Area Manual. The Policies and Guidelines Manual Committee already exists as per OSA Policies and Guidelines Manual, Section 1, item 5. Together with input from the 2026 Trillium Committee, a review and update of this section of the Area Manual will be undertaken if required to clarify governance, financial and operational expectations. Upon review of the Area Manual, Section 7A, the Trillium Charter indicates that start-up funds are returned. In addition, Section 7B.8.k confirms that any remaining funds are returned to the OSA Treasurer. At each Assembly, the Treasurer's report is inclusive of funds returned from Trillium. Stipends are financial support so recipients can pursue volunteer work and would not be in keeping with several of the Al-Anon Traditions. None of the Executive are aware of stipends being paid to Trillium Committee members. Expenses, however, are reimbursed. Section 7B.8.j confirms that a financial report is prepared by the Trillium Treasurer for the Chairperson's report to the Executive Committee at the first Executive meeting following Trillium. Regarding committee members and volunteers paying registration fees, this falls under the autonomy of the Committee each year. Section 7A.7 of the Charter states that the Convention Committee operates as a separate entity and is free to plan a unique program apart from Assembly concerns. While some of the Committee members may be more involved during the Convention, many others attend as Al-Anon members. Sections 7B.14 (Registration), 7B.15 (Communications) and Section 2B.12.6, all currently mention the role of the Website Coordinator collaborating on Trillium activities. Section 7B.1, Committee Positions, states that positions may include but are not limited to those already listed.			

Section 7B.4.e defines the Chairperson's role including arranging dates, time and location for planning meetings. It is assumed that these details will be confirmed and agreed upon through group conscience of the Committee members and may include virtual meetings.

Past practice has been that the Trillium Committee initiates any changes to the Charter or Guidelines. The Committee for 2026 has just wrapped up and they have been asked for their input on the relevant sections of the Area Manual. The current Trillium Guideline states that any major change to the Position Guidelines will be brought before the OSA for approval.

NO	DATE	NAME	ITEM
4	29May26	Loretta V. – D26	Expanded Use of Committees in Ontario South Assembly Ontario South Assembly has benefited from the service of dedicated trusted servants who carry significant responsibilities within their service positions. As the Assembly continues to evolve, there may be opportunities to expand the use of committees to support these roles, distribute workload, provide continuity, and create additional opportunities for members to participate in service. Committees can provide a pathway for members to develop skills, gain experience, and prepare for future service positions while ensuring that knowledge and responsibilities are shared rather than concentrated in a single role. They can also assist with succession planning and help maintain continuity when trusted servants rotate out of service. Examples for consideration may include a Finance Committee to support the Treasurer and a Technology Committee to support the Technology Coordinator, particularly in relation to hybrid AWSC and Assembly meetings. Similar committee structures may also be beneficial in other service areas as needs arise. The Executive is asked to discuss the role of committees within Ontario South Assembly and whether additional committees could strengthen service, increase member participation, and better support the Assembly in carrying out its primary purpose.
RESPONSE			

Thank you for your suggestion. It is acknowledged that some service positions carry significant responsibilities, however, we also learn in service that we are never alone and that we can ask for help.

There are always opportunities for members to participate in service. Unfortunately, it appears that willingness is lacking. We know from attendance at some District meetings and Assemblies that not every group has a GR; and we know from attendance at AWSC, that not every District has a DR. We learned at AWSC, for example, that only a small number of groups are represented through attendance at GTAIS meetings. We learned that the Area needs a Public Outreach Coordinator and has been without one for about a year now. All of these opportunities prepare members to develop skills, gain experience, and prepare for future service positions

It is agreed that committees strengthen service, fellowship, and increase participation, however, these opportunities already exist. The AWSC (Area World Service Committee) is an opportunity for District Reps and Area Coordinators to come together and share their experience, strength and hope with one another. The Ask-It-Basket Committee, formed at each AWSC and Assembly, collaborates with the Area Advisors to research members' questions thus gaining knowledge through review of the Service Manual and Area Manual. Additionally, an Area Coordinator such as the Technology Coordinator, has the freedom to invite other OSA members to form a committee to support them in their role as needs arise. Other pathways for members to develop skills include various Thought Forces and Task Forces (resulting from motions approved at Assembly and/or AWSC), working with or being a Service Sponsor, putting in a bid to host Assembly and forming a committee to work with you, saying yes to the invitation to chair or shadow the annual Trillium Convention and forming a committee to work with you, stepping up to Chair an AI-Anon Day or Workshop in your District and forming a committee to work with you.

We need to encourage and support the links of service. Following the guidance in the OSA Policies and Guidelines Manual, groups are encouraged to elect their new GRs by the end of August, the new GRs to elect the new DRs by the end of September and together attend Assembly in November where the incoming Executive Committee for the 2027-2029 term will be elected. Resumes for Area level positions are due by 01August and details on eligibility and responsibilities can be found in Section 2 of the Area Manual. These activities will support OSA in carrying out its primary purpose. "The key to getting started in an exciting but perhaps frightening new adventure is willingness and having other people to encourage us" (from *Survival to Recovery*, page 141). If you have a specific suggestion for a committee, or a committee on which you'd like to participate, please let us know.

