



Area 79 BC/Yukon July 2026 Assembly AGENDA COVER LETTER

Area Service Committee
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June 11, 2026

Hello, trusted servants, I'm an alcoholic, my name is Paul, and I'm honored to serve as your Panel 75 Area 79 Chair.

Contents of this Agenda Package

The agenda package combines several important documents:

- This cover letter
- A detailed agenda for the event
- 2 Motions for consideration
- Proposed Revisions to Area 79 Voting Procedures

I've greatly reduced the size of the agenda package by adding a **Links & Resources** section at the end of this letter. Please review those links carefully. **If you prefer the nearly 30 page version of this package, you'll find it as the first item in that section.**

This package has been sent to all registered District Committee Members (DCMs) and General Service Representatives (GSRs). **DCMs**, please forward it to your district's trusted servants—they may receive it twice, but better twice than not at all!

Location

The in-person portion will be at: **Prestige Hudson Bay Lodge & Conference Centre**, 3251 BC-16, Smithers, BC. The Area Service Committee (ASC) will be staying here. Be sure to review the **Accommodations and Restaurants** document which also includes transportation information. There is no billeting available for this event.

Registration

You must complete the registration if you plan on attending the Committee Breakouts on Tuesday, and/or if you are attending the weekend online. After registering, you'll receive a unique meeting link—please do not share it.

 [Click here to register](#) 

DCMs will be assigned to their usual Area committees. GSRs that registered for the Pre-Conference in April will be assigned to the committee that aligns with the committee chair they were with in April (for example: if you were with Caleb in Policy and Admissions in April, you'll be with him in Treatment and Grassroots in July). All other GSRs will be randomly assigned to a committee. Guests, and members in other service positions may choose their committee by moving themselves to the appropriate breakout room.

Meals & Event Posters

The hotel will have a soup & sandwich lunch available for \$21 – there will be 75 available. If you're without a vehicle because you flew in and you're thinking of leaving the hotel for a meal, you might consider pre-ordering lunch and/or dinner.

▶ **Please note:** the Prestige will only allow us to bring food and beverages into the main room that were purchased at the hotel's concession. We've signed a contract with them, so we need your help honouring that agreement. Thank you in advance.

If you've got a poster for an upcoming event, instead of printing copies and distributing to all of the tables in the room, save your money and leave a poster on a new **Event Table** that we'll set up. You can leave a single copy at the table for people to take a picture of. And be sure to submit a copy to our BC/Yukon website using [these instructions](#).

What to expect at this Assembly

An important highlight of our July Assembly is **The Delegate's Conference Report**. Drew will share updates on the discussions, decisions, and impactful outcomes of the Conference, followed by time for questions and sharing.

Historically, our summer events have been held as Quarterlies, where only DCMs and the Area Service Committee (ASC) had voting rights. However, in September 2024, we voted to transition our summer events into Assemblies, giving GSRs the opportunity to vote as well.

Two motions have been submitted for this assembly and are attached to this agenda. Please review with your groups in preparation for full discussion and a possible vote in July.

The submission deadline of May 1 has passed; motions received after this date will be treated as floor actions following the vote on pre-submitted motions. Floor actions must be submitted in writing to the Area Chair by 11:00 a.m. on the Saturday of the event.

Some additional highlights of the Assembly are:

- ❖ **Committee Breakouts** - Tuesday evening each committee discusses their Conference agenda items.
- ❖ **July Assembly 101** - ALL ARE WELCOME!
- ❖ **Voting Procedures Presentation** – our ad hoc will present its recommendations for updated Area 79 Voting Procedures and THERE WILL BE A SKIT!
- ❖ **Bidding for the January 2027 Quarterly**
- ❖ **Friday Night meetings**
 - **GSR Sharing Session** – Topic: “How do I leave my service position better than I found it?”
 - **Area Committee Meeting** – at the same time as the sharing session above, the DCMs and ASC will have their own sharing session.
- ❖ **DCM reports** – we get to hear from our DCMs about the exciting service work happening in their districts
- ❖ **Committee Report-backs** – a vital part of this entire event, we get to hear what each committee discussed in their breakouts.
- ❖ **Area Service Committee reports** – hear what service our ASC members and their committees have been involved in.
- ❖ **Updates from ad hoc committees** – Two other Area 79 ad hoc committees will report on their research, discovery efforts, and any recommendations on the topics of *Land Acknowledgements* and *Care & Conduct*.
- ❖ **WRAASA update** – Arnie G. will provide an update on WRAASA 2027

Online Naming Convention

To save time, when you arrive on Tuesday or for the online portion of our weekend, please rename yourself in Zoom with the following naming convention: *Role, Name, District*

Some examples:

- GSR, John D., D99
- AltGSR, Jane D., D99
- DCC-PI, John D., D99
- Guest, John D., D99

If you don't know how to rename yourself, no trouble, we have techs in the meeting that can help you and there's a slide we display to show you examples. Plus we have this new

[Online meeting basics guide](#), too.

