

The Rundown

Share this.
With members.
With ASCs.
With RSCs.

important dates and announcements

CAR season is upon us!

The *Conference Agenda Report (CAR)* will soon be available...

- In English by 29 November 2017
- Translated by 29 December 2017

Includes 25 regional motions, articles on high-interest topics, and a survey to gather members' ideas about recovery lit, service material, and Issue Discussion Topics: www.na.org/conference.

Conference Approval Track materials available on or by 29 January 2018, including budget, project plans, and 2018–2020 NA World Services Strategic Plan.

World Service Conference

29 April–5 May 2018

July 2018 price increase adjusted downward from 7.5% to 6% on everything except the Basic Text, which will be increased 5%. Read about the recommended increase and this adjustment on page 7.

WCNA 37: 30 August–2 September 2018

Celebrate Recovery in Orlando, Florida! Learn more, register, and book your hotel: www.na.org/wcna.

e-sub to **NAWS News** and **The NA Way**
www.na.org/subscribe

You can find the complete **NAWS News** here: www.na.org/nawsnews

what can I do? ways to get involved in the work

Back to the Future 3

Read the third report of this cycle on the Future of the WSC project: www.na.org/future.

Local Service Toolbox Project

Review drafts of two recently-developed tools

- Establishing Programs for Conventions and Events: www.na.org/conventions.
- Consensus-Based Decision Making Basics: www.na.org/toolbox.

Send us your input and look for revised approval drafts before the World Service Conference.

Online Resources

Share and find local service committee resources at www.na.org/localresources.



Visit the "About Us" webpage at www.na.org/aboutus.



Upcoming web meetings

Conference Participants: 18 November 2017, 11:00 am PST

Inmate Step Writing: 10 January, 3:30 PST

Public Relations: 11 January, 4:00 pm PST

Zonal FD/PR: 20 January, 10:00 am PST

Visit www.na.org/webinar for more information.

Hot off the press!

In English:

- Line-numbered Basic Text
- 2018 *JFT* Calendar

In Danish:

- *The NA Step Working Guides*
- *Intro Guide* (revised to the Basic Text 6th Edition)

In Farsi:

- *Guiding Principles: The Spirit of Our Traditions*

Papiamento

- Welcome thru Multi-Year Keytags

WE WILL PROVIDE AN EVENT AT WHICH:

PARTICIPANTS PROPOSE and *gain* fellowship consensus on **initiatives** that further the *vision for na service*;

THE FELLOWSHIP, through an exchange of *experience*, **STRENGTH**, and **hope**, collectively expresses itself on matters affecting Narcotics Anonymous *as a whole*;

NA GROUPS have a **MECHANISM** to **GUIDE** and *direct* the activities of **NA World Services**;

PARTICIPANTS ENSURE that the various elements of **NA World Services** are ultimately *responsible* to the **GROUPS** they serve;

PARTICIPANTS are *inspired* with the **JOY** of **selfless service**, and the **KNOWLEDGE** that our efforts make a *difference*.

World Service
Conference

MISSION STATEMENT

The World Service Conference brings all elements of NA World Services together to further the common welfare of NA. The WSC's mission is to unify NA worldwide.





HONESTY, TRUST, AND GOODWILL

THIS CYCLE— MOVING FORWARD TOWARD THE WSC

We try to approach each other and our service with kindness, care, and concern, and to find courage to reach out to each other with honesty and compassion.

*Guiding Principles: The Spirit of Our Traditions,
Tradition Two*

The World Board met in Chatsworth, California, 4–7 October 2017. This report identifies areas that we discussed in our meeting, what has occurred since, and activities in NA World Services (NAWS) to help carry our message of recovery. By the time this report is published, we will be readying the *Conference Agenda Report (CAR)* for publication. Although the World Board has no motions in the 2018 *CAR*, we have included a survey and essays on important topics, and there are 25 regional motions. The *CAR* survey is similar to the survey that was in the 2016 *CAR*: it seeks members' ideas about recovery literature, service material, and Issue Discussion Topics. We created the survey lists from the environmental scan data including regional input, what we have heard throughout this past cycle, and through Conference participant input to an early draft of the survey. Thank you to all who contributed their ideas to this survey and to the environmental scan.

WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE PROJECTS PROGRESS

FUTURE OF THE WSC

We have released our third report for this project this cycle. It will be mailed to Conference participants with this *NAWS News*. The Future 3 report summarizes our recommendations for the business of the Conference week and the use of time between Conferences. It builds on the ideas in the first Future report. Anyone who is interested in this project can find materials posted at www.na.org/future.

Future of the WSC
Report Three, October 2017

This report follows up on the first Future of the WSC report, which contained ideas for improving conversation throughout the Conference cycle and for decision-making at the WSC.

Improving Conversation Throughout the Conference Cycle

The World Service Conference marks both the end of one Conference cycle and the beginning of the next. Ideally the WSC is a culminating event where participants measure consensus on items they have been discussing throughout the course of the cycle and set direction for the two years ahead.

The first Future of the WSC Report contained a number of ideas for communicating throughout the cycle and we will briefly reiterate them here. We are working to improve dialogue and conversation among participants throughout the cycle, but we still have a long way to go. Please see WSC Conference Cycle timeline on next page.

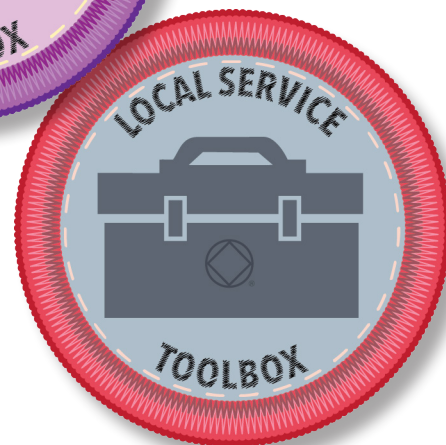
For the first time this cycle, we formalized a method for Conference participants