NO	DATE	NAME	ITEM
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5	30May26	Kathleen S. Website Coordinator	That Ontario South Assembly review the current mileage reimbursement rate paid to trusted servants travelling on Area business, with consideration given to the current Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) automobile allowance rate, and that a recommended mileage rate be brought forward to Assembly 2026 for approval. The current mileage rate has not been adjusted for several years despite significant increases in transportation costs. Mileage reimbursement is intended to offset more than the cost of fuel alone. It also helps cover vehicle wear and tear, maintenance, tires, insurance, depreciation, and other operating expenses incurred while travelling on behalf of Ontario South. OSA currently reimburses either actual fuel costs or mileage. While this provides flexibility, rising fuel prices and increased vehicle operating costs have reduced the effectiveness of the current mileage rate. Trusted servants already volunteer their time and expertise in service to the Area. Reasonable reimbursement helps ensure that members are not personally subsidizing Area service through out-of-pocket travel expenses. The CRA rate is widely recognized as a reasonable benchmark for estimating the true cost of operating a personal vehicle and should be considered when determining an appropriate reimbursement rate for Ontario South.
RESPONSE			
Thank you for your suggestion. The members that travel to conduct Area business include the members of the AWSC (Area World Service Committee). Area Coordinators already have an annual budget of \$250 allotted for Area expenses which may include travel expenses. The Area's proposed budget for 2027 was discussed at AWSC and a motion was made to increase the mileage reimbursement rate to \$0.60/km. There were 39 voting members present at AWSC, and of the votes cast, 3 were in favour. The motion was defeated by a substantial majority and therefore does not go any further (status quo). Thank you for sharing your concern. Moving forward, the Executive Committee will continue to monitor mileage reimbursements with an understanding that increased rates will increase the			

cost for groups. As per Section 2A.9 of the Area Manual, the Treasurer will announce rates for mileage at AWSC.

NO	DATE	NAME	ITEM
6	30May26	Kathleen S. Website Coordinator	That Ontario South review and update all OSA documents, forms, policies, guidelines, and communications to replace the term "PRC (Police Record Check)" with "VSC (Vulnerable Sector Check)" where applicable. The term "Police Record Check" is often used generically and can refer to several different levels of screening. A standard Police Record Check typically identifies criminal convictions and certain court records. A Vulnerable Sector Check is a more comprehensive screening process intended for individuals working or volunteering with vulnerable persons, including children and youth. In addition to criminal record information, a VSC may include vulnerable sector screening as authorized by legislation. Ontario South's current requirement for trusted servants serving in positions involving Alateen is a Vulnerable Sector Check, not a standard Police Record Check. Continuing to use the acronym "PRC" may create confusion regarding the actual screening requirement and could result in members obtaining the wrong type of record check. Updating OSA documents to consistently reference a Vulnerable Sector Check will improve clarity, ensure alignment with current Ontario South requirements, and reduce the risk of misunderstanding by members and service bodies.

RESPONSE

Thank you for your suggestion. According to the Police Record Checks Reform Act, 2015, there are several types of police record checks: criminal record check, criminal record and judicial matters check, and vulnerable sector check (VSC). The VSC includes all information from the criminal record and judicial matters check, plus any recorded suspensions (pardons) for sexual offences.

Section 11B, item 1 of the Area Manual indicates that the Police Record Check (PRC) must include screening for volunteers caring for Vulnerable Individuals. The AMIAS certification

process is outlined in Section 11B, Item 2.c and indicates that the PRC must include vulnerable sector screening to ensure the applicant has no record in the RCMP Sexual Offender Database. The process includes obtaining a signed letter from the Area Chairperson confirming the applicant will be working with Alateens and Vulnerable Individuals and confirms the request for the VSC.

While the term Vulnerable Sector Check is more precise, the requirements are clearly defined as noted above. Section 11 is already under review and revision and changes to language may be implemented at the appropriate time to improve clarity.

NO	DATE	NAME	ITEM
7	30May26	Kathleen S. Website Coordinator	That Ontario South review and clarify the role of representation and participation at the Area World Service Committee (AWSC). Members attend AWSC by virtue of their elected or appointed service position as an Executive, Coordinator, District Representative, or AIS Chairperson. The purpose of AWSC is to conduct Area business and provide an opportunity for trusted servants to share the experience and perspectives gained through their service roles. During discussion, members will sometimes indicate that they are speaking "as a member" rather than in their service capacity. As participation at AWSC is limited to trusted servants and is not generally available to the broader fellowship, this can create confusion regarding the role and responsibility of participants. A review would help clarify whether members attending AWSC should only speak from the perspective of the service position they hold and represent, thereby supporting transparency, accountability, and the integrity of the service structure.