Action Items

DCMs, please distribute this agenda package to all applicable trusted servants in your district (including incoming trusted servants). The package can also be found on the landing page of the BC/Yukon Area website: <https://bcyukonaa.org/>

DCMs, since I've got your attention, please be prepared to **give a 2-minute verbal DCM Report on Saturday**; you can include additional details in your written report. Please email that written report to secretary@bcyukonaa.org by **July 19, 2026**. The reports will be included in the July 2026 edition of Grassroots Forum, the BC/Yukon Area 79 Newsletter.

Notices of Motion for October

Voting members may submit notices of motion for the October Voting and Election Assembly; the deadline for October motions is **August 11, 2026** (10 weeks prior to the event). You will be given 2 minutes to read your Notice of Motion.

Links & Resources

- [This agenda package plus resources in one big file](#)
- [Accommodations & Restaurants](#) near the venue, and transportation
- [Area 79 Business Procedures](#)
- [DCM Committee Assignments](#)
- [Bidding Guidelines](#) and [Bidding Checklist](#)
- [Area event attendance records](#)
- [Motions Guide & Motions Form](#)
- [Current Voting Procedures](#)
- [2025/2026](#) and [2027](#) Calendars of Events
- [Glossary of acronyms](#)
- [Grassroots April 2026 Edition](#) – minutes from our last event (not available at the time of writing but should be soon!)
- [WRAASA Registration](#)

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In love and service,

Paul Tansey (name not for publication)

Chair, Panel 75, BC/Yukon Area 79

chair@bcyukonaa.org



Area 79 BC/Yukon July 2026 Assembly DETAILED AGENDA

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Hybrid Event - Registration/Location

Please register for the event using [this link](#). After registering, you'll receive your own personal link to the meeting. Please do not share the link you receive. If you wish to attend Friday/Saturday/Sunday online, use the same link.

The in-person portion of our hybrid event will be held at the [Prestige Hudson Bay Lodge & Conference Centre](#) in Smithers, BC.

Tuesday, July 7, 2026 – Online Only

5:30pm	Virtual room opens <ul style="list-style-type: none">Not the start of the event, just “doors open”Optional virtual training/assistance
6:00	July Assembly 101 <ul style="list-style-type: none">What is the July Assembly about? What can you expect? All are welcome – let’s support each other on this service journey!Facilitated by Alt Delegate – Monica M. & Remote Communities & Accessibilities Chair – Amy M.
7:00	Assembly Begins <ul style="list-style-type: none">Welcome and housekeeping (Chair – Paul T.)
7:15	Committee Breakouts <p>DCMs will be assigned to their usual Area committees. GSRs that registered for the Pre-Conference in April will be assigned to the committee that aligns with the committee chair they were with in April. All other GSRs will be randomly assigned to a committee. Guests, and members in other service positions may choose their committee by moving themselves to the appropriate breakout room.</p>
8:45	There will be no closing remarks in the main room — committees are free to wrap up and sign off when their work is complete.

Friday, July 10 – Hybrid

5:00pm	In-person doors open <ul style="list-style-type: none">Not the start of the event, just “doors open”In-person registration
5:30	Virtual doors open
6:30	Assembly Continues <ul style="list-style-type: none">Welcome and housekeeping (Chair – Paul T.)Opening remarks (Delegate – Drew W.)

7:00	ASC Reports & Committee Report Backs
8:00	Break
8:15	Area Committee Meeting (Alt Chair – Joanne C.) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DCMs & ASC move to Yellowhead Room/virtual breakout room Main Room Sharing Session (Treasurer – Spencer P. & Secretary – Sandi P.) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GSRs, Alt GSRs, Alt DCMs, Guests: in person/virtual stay in large room • Topic: <i>How do I leave my service position better than I found it?</i>
9:45	(No closing remarks)

Saturday, July 11 – Hybrid

8:00am	Doors open (virtual and in-person) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not the start of the event, just “doors open”
8:30a	Assembly Continues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housekeeping • Reading of the 12 Traditions (Short Form) (District 54 GSR – Tanya B.) • Concept 12 Presentation (District 54 DCM – Christina W.) • Introduction of Guests and Past Delegates • Introduction of new GSRs, DCMs and Alternates • Reading of Business Procedures (Host Committee Chair – Lori W.) • Approval of the minutes from the April 2026 Pre-Conference Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chairperson’s Report • Treasurer’s Report & Financials • Delegate’s Report
10:15	Break
10:30	District Committee Member (DCM) Reports (2 min verbal)
12:00	Lunch
1:30	Area Voting Procedures – Recommended Changes in Action
3:30	Break
3:45	WRAASA Update (WRAASA Chair – Arnie G.)
	ASC Reports & Committee Report Backs (cont’d)
5:30	Dinner
7:15	Delegate’s Conference Report (Delegate – Drew W.) Reading of Why We Need a Conference (District 54 GSR – JJ)
	Break
	2027 Draft Budget Presentation (Treasurer – Spencer P.)
	Askit Baskit Questions
	Declaration of Unity & Serenity Prayer