RESPONSE

Thank you for your suggestion. It appears that your concern may be about how an invited member of the AWSC may identify at the microphone rather than OSA needing to clarify the role of representation and participation. Section 4 of the Area Manual, and the Information Package that is sent to the AWSC members both clearly identify that AWSC is a meeting of invited OSA members. Introductions of the Executive and Area Coordinators are made each day so there should be no confusion as to who is in service and in what role.

At Assembly, for example, the Delegate (or other Executive Committee member or other non-voting member) doesn't have a vote. But if the Delegate comes to the microphone to voice an opinion or provide clarification, they may be doing so as a member of their District. Likewise, at AWSC, when the Area Chairperson answered a question on electronic transfer of funds to the WSO, they did so as a member of their District and experience as a Group Treasurer, because typically the Chairperson does not participate in discussion topics.

If a former member of Alateen who is now an Al-Anon member and holds a service position of Area Secretary chooses to express an opinion about the adoption of electronic Alateen meetings in Ontario South, are they doing so as the Secretary, or as a member of their District? How important is it how they identify at the microphone? It is unclear whether you are suggesting that they shouldn't speak because this topic would be inconsistent from the perspective of the service position held and being represented. All members of the AWSC have experience that can be offered that may not be relevant to their current service role but is valuable to the discussion.

NO	DATE	NAME	ITEM
8	30May26	Jeannette T. – D8	Area 86 reached out to all districts and groups to get assistance in raising funds to purchase a laptop. Not only did we raise enough, but there is a significant amount in excess. These funds were placed back to the general funds. I feel the excess funds for the website's laptop be placed aside along with an additional amount, like we do with a laptop for Group Records, so when the Website Coordinator's laptop needs to be replaced the funds are there.

RESPONSE

Thank you for your suggestion. During the special appeal to raise funds for the Website laptop, it was communicated that any excess funds would be placed into the Area's (OSA) general operating fund. Your suggestion is really asking for capital money, but unless OSA can cover its operating expenses, there is no excess to set aside for a future computer purchase. Additionally, the *2026-2029 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual*, page 103, guides us that contributions should not be earmarked for any specific purpose. The OSA Treasurer does not currently set aside money for any laptop; in the past there may have been a line item in the budget to accrue, but this was a budget line not an expense line.

A computer purchase is a capital expense and doesn't come out of the operating fund. OSA budgets on a break-even basis, meaning expenses are balanced by members' contributions. If OSA is short of funds to cover operating expenses, any "excess" funds will go into the general bank account to cover those operating costs. OSA is already falling short of meeting the budget for 2026 – to date, halfway through the year, contributions are at 35% of budget. This is why it is

important for the membership to understand that regular and consistent contributions are important and needed.

Hopefully, if OSA receives contribution amounts of more than it needs, they will go into the reserve fund which can be used to finance future projects or equipment purchases. This is especially important as we move into implementation of hybrid business meetings. The Assembly voted for implementation of hybrid meetings, and they are not without cost. If OSA continues not to receive enough contributions to cover its operating expenses, money will have to come out of the reserve account to finance things like replacement computers and hybrid equipment. It is important that this information is shared through the links of service so that every member understands the importance of their contribution.

NO	DATE	NAME	ITEM
9	18Jun26	Carolyn S. – D26	I recently noticed, under 2025 Assembly Presentations on the Ontario South website, that the presentation of the "Report from the Thought Force on Incorporating an Electronic Component into Assembly Meetings" is not included. I would like to request that you authorize the Website Coordinator to add this presentation to the others listed. I believe this would make it easier for members to access the information. I would be happy to provide the document for posting. Thank you for your consideration.

RESPONSE

Thank you for your suggestion. Currently what is posted are the 2025 Assembly minutes, the Delegate's reports and the Finance Workshop. Review of previous years' postings include similar information. Upon review of the Area Manual, Section 2A.8, in addition to the meeting minutes, typically the Secretary will assemble any District, AIS, Trillium, OSAAC and Coordinator reports and email them to the Website Coordinator for posting to the OSA website. Past practice is such that typically background information or other attachments are not posted to the website.

The Assembly Information Package for 2025, which would have been distributed through the links of service to all group members, included the full Thought Force report as an attachment, as well as a summary of the report in the background information for the Discussion Topic. The Task Force that formed as a result of this Discussion Topic are the "doers" implementing the electronic component for our Area business meetings, and they have also received a full copy of the Thought Force report for their reference.

Additionally, the full report from the Thought Force contains details and references to other Areas outside of Ontario South, and posting such information on our website, which is available publicly, is not our information to share and is beyond our autonomy and bypasses the links of service. If additional members are requesting a copy, please feel free to send it, or it can be requested through the links of service, or through a member of the Executive.

District Representative Updates



District 2 (Georgian Bay) Update

District 2 - Georgian Bay has celebrated a few Anniversaries of our District meetings plus have had many fun attendances at the AA Round Up and with our Al-Anon Day coming up too. Collingwood Monday Night celebrated 38 Years, with their long-standing member who received her 40 Years in Al-Anon, a few members receiving 35 Years, 20 Years, 5 Years and 1 Year. Love & Service in Thornbury celebrated their members with 10 Years, a couple 5 Years and a 1 year in recovery. Discovery AFG in Owen Sound will be celebrating 40 Years next year with many members receiving their Years in Al Anon medallions as well. Our meetings have great attendance with healthy experiences, strength and hope shared by all.

Our Public Outreach Coordinator had a quick information session at the local Owen Sound high school to spread awareness that Alateen is in our Area, where to find meetings online and who to reach out to. In hopes next year to visit the other high school.

District 2 Al-Anon participated in the 29th Annual AA Round Up in Owen Sound this past June where our Al-Anon Speaker shared for her first time her experience in Al-Anon where she touched many hearts with her HOPE in attending her program.

We are holding our Al-Anon Day on Saturday, September 26th in Owen Sound this year, theme "Recovery Road trip". We hope you can attend!

In Service

McKayla S. District 2 Representative

District 5 (Huron/Perth) Update

As District Rep, one of my service opportunities is to file a report for Open Lines. As my term is coming to an end, preparing for the Rotation of Leadership in our District, I have offered this opportunity to one of our very active Group Reps, giving this GR first-hand experience to shadow as District Rep. The following is that report:

Musings of a Group Rep.

Eager to 'get it right', I did what many newcomers to Al-Anon do. I raised my hand to volunteer for every service opportunity that was mentioned in my home group - St. Mary's Saturday Serenity. Feeling awkward and uncomfortable with the silence that inevitably followed every request, I turned to my old 'friends', just wanting to help and people pleasing. The outcome? Eight months into my recovery journey, I was elected Group Rep. Three years later, my District Rep suggested that I might contribute some thoughts to Open Lines. I am grateful to have the chance to do so.

Miraculously, stepping up for service accelerated my personal recovery as I applied the 3 A's. I came to realize that my own recovery hinged on my willingness to surrender the old and embrace the new. As Chair of our District Al-Anon Day Committee, I accepted my responsibility to do my part and trusted others to do the same. Attending two Assemblies as well as the most recent AWSC, gave witness to how important decisions can be made when each person feels heard, authority is respected and responsibility is shared.

Participating in District 5's monthly meetings has given me the chance to practice saying what I mean and letting go of the outcome. I have accepted my responsibility as a communication conduit through the service arms. I have been inspired by others who humbly shared their commitment to service and linked it back to Al-Anon's co-founder, Lois W. I have also become increasingly aware of the defects in my character that had previously skewed my thinking and behaviour. I discovered and accepted that I am a human being with all of the strengths and flaws that that entails. My distorted need for control and perfection along with the misguided belief that it was up to me to make things happen crystallized as I stepped up for service.

I now know that it was my Higher Power who brought me to the rooms of this transformative fellowship. I am blessed to have been led to a group that consistently and intentionally uses the three legacies of Al-Anon to guide us individually and collectively. Their support of my service journey has given me the opportunity to translate my gratitude into action. As the three-year term comes quickly to an end, I look forward to discovering what service opportunities await.

Sandy C. Group Rep. (District 5)

In Service

Susan B. District 5 Representative

District 25 (Quinte) Update

District 25 now has 12 active groups, 10 Al-Anon Groups and 2 Alateen groups, the most recent one to open on July 9th in Trenton, Ontario. One group in the Trenton area is at this time without a Group Representative, however we do have a couple of people who are showing interest in the position. I continue to visit all the groups in District 25 to talk about the importance of service work at all levels and to make myself available to discuss any concerns that the members may have. We discuss what services positions are available and at what levels. We discuss Alateen and how each group can help to promote Alateen. I find that as a District Representative, it is important to make myself available to all groups in District 25. By doing so I find that it heightens the interest in Service work and keeps all items up front for discussion at the group level.

Our meetings at the Quinte Detention Center continue to happen, however we have lost 2 of our volunteers for personal reasons. We continue to go in weekly and we are really working towards getting a couple more volunteers

to help out. This is one of the most rewarding Service positions I do and I will continue to be dedicated to it for as long as possible. We meet with approx. 10 inmates weekly 5 in the Maximum Area and 5 in the minimum area. The unfortunate aspect of this is we cannot follow up with the inmates who join the meeting because as they leave the contact is severed. We are sure that we are making a difference with some of the inmates however and that keeps us going back week after week.