Sunday, July 12 – Hybrid

8:00am	Doors open (virtual and in-person) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not the start of the event, just “doors open”
8:30	Assembly Continues
	Motions, Floor Actions, and Notices of Motion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two motions were submitted • Floor actions must be submitted to Chair before Saturday @ 11am • Notices of Motion for October’s Assembly
9:15	Ad hoc committee updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Care and Conduct • Land Acknowledgements
10:45	Break
11:00	Bids for January 2027 Quarterly
	First-Timer Sharing
	Askit Basket Questions
	Closing Remarks by Guests
	Motion to Adjourn Close with the Responsibility Statement, followed by the Serenity Prayer

Declaration of Unity

“This we owe to A.A.’s Future; to place our common welfare first; to keep our Fellowship united. For on A.A. unity depend our lives, and the lives of those to come.”

Responsibility Statement

“I am responsible, when anyone, anywhere reaches out for help, I want the hand of A.A. always to be there. And for that: I am responsible.”



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Motion #1

That Area 79 reimburse the travel expenses for all members of the Panel 77 Area Service Committee (ASC) who can attend the 2027 Western Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly (WRAASA) in Abbotsford, February 5–7, 2027.

History or Current Practices

It has been the practice in recent years for Area 79 to pay the expenses of the Area 79 ASC members that attend regional service functions occurring within the Area. Similar motions have been passed with respect to the B.C. Yukon Convention in 2007, 2010, and 2013; WRAASA 2007 Victoria, 2011 in Langley, and 2019 in Kelowna; as well as the 2008 Western Canadian Regional Forum in Abbotsford and in Vernon in 2024.

If Passed

The costs of attending would form part of the overall 2027 travel budget. All members of Panel 77 ASC would be able to attend and be available to the Fellowship at this service function regardless of the personal financial circumstances of the ASC members.

To minimize costs, the ASC would typically consider holding its February meeting in conjunction with WRAASA.

If not passed

Some ASC members may be unable to attend and would be unavailable to participate in this service function.

For further consideration

The WRAASA includes the four Western Provinces of B.C., Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba. This event builds unity amongst the four Western Canadian Provinces.

Addendum, June 6, 2026: WRAASA is held in Area 79 BC/Yukon once every 8 years.

Motion submitted by: Area 79 Panel 75 Area Service Committee



MOTION #2

That Area 79 will make the Grassroots Forum available exclusively online — through the Area 79 website — and discontinue all printed subscriptions.

History or Current Practices:

Area 79 currently publishes Grassroots digitally via email and print via physical mail.

The following is a summary of print subscription levels in Panel 75 after six events:

- In total, print subscriptions have decreased from 78 to 50.
- Personal subscriptions (a subset of all print subscriptions) have decreased from 51 to 27.
- Corrections subscriptions have remained the same at 13.
- GSRs who have a print subscription did go up when the Registrar reviewed the list but is now going down again. It is currently at 19.
- Past Trusted Servants subscriptions have been consistent at 4

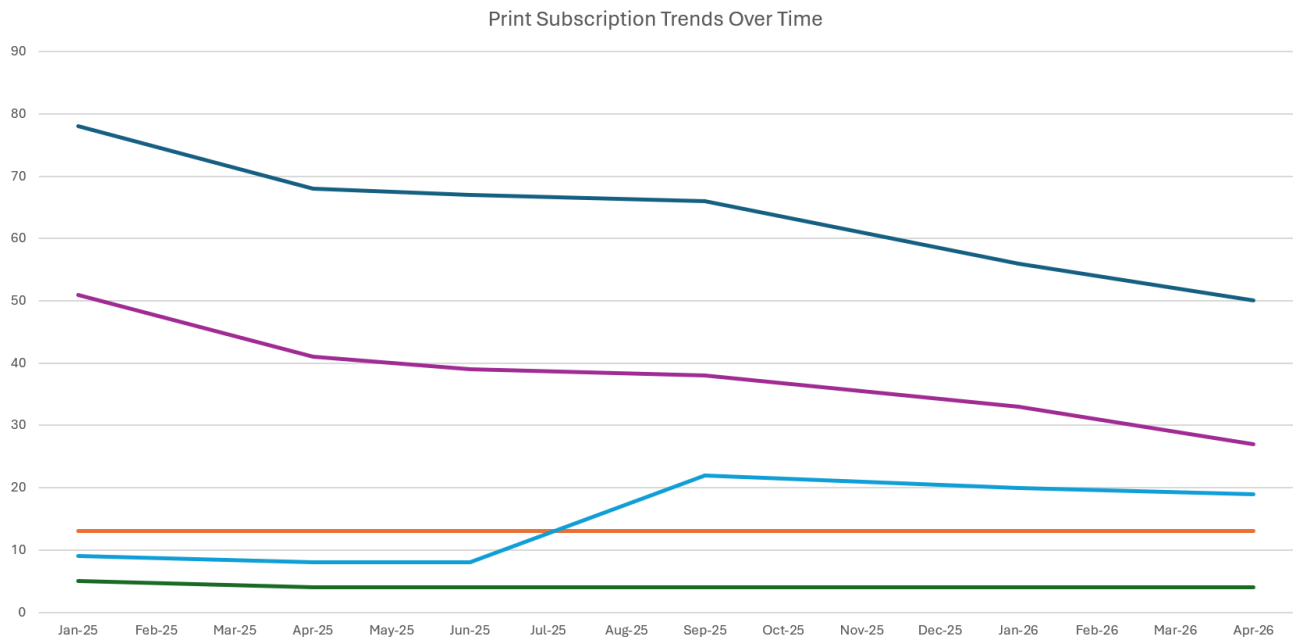
See the attached graph of current subscription levels.