Our Website is still very active and we continue to get requests for meeting availability and general questions relating to Al-Anon. The Website continues to be a great asset in our Public Outreach as we are able to continue to post upcoming events, meeting schedules and items of interest. We are very grateful to our Website Coordinator Chique E for keeping our website up to date and forwarding any questions or concerns to the members who can best address them.

Our Alateen Program is starting to take shape, three years ago we had no AMIAS or Alateen meetings in District 25, I am very happy to report that we have now 5 AMIAS and two new Alateen Groups in District 25 and we are continuing to work on Public Outreach for Alateen, working with our OSA Alateen Coordinator Judith and our Public Outreach Coordinator Chris W.

We have started 2 new groups, the first in Campbellford Ontario, New Beginnings Alateen, the first meeting was held on April 2, 2026 at Free Methodist Church 73 Ranney Street meeting from 5pm to 6pm

Trenton Alateen meeting, Courage to Change Alateen, Ebenezer Christian Church, 18 Fourth Ave, Trenton Ontario, held their first meeting on July 9th, meeting from 7pm to 8pm

We are always in need of more AMIAS in our District and continue our canvassing to fill this need.

We are very excited that our Alateen Program is starting to take shape and we are looking forward to working hard at its continued growth in District 25.

Our Public Outreach Coordinator Chris W. continues to go the extra mile to keep the Al-Anon Program at the forefront and accessible to all who need it or show interest in District 25. She recently attended an information fair in Trenton, Ontario on May the 9th, setting up a display table with lots of literature for the public to take with them. There were approx. 300 attendees at the information fair and several visited the Al-Anon Table. It also gave us the opportunity to use our recently acquired Banner, which attracts a lot of attention. Chris is also busy attending Round-ups in our District as well as our Annual Al-Anon Day, setting up information tables and literature for the public. She will be a key participant in our Alateen Public outreach as she has many years of experience not only in Al-Anon Literature and Public Outreach but has also dedicated many to the Alateen program.

We have had a couple of anniversary meetings in District 25.

New Beginnings A.F.G. in Belleville, Ontario at the St. Columba Presbyterian Church at 520 Bridge Street, held their Anniversary meeting on March 26th, Guest Speakers were from Al-Anon Cheryl T. from Picton Gratitude A.F.G. and for AA Mike T. from Picton. This was a family panel and both speakers had very powerful messages to pass on to the attendees. There were 35 in attendance and the day was capped off with finger foods, and fellowship. Everyone had a wonderful time and left with some great memories and a few new Al-Anon friends

Serenity A.F.G. in Cobourg, Ontario at the Trinity United Church, on Division Street held their anniversary meeting on June 16th starting with refreshments and fellowship at 6:30pm. The main speaker was Amy S. a member of the Serenity A.F.G. Cobourg Group. Amy's message of Healing, and Recovery and utilizing the Steps and Traditions beyond the program in her everyday life was very uplifting and contained a powerful message of the wonderful benefits of the program.

There were 24 in attendance and everyone left with a wonderful message to take with them along with some great memories.

September 19th 2026 District 25 will be hosting our Al-Anon Day, HOPE HAPPENS HERE.

This event will be held at Ebenezer Christian Reform Church 18 Fourth Ave. Trenton Ontario, Registration begins at 9:30am, Speaker Panels from 10am to 4pm, Pot Luck Lunch.

Expect a Flyer soon.

In Service

Don V, District 25 Representative

District 26 (St. Lawrence) Update

Hello Ontario South!

Our District has not been overly active since the last Open Lines report. April saw our participation again in the local AA Round-up. We had our Public Outreach literature display available and presented a 2-speaker panel. Again, we were made very welcome and our panelists were well received.

We held our District Al-Anon Day in May. One of our newer groups took the lead on hosting the day and it was heartwarming to witness the enthusiasm that was exhibited. It was a lovely location, with everyone feeling the theme, "Finding Serenity – Al-Anon is for Everyone", as soon as they entered the rooms. There were panels and a keynote speaker, many being from the Montreal area. It was wonderful to welcome them to Ontario South. A Workshop was also held, with the theme of "Planting the Seeds of Hope". This was led by a member from our electronic group, who resides in Florida and made the trip up to Canada for the day. This was definitely a labour of love, from her making the trip to all the members involved in fetching her from the border and getting her back again. Not made any easier when the airline cancelled all flights at 2:00 a.m.! I digress. The workshop focused on the fact that Lois and Ann planted seeds of hope 75 years ago, paying homage to Al-Anon's 75th Anniversary. Attendees split into groups and each table was provided with many pieces of Public Outreach material (posters, bookmarks, pamphlets, etc.), seed packets, seeds (pieces of paper). They were asked to discuss how and various locations where they could plant the seeds. Then they were asked to choose which of the materials they would take, and make a commitment to plant them (i.e. "I am taking 3 posters, 2 AFAs and 4 pamphlets, and will deliver them to a doctor's office by the end of June."). Various ideas were then shared with everyone. Hopefully members will follow through and we will get some Public Outreach accomplished, maybe someone even inspired to be the District Public Outreach Coordinator!

At our District meeting in September, we will be electing the new executive who will be taking on the roles in January 2027. It does not seem possible that this 3-year term is coming to an end already.

With summer now well here, I am looking forward to my annual tour of the District to visit all the groups.

In Service

Carolyn S., District 26 Representative

District 32 (Kawartha South) Update

I hope that everyone had a great Canada Day.

We are now in July and recently Peterborough had the privilege of having the Trillium Conference held in our city. Don V and the Trillium Committee did a fantastic job. Many of the Al-Anon members from Peterborough and surrounding areas volunteered at this amazing event. As a volunteer Greeter on Friday evening, I met so many new and familiar friends.

The week before the Trillium Conference, the Kawartha AA Conference was also held in Peterborough with Al-anon participation. There was a panel of Al-Anon members to share their experience of strength and hope.

In early May, District 32 held their annual Al-Anon Day where a panel of Al-Anon members and a main speaker shared their story of recovery. It was a fun day and one that we plan to hold each May.

We have a new Alateen (AM AIS) and are looking to start an Alateen meeting early in the new year. Members are being encouraged to register in order to assist with this Al-Anon/Alateen Service.

Our District Meetings take a hiatus during the summer months. At the last meeting in June, we discussed and gave out information on taking on service positions and the elections which will take place in the month of September. These members will shadow the existing District Members so that they are ready to assume these positions in January. We also discussed the importance of service and the rotation of leadership.

As one final note as we start looking at the transition to a change in service positions, we are looking at doing a District Inventory. At my home group we recently completed a group inventory and thought that it would be helpful to do an inventory at the District level looking at how the meetings are conducted and items discussed and suggestions for improvement.

Enjoy your summer

In Service

Marie A., District 32 Representative

Literature Distribution Center (LDC) Update

LDC Open Lines Report

This report will be short and sweet. Thank you to those groups, districts, committees and members who connect for literature. Sadly, I am missing many of you. Literature sales are down. Why? Cost of living today is making purchases tight? Groups online not ordering? Ordering electronic literature? Ordering from WSO? I don't know the answers, but I do hope things pick up. Here are some things to consider. Some groups have voted to take one meeting topic week a month and devote it to a piece of current CAL, but not the daily readers. WSO suggested to all the groups decades ago that it would be wonderful if we used other CAL in our groups as the daily readers are member sharing's which we are at the meeting to hear, not read what we have at home each day. It doesn't mean they can't be used; I think was to expand our horizons from what we may all have and to spend more time in the present. I have blurbs that describe every piece of literature we have so you can look at the list and pick an item you aren't familiar with and share it when you chair. Email the office and I can send them to you. There have also been a few groups that have changed to a literature meeting or do a book study. All ways to learn the options that are out there. If you purchase from WSO and don't get your order, or it takes a long time I cannot help you. Some have not received their orders after months because it didn't make it across the border and that is sad. If you order here, unless there is a delay in me getting stock because it is not available or my shelves just got cleared off you should get your order within a day or two of paying for it. Also, if you have an event did you know you can get literature by consignment from the office? Connect with me and I will share the info. I am attaching the summer closure flyer and a cost comparison flyer for you to share with your groups. **Assembly preorders must be in no later than Sept 21st at 1pm and then I will confirm cost, which must be in by Sept 28th at no later than 1pm. If your group pays by cheque, make sure it is in early enough to still meet the payment dates. No exceptions are made to the deadlines.** I feel so privileged each day to serve Ontario South.

LDC Summer Closure

As June ends, here is a quick reminder that the office goes into summer closure on July 23rd at 1pm and reopens Aug 24th at 10am.

You may call in or email in orders during that time but there will be no response until the office reopens. Then all correspondence will be handled in the order it was received. Depending on the volume it could be a day or two before you hear back.

If you want literature before the closure. Please ensure that you request it early that week or before so it can be set up, confirmed and you can pay. Only then can it be put together and if it is last minute, there may not be time to get it out before 1 on the 23rd.

I'd love to have empty shelves to start the break and have your literature needs all restocked.



WSO order compared to Ont.South LDC order

We hear often that it is cheaper to order from WSO. Here is a comparison based on exchange rates from June 1, 2026.

WSO: B-6 ODAT: Cost \$13 plus shipping \$20 equals \$33 US. With exchange 1.3837 on June 1, 2026= **\$45.66 CDN**

Ont. South LDC: B-6 ODAT: Cost \$19 plus 5% tax plus shipping with tax \$16.95 = **\$36.90 CDN**



Also to consider when you order from WSO, they do their large LDC orders first, then the small group and personal orders. The time for you to receive the order is anywhere from 4-6 weeks if there is no issue at the border.

If you order from your LDC, once paid, which can be done by cheque or e transfer with a password, you will receive your order in 2 working days via Canada Post expedited shipping.