Costs of Printing: In January 2026 they were \$146.00. This would decrease greatly if the magazine was digital only.

Cost of mailing: Minimum Cost is \$130. The mailing costs would disappear if we were online only.

Publishing online only would enable the magazine to be ready one-week earlier.

Some physical copies could still be created for Archives, to give out at Quarterlies/Assemblies, and other special cases but these would be printed on paper (not bound in a booklet) and this will not be the main method of distribution.



The top line (light blue) is all print subscriptions.

The next line is personal subscriptions (a subset of all print subscriptions) (dark blue)

The red line is corrections subscriptions

The bottom line is Past Trusted Servants

If passed:

Grassroots will be distributed online only. The Grassroots Chair will assist any current print subscribers who wish to receive reimbursement for the remaining issues on their subscription.

If not passed:

Grassroots will continue to be distributed online and in print via mail service.

For further consideration:

The Grassroots Chair investigated how other AA entities do their minutes and learned the following details:

- Area 78 (Alberta/NWT): Publishes online only, hard copies for archives
- Area 91 (Saskatchewan): Publishes online only
- Area 80 (Manitoba): Publishes online only
- General Service Office Box 459: Publishes online only

The Grassroots chair consulted with the Grassroots team, and they were in agreement of this motion.

Motion submitted by: Caleb W., Grassroots Chair Panel 75 on behalf of the Grassroots team.

Hello, Area 79,

My name is Joanne, and I am an alcoholic. Since April 2025, I have had the privilege of chairing an ad hoc committee tasked with reviewing, researching, and developing suggested changes to our current voting procedures in Area 79. The committee is comprised of Michelle B., your current CPC Chair, and Paul T., your current Area Service Committee Chair.

Our goal has been to evaluate each procedure through the eyes of the newest voting member, ensuring clarity, accessibility, and ease of understanding. It is essential that even the newest GSRs can participate confidently in our decision-making process. Each procedure was also compared with the practices of other Areas and with our General Service Conference. We consulted the AA Service Manual, the Twelve Concepts for World Service, and Robert's Rules of Order to make informed, practical recommendations- while always striving to preserve the spiritually principled way we conduct business in Area 79.

After reviewing each procedure, we drafted suggested changes along with the rationale for each one. We then invited three past trusted servants from Area 79 to review the material and offer feedback. Their input led to further revisions.

Next, we circulated the suggested changes to your Area Service Committee and listened to their feedback during one of our monthly meetings last fall. The ad hoc committee met again to consider this input and made additional minor edits.

At the January Quarterly and again at the April Pre-Conference, the suggested changes were presented during the Friday night sharing session with your DCMs. Sharing sessions play a vital role in fostering discussion, understanding, and unity. The ad hoc committee listened carefully to concerns raised and incorporated further edits into the version of the Suggested Voting Procedures you are about to review.

What does all of this mean? It demonstrates that we approached this work with seriousness and care. Throughout the process, we relied on familiar principles: seeking broad consultation, welcoming constructive feedback, and ensuring that these procedures ultimately belong to the Area 79 voting body. If they truly belong to you, then you should be involved in shaping and adopting them.

Area 79 is a spiritual entity whose purpose is to support better and more effective Twelfth Step work. Principled voting procedures at the Area level provide mechanisms for us to focus on our Common Welfare and help our groups carry out their primary purpose. To do that, we need voting procedures that reflect our Traditions and Concepts. Your ad hoc committee believes the following recommendations achieve that aim.

How to use this document:

For each procedure, you will see the Current Procedure, the New Procedure, and the rationale for the change. This format is intended to help you compare how we currently move through the motion process with how we might move through it in a way that more closely reflects our spiritual principles.