Please support your LDC.

As always, I am privileged to serve Ontario South.

Linda LDC Office Manager os.literature.distribution@gmail.com

Click here for Upcoming Events!!

NEWS FROM YOUR EXECUTIVE 07/2026

TREASURER'S CORNER

Where are we at? We are halfway through the year and as of June 30th the Area has received 35% of the budgeted amount for 2026. Consistent giving throughout the year is helpful. If every member contributed \$2 per month, the Area could meet its budget for 2026.

LITERATURE DISTRIBUTION CENTRE

When you buy literature, please support your LDC and buy from Ontario South. Ordering is easy using the online form.

[OS Literature Distribution Centre Order Form](#)

ASSEMBLY 2026 ELECTIONS

Refer to Section 2A of the Area Manual for roles and responsibilities. Section 5A.18, Service Positions, further identifies the AWSC members eligible for an executive position: DRs, Executive, Advisors, Coordinators, AIS Chairs, Trillium Chairs, and OSAAC Chairs. **Member Profile and Resume Form 10-I** are requested by 01Aug26.

TASK FORCE FOR HYBRID MEETINGS

Preliminary testing was conducted at AWSC in May. Further testing at Assembly will occur and the **Technology Coordinator needs your support**. If members are interested in learning about the equipment setup process, please show up by 4 pm on Friday of Assembly weekend. Showing up just means you are curious and want to learn – commitment to a future position is not required! Contact os.tc.a86@gmail.com for more information.

AREA COORDINATOR ROLE

Thinking of the service term 2027-2029? Each Coordinator is selected by the Delegate from the applicants who have submitted a letter of interest. **Reach out to the incoming Delegate at ontariosouthdelegate@hotmail.com by mid-November 2026 to express your interest.**

AREA WEBSITE FORMS

[OSA Forms – Ontario South AI-Anon](#)

ASSEMBLY 2026

November 6-8, 2026
Burlington, ON
Information Package coming at the end of August!

ASSEMBLY 2026 ELECTIONS!!

Incoming GRs in 2026 will elect the next Executive Committee to serve 2027-2029.

ASSEMBLY 2027

Will be held in the West.
Bids are still needed!
Districts 1-13 are requested to submit a Bid Form. chairons86@gmail.com.

AREA INVENTORY 2025

Responses have been compiled in detail and will be emailed to the AWSC – coming soon!

HANDOVER 2027

The Handover Meeting for the incoming Executive is planned for **Jan 15/16, 2027** in Brantford.

AREA MANUAL

Area Policy & Guideline Manual – Ontario South AI-Anon

**Looking for Volunteers to
Help Grow Alateen in Ontario South (Area 86)**

Has Alanon helped you? Then why wouldn't you want to give that *gift* to your child (or to other children)?

We currently have **13** Alateen Groups
Across **30** Districts in Ontario South.

Looking for Volunteers to help!

Our goal is to have one Alateen meeting
in each district. We need Al-Anon members
to volunteer and register as AMIAS
(Al-Anon Members In Alateen Service)

Training will be available
Alateen needs the support

Of Al-Anon to grow
Alateen

For more information,
please contact:
Judith W
os.alateen.coordinator@gmail.com
647-215-3048

Let it begin with me:
When anyone,
anywhere reaches out
for help, Let the hand
of Al-Anon and
Alateen always be
there and let it begin
with me

**Service
Opportunity:**

**Alateen Group
Organiser**



**Looking for Al-Anon Members who are interested in
opening an Alateen Group in your district.
Job Description Below:**

- Encourage Al-Anon members to become Certified AMIAS (Al-Anon Member in Alateen Service)
 - Guide those interested through the certification process
 - Keep a list of certified AMIAS in the district and their contact information. This list is only to be shared with DR's for events with instructions to shred when the event is over
- Work with the Area Alateen Co-ordinator to open one or more groups in the district
 - once there are more than two certified AMIAS, look for a space to host the Alateen meeting
 - Register the Alateen group with WSO
 - Find insurance if required
 - Ask groups in the district to support the Alateen meeting by bringing new members and providing donations until the group is self supporting
 - Work with the AMIASs to perform Public Outreach to let people know there is an Alateen meeting (groups in the district, schools, hospitals etc.)
- Prepare and distribute a monthly schedule to the Active AMIAS for the new group
- Attend monthly Area AMIAS meetings (1st Sunday of every month at 10am)
- Reach out to the Area Alateen Co-ordinator for guidance and to discuss and concerns or challenges

Those interested in the position, please contact the Ontario South
Alateen Co-ordinator to discuss:



HOPE PREVAILS ALATEEN

IN-PERSON

Living with someone else's drinking can be tough.
You don't have to face it alone.

Alateen provides a safe, supportive space
for young people
to share experiences, strength, and hope.