What we are asking you to do:

Please read and review the document. Write down any questions or concerns you may have and bring them with you to the July Assembly. You are also welcome to contact any member of the ad hoc committee beforehand (contact list below). Our aim is to help everyone grow in understanding of these procedures and why they matter. We are eager to answer questions and address concerns. The ad hoc committee will present the suggested changes to the full Assembly in July. We will complete this presentation over the weekend, including an element that lets us observe these procedures in action. Having time to review this information in advance is important, which is why your Area Chair has included it in the full agenda package. Once the Ad-hoc Committee has presented this information to you, we would invite a motion to adopt the new procedures after they have been reviewed and understood. Again, we encourage you to reach out to us prior to the Assembly with any questions or concerns. We are happy to support an accurate understanding of this work.

Committee Contacts:

- Joanne C. – Public Information/Alternate Area Chair – pi@bcyukonaa.org
- Michelle B. – Co-operation with the Professional Community Chair – cpc@bcyukonaa.org
- Paul T. – Area Service Committee Chair – chair@bcyukonaa.org

Our voting procedures reflect who we are as a spiritual entity in Area 79. How we make decisions should be grounded in our spiritual principles. These procedures help us identify our area's needs and create services to meet them. "At the heart of each area is the assembly meeting, where the democratic voice of our Fellowship expresses itself." (AA Service Manual, p. 18) It has been a privilege to review our voting procedures and suggest changes that will help our decision-making structure better serve the area while fostering unity in the process.

Thank you for the time you are about to invest in this important work.

Sincerely,

The Area 79 Panel 75 Voting Procedures Review Committee

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Main Motion

Current Procedure: The Chairperson invites the voting member to present the motion. The motion is read and placed before the membership for consideration.

New Procedure: The chairperson invites the voting member to make the motion, and if seconded, the motion is discussed.

- Requires a Second? Yes
- Is debatable? Yes
- Vote Required for Approval? Two-thirds Substantial Unanimity
- Minority Voice Heard? Yes

Rationale for Revision: Edited for simplicity and clarity. It was noted that the wording “Placed before the membership” seemed unnecessarily complex and did not apply to our current purpose for a motion.

Second

Current Procedure: The Chairperson inquires if there is a seconder to the motion. A member does not have to be in favour of a motion to second it – it simply means “I agree that we should discuss this.” If a motion is not seconded, it will not be discussed.

New Procedure: The Chairperson asks whether there is a voting member who wishes to second the motion; they do not have to be in favour of the motion to second it; it simply means “I agree we should discuss this.” If a motion is not seconded, it will not be discussed.

Rationale for Revision: Specified that this should come from a voting member. When a motion has already been agreed to by a committee of the body (for example, Area 79 standing committees), seconding is implied.

Discussion

Current Procedure: Anyone present who wishes to speak to the motion lines up at the microphone and is called on in order. Each person may speak for a maximum of two minutes. No speaker may speak for a second time to the motion, unless all who wish to have spoken for the first time. Those in line are encouraged to listen to the points, questions, and answers that arise during discussion and take their seat if their point has already been made or their question has already been asked.

New Procedure: Anyone present who wishes to speak to the motion lines up at the microphone or raises their virtual hand and is called on in order (alternating between online and in person). Each person may speak for a maximum of two minutes. No speaker may speak for a second time to the motion, unless all who wish to, have spoken for the first time. Those in line, in person and online, are encouraged to listen to the points, questions, and answers that arise during the discussion, and to take their seat or lower their hand if their point has already been made, or their question has already been asked.

Rationale for Revision: Edited for online attendee participation.

Vote

Current Procedure: “All in favour” and “All opposed”. All motions require “substantial unanimity” (a two-thirds majority) to carry, except housekeeping matters and those specified below.

New Procedure: “All in favour” and “All opposed”. All motions require “substantial unanimity” (a two-thirds majority) to carry. Decisions that only affect the assembly “event” can be decided by a simple majority.

Rationale for Revision: To provide clarity of the term “housekeeping matters”.

Minority Opinion

Current Procedure: Chairperson invites those voters who are against the outcome of the vote to speak. The function of the minority voice is to help keep the majority on its toes, to be alert and responsive. Very often a Higher Power is found in the still, small voice of the minority. Once the minority voice has been heard, the question will be asked: “Does anyone from the majority wish to change their vote?” If this question is responded to in the affirmative, by a show of hands, by one or more members, the vote is taken again.

New Procedure: After a motion has been voted on (not all motions hear a minority voice), the Chairperson invites voters who are opposed to the outcome of the vote to speak. Very often a Higher Power is found in the still, small voice of the minority.

**After sufficient minority voice has been heard, the Chairperson can suggest that a voting member from the prevailing side of the motion may at this time wish to make a motion to reconsider. The chair has delegated authority and autonomy to decline the request in a loving way - “I’m asking that you entertain this after thorough discussion has taken place,” and/ or pointing out “there are still those in the queue, who wish to speak,” or “the topic hasn’t yet had time to be fully considered.”*

Rationale for Revision: The language “Does anyone from the majority wish to change their vote?” changes the purpose of the minority opinion. Our procedures are not about changing votes. This question prevents the proper function of the motion to

reconsider – please see below. A motion to reconsider allows balanced discussion to resume, preventing the tyranny of the minority. (Concept V)

Point of Order

Current Procedure: A point of order takes priority over all other discussion. If the procedures are not being followed or a step has been missed, it is the responsibility of those in the assembly to bring up a point of order. The Chair responds by either clarifying the procedure or identifying how it will be corrected if required. Needs recognition from the Chair. The member is permitted to go to the front of the line at the microphone.

New Procedure: A point of order takes priority over all other discussion. If the procedures are not being followed or a step has been missed, it is the responsibility of those in the assembly to bring up a point of order. To make a point of order, the member must first be recognized by the Chair. To be recognized, the member is permitted immediate access to the microphone in person or virtual (front of the line or to unmute if online). The Chair responds by either clarifying the procedure or identifying how it will be corrected if required.

Rationale for Revision: adds clarity on how to use the procedure and uses similar language to Procedural Inquiry

Procedural Inquiry

Current Procedure: This can be used if a member wants to know how to do something i.e.: change their vote, amend a motion, postpone the discussion, resubmit an item, change their vote, etc. The Chair responds by informing the member: a) if what the member wants to do is possible and b) how to do so if applicable. This takes priority over all items except a Point of Order. *Needs recognition from the Chair. The member is permitted to go to the front of the line at the microphone.

New Procedure: A procedural inquiry is when a voting member asks for clarification of the rules, processes, or order of business being followed during the assembly. To make a Procedural Inquiry, a member must first be recognized by the Chair. To be recognized, the member is permitted immediate access to the microphone, whether in person or virtual (front of the line or unmuted). The Chair will then directly respond to the inquiry. A Procedural Inquiry takes priority over all other discussion items except Point of Order.

Rationale for Revision: Edited for clarity and appropriate language. Included the clarification of the voting member.

Amendment

Current Procedure: During the discussion, a voting member may propose an amendment to the main motion. An amendment requires a seconder and is debatable. If the amendment carries, (i.e., receives a majority vote), the amended motion replaces the original motion. After the vote is taken on the amendment, discussion continues; a) on the original motion if the amendment does not carry or b) on the amended motion if the amendment does carry. A motion may be amended more than once. The amendment must pertain to the subject of the original motion, e.g., adding text, deleting text, or replacing text.

New Procedure: During the discussion, a voting member may propose an amendment to the main motion. The proposed amendment must pertain to the subject of the main motion, requires a seconder, is debatable, and requires substantial unanimity (two-thirds) for approval. An amendment itself may not be amended – an amendment under discussion must be voted on, before another amendment is considered. *This voting procedure is a departure from Robert’s Rules of Order, because it is a format that better suits Area 79.

Rationale for Revision: Removed wording for clarity and efficiency and added language from the service manual on conference voting procedures. This Amendment procedure would align with the Conference procedure, allowing only one amendment at a time. Our experience is that premature action, such as amending motions early in the discussion, can divert attention from the original motion, confusing and delaying Area 79 business.

- Requires a Second? Yes
- Is debatable? Yes
- Vote Required for Approval? 50%+1 Simple Majority
- Minority Voice Heard? Yes

Calling the Question

Current: This allows the assembly an opportunity to decide how much time is spent discussing a motion. When the Question is Called; a seconder is required, and it is not debatable. If two-thirds are achieved, discussion ends, and the voting members proceed immediately to vote on the business on the floor. If a two-thirds majority is not achieved, debate will continue. The possibility of limiting debate preserves the rights of the majority. Otherwise, a small minority could frustrate the assembly by prolonging debate indefinitely. Consideration should be given that there has been sufficient discussion prior to calling the question.

New Procedure: This brings discussion to a halt while the Assembly decides whether to proceed directly to a vote or continue with discussion on the original motion. The voting member calling the question asks the Chair to allow the assembly to decide whether to

continue the discussion or proceed to a vote. Consideration should be given that there has been sufficient discussion prior to calling the question. When the question is called, a seconder is required, and the assembly votes immediately on calling the question. If two-thirds is achieved, debate ends and voting proceeds on the motion. If two-thirds is not achieved, debate on the original motion continues.

** Does not move to the front of the line*

Chair has delegated authority and autonomy to decline the request in a loving way - "I'm asking that you entertain this after thorough discussion has taken place," and/ or pointing out there are still those in the queue to speak or the topic hasn't yet had time to be fully considered.

Rationale for Revision: Removed wording for clarity and efficiency and added language from the Service Manual.

- Requires a Second? Yes
- Is debatable? No
- Vote Required for Approval? Two-thirds of members voting - Substantial Unanimity
- Minority Voice Heard? No

Motion to Reconsider

Current Procedure: A request to reconsider a main motion can be made by someone who had voted with the majority side of the action and now wishes to change their vote. This request can only be made if there was no minority voice and if the question "does anyone wish to change their vote: was not asked. No action can be reconsidered twice. A motion to reconsider requires a seconder and is debatable. A simple majority (50% + 1) is required for this motion to carry. A request to reconsider is only applicable to the outcome of the vote on a main motion.