Please join us:

Saturdays at 10:00 AM

Hopedale Presbyterian Church

Lower Level

156 Third Line, Oakville

Inquiries: Susan 905-808-0862

Email: alateen.hopeprevails@gmail.com



IMPORTANT DATE AND TIME CHANGE



COURAGE TO CHANGE ALATEEN MEETING

EBENEZER CHRISTIAN REFORM CHURCH

18 FOURTH AVENUE, TRENTON, ONTARIO

WILL BE MOVING TO A NEW DATE AND TIME

**STARTING AUGUST 5TH, 2026
THE REVISED TIME AND DATE WILL BE**

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS AT 6:30PM

**ENTER AT THE SIDE DOOR OFF THE NORTH PARKING LOT
FIRST ROOM ON THE RIGHT**

THIS IS A CLOSED MEETING FOR TEENS ONLY

**AGES 8 TO 18 WELCOME, HOWEVER THE AGE GROUPS
ARE FLEXIBLE**

CALLING ALL ELECTRONIC GROUPS!

Is your group information correct or not? Let us know!

Two minutes of your time will help ensure newcomers can find your group.

Easy Two-Step Process:

1. Review the information on the attached Annual Group Update Form

2. Let us know!

- a. If everything is correct, use the QR code or link below and mark "All Information is Correct"
- b. If something is not correct, use the QR code or link below and let us know what needs to be changed.



Scan this [QR Code] or visit al-anon.org/annual-electronic or mail the form (with or without changes) to the WSO.

Accurate meeting information is a lifeline for individuals seeking Al-Anon's help. By verifying your group information, you ensure people can find your meeting.

View how easy it is to verify or update your group information with this short video by visiting al-anon.org/annual-video

Questions? We're here to help! • Email AFG Records at AFGRecords@al-anon.org

CALLING ALL IN-PERSON GROUPS!

Is your group information correct or not? Let us know!

Two minutes of your time will help ensure newcomers can find your group.

Easy Two-Step Process:

1. Review the information on the attached Annual Group Update Form

2. Let us know!

- a. If everything is correct, use the QR code or link below and mark "All Information is Correct"
- b. If something is not correct, use the QR code or link below and let us know what needs to be changed.



Scan this [QR Code] or visit al-anon.org/annual-in-person or mail the form (with or without changes) to the WSO.

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Questions? We're here to help! • Email AFG Records at AFGRecords@al-anon.org

Al-Anon Family Groups

FALL WORKSHOP
DISTRICT 9

Saturday, September 12, 2026
10am to 3pm
Holy Trinity Church – 81 Selkirk, Chatham, ON

Raffle and Door Prizes
More than 30 Topics to be covered - Guest speaker Rick J from Oakville
Bring a friend, a sponsor, a sponsee

\$10 at the door
Potluck Lunch – bring **COLD** finger foods to share
Dress in layers

New Item Donations for Door Prizes are appreciated!
Contact Carla - phone 519-365-9235 email carla.lynnch2161@gmail.com

GTAIS presents
A Day of Recovery
(an in-person event)

Reaching

- Save the Date:
Sept. 12, 2026 , 8:30am to 12:30pm
Bloordale United Church,
4258 Bloor St. W Etobicoke
- IN
 - OUT
 - UP
- For more information, email:
gtais.chair@gmail.com

*GTAIS-Greater Toronto Al-Anon Information Services

Save The Date Day of Recovery

Hested by: Districts 22 & 23

Saturday, Sept. 19

**Ajax Community Centre
Commodore's Room**

9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Potluck Lunch
** cold food only **

 **Wheelchair
Accessibility**



District 2 Al-Anon Day

RECOVERY ROADTRIP

DATE CHANGE!!!!

Saturday, September 26, 2026

8:30 AM registration
9:00 AM start

First Baptist Church
990 4th Ave E,
Owen Sound, ON

Al-Anon \$15

Alateen (under 16) \$2

Al-Anon and AA Speakers
BRING A POTLUCK ITEM



A DAY OF AL-ANON

Crossroads United Church
690 Sir John A Macdonald Blvd

Kingston, Ontario

District 31

OCTOBER 3RD, 2026

SERVICE

GRATITUDE IN MOTION



REGISTRATION 8:30am -3pm

The program will include — Al-Anon and AA speakers
plus a Workshop

A potluck lunch will be provided

We are environmentally friendly and kindly ask you to bring
your own water bottle

GET INVOLVED!

Are you Looking for
Opportunities for Personal
Development & Growth?

The Al-anon Service Manual recommends that the
Alternate Group Representative be a part of GTAIS
which meets on the first Tuesday of each month.

GTAIS offers a variety of services to Al-Anon
Members and the community.

Attend a GTAIS Meeting!

[Click here to learn
more about GTAIS](#)



Zoom ID
850 0917 8410
Passcode
303728

If you would like more information about
GTAIS meetings please email:

gtais.chair@gmail.com

Greater Toronto Al-Anon Information
Services (GTAIS)