New Procedure: A Motion to Reconsider a vote may be made only by a member who voted with the prevailing side, but it can be seconded by any voting member and is not debatable. If a simple majority (50% + 1) votes to reconsider, full debate – pros and cons on the motion – is resumed. No action may be reconsidered twice. A motion to reconsider would occur during the minority voice.

** After sufficient minority voice has been heard, the Chairperson can suggest that a voting member from the prevailing side of the motion may at this time wish to make a motion to reconsider. The chair has delegated authority and autonomy to decline the request in a loving way - "I'm asking that you entertain this after thorough discussion has taken place," and/ or pointing out "there are still those in the queue, who wish to speak," or "the topic hasn't yet had time to be fully considered."*

Does not move to the front of the line

Rationale for Revision: When the Motion to Reconsider does not pass by simple majority, discussion stops. This action prevents either the tyranny of the majority OR the minority from overwhelming the discussion. The Chair will have allowed for ample discussion before the vote is taken. The original Request to Reconsider pertained to the procedure for the Minority Opinion. These changes now complement the suggested changes for the Minority Voice. Together, the suggested changes bring both procedures into line with the General Service Conference (language adapted from the Service Manual) and Roberts Rules of Order. In its original version, the Request to Reconsider gave the assembly little opportunity to use it. In the conference version, the Motion to Reconsider does not require anyone to change their vote; it enables the reopening of both sides of the discussion, preventing “tyranny of the minority.”

- Requires a Second? Yes
- Is debatable? No
- Vote Required for Approval? Simple Majority (50%+1)
- Simple Majority Minority Voice Heard? No

Withdrawing a Motion

Current Procedure: Once a motion has been seconded and is being discussed, the individual who made the motion may request that the motion be withdrawn. The Chair will ask if anyone objects. If not, the motion is withdrawn. If a voting member objects, a vote will be held to withdraw the motion. A majority vote is sufficient to withdraw the motion.

New Procedure: Once a motion has been seconded and is being discussed, the individual who made the motion may request that the motion be withdrawn. A motion on the floor of the assembly is now owned by the assembly, no longer by the body or member presenting it. The Chair will ask if anyone objects. If not, the motion is withdrawn without debate. If a voting member objects, a vote will be held to withdraw the motion without debate. A simple majority (50%+1) is sufficient to withdraw the motion.

Rationale for Revision: The original wording of this procedure left too much room for interpretation. To support the chair and the voting body with clear definitions for understanding the step-by-step process of withdrawal, the committee decided to add language that provides definitive answers to procedural questions. For example: Who owns the motion? And when? A request does not require a seconder; the member who objects creates an opportunity to open the decision to the voting body. If no one objects, the voting body is effectively approving the withdrawal. This leaves the decision always with the voting body.

- Requires a Second? No

- Is debatable? No
- Vote Required for Approval? Simple Majority (50%+1)
- Minority Voice Heard? No

Tabling a Motion

Current Procedure: Once a motion has been seconded and is being discussed a motion to delay the discussion may be made. Tabling postpones discussion to a later time in the event – it is made without comment, requires a second, is carried by a simple majority, and no minority voice is heard.

New Procedure: Once a motion has been seconded and is under discussion, a motion to table postpones further consideration until a later time during the same event. Tabled motions would be heard before floor actions. It is made without comment, requires a second, is not debatable, is carried by a simple majority (50% +1), and no minority voice is heard.

Rationale for Revision: Edited for clarity on whether this is debatable. The language is now in line with Conference procedures.

- Requires a Second? Yes
- Is debatable? No
- Vote Required for Approval? Simple Majority (50%+1)
- Minority Voice Heard? No

Floor Action

Current Procedure: Definition of a floor action: A floor action is business submitted to the chair after the motion submission deadline. Floor actions are acted upon separately, as they have not been circulated to the groups in BC/Yukon Area 79. The Area Chair will accept floor actions in writing until 11:00 a.m. on the Saturday of the assembly. Floor actions will be posted at the event and presented in the order in which they were received. When a floor action is to be heard, the voting member will be given two minutes to present it. All financial matters (other than budgets) exceeding \$2,000.00, related to either spending or reductions, cannot be introduced as a floor action.

New Procedure: A Floor Action is a business item submitted to the Chair after the motion submission deadline. Floor Actions are handled separately because they have not been circulated to the groups in BC/Yukon Area 79. The Area Chair will accept floor actions in writing until 11:00 a.m. on the Saturday of the assembly. Floor Actions will be posted at the event and presented in the

order received. When a floor action is to be heard, the voting member will be given two minutes to present it. Once presented, a Floor Action requires a seconder to become a motion.

Just like any motion, if not seconded, the Floor Action is not heard. If seconded and no motion to Decline to Consider is heard, the floor action becomes a motion on the floor and follows the same procedure as any other motion. All financial items (other than budgets) exceeding \$2,000.00, whether spending or reductions, cannot be introduced as floor actions.

Note from committee: Now that Declining to Consider is a procedure available to the assembly, we may need to examine this further in terms of the appropriateness of the chair rejecting floor actions that impact the budget by \$2000. While this is an important issue to investigate, we believe it falls outside the scope of this committee.

Rationale for Revision: The new wording tightens the language a little and adds two clarifications:

1. Floor actions require a seconder — the old procedure didn't state this, leaving ambiguity about whether a floor action moves directly to a vote or needs a seconder like any other motion.
2. The decline-to-consider mechanism is spelled out — this protects the assembly from hasty or disruptive floor actions while respecting a member's voice (Concept III in action).

Motion to Consider -> Decline to Consider

Current Procedure: The Chair will then ask if there is a motion to consider the floor action today. A motion to consider requires a seconder, is not debatable, and requires a two-thirds majority. If the motion to consider carries, the original floor action is discussed. The floor action becomes a motion and is discussed when: There is a motion to consider, a seconder to the motion to consider, the motion to consider is carried.

New Procedure: Declining to consider a floor action - After a floor action is presented and seconded, the Chair asks if there is a Motion to Decline to consider. It is made without comment, requires a seconder, is not debatable, and requires substantial unanimity for approval (2/3rds majority). There is no minority voice heard.

Rationale for Revision: To align our voting procedures with those of the General Service Conference. Currently, our voting process requires substantial unanimity to move forward with a floor action. In contrast, at the General Service Conference, substantial unanimity is required to prevent the consideration of a floor action. Any measure that seeks to limit the rights of the assembly should always require substantial unanimity. Therefore, a decision such as 'no, we will not hear this' effectively limits the rights of

the assembly and should require substantial unanimity to take effect. By contrast, discussing a floor action does not restrict the rights of the assembly. From Robert’s Rules: “A voting threshold of two-thirds of the members present and voting. This threshold is required to adopt certain motions as a means of protecting the interests of a minority greater than 1/3.”

- Requires a Second? Yes
- Is debatable? No
- Vote Required for Approval? Two-thirds - Substantial Unanimity
- Minority Voice Heard? No

A Note about Roberts Rules of Order:

Roberts Rules are gentle guideposts to allow the body to have a discussion about what the fellowship feels it needs to talk about. The Chair will instruct a member who “Calls the Question or wants to Amend the Motion too quickly to “come back, after the fellowship has a chance to discuss the business.” Roberts Rules are to bring order to a disorderly body. We are not disorderly a body – we're a spiritual one. We trust our Trusted Servants and our Chair to use their discretion and judgment.

Timeline

February 5, 2025	Ad hoc formed
April 22, 2025	Ad hoc meeting
May 13, 2025	Ad hoc meeting
May 19, 2025	Ad hoc meeting
May 26, 2025	Ad hoc meeting
June 15, 2025	Reviewed by Past/Current Conference Members
June 17, 2025	Ad hoc meeting
July 15, 2025	Ad hoc meeting
July 27, 2025	Ad hoc meeting

September 12, 2025	Reviewed proposed changes with ASC
October 5, 2025	Ad hoc meeting
October 12, 2025	Ad hoc meeting
January 9, 2026	Reviewed proposed changes with Area Committee
April 27, 2026	Reviewed proposed changes with Area Committee
April 30, 2026	Ad hoc meeting
May 10, 2026	Ad hoc meeting
May 23, 2026	Ad hoc meeting
May 31, 2026	Ad hoc meeting
June 3, 2026	Reviewed with ASC
June 7, 2026	Ad hoc meeting

Summary of Area 79 Voting Procedures

MOTION		REQUIRES A "SECOND"	IS DEBATABLE?	VOTE REQUIRED FOR APPROVAL	MINORITY VOICE HEARD?
AMENDING A MOTION	Occurs during the discussion	Yes	Yes	Simple Majority (50%+1)	Yes
CALLING THE QUESTION	Made without comment	Yes	No	Two-thirds of members voting - Substantial Unanimity	No
MOTION TO RECONSIDER	May only be made by a member who voted on the prevailing side	Yes	No	Simple Majority (50%+1)	No
WITHDRAWING A MOTION	Can be made with comment by the member presenting the motion	No	No	Simple Majority (50%+1)	No
TABLING A MOTION	Made without comment	Yes	No	Simple Majority (50%+1)	No
FLOOR ACTION	Made without comment; Needs to be submitted to the chair before 11am on the Saturday of the Assembly	Yes	Yes	Two-thirds of members voting - Substantial Unanimity	Yes
DECLINE TO CONSIDER	Made without comment; and may be made after the floor action has been seconded	Yes	No	Two-thirds of members voting - Substantial Unanimity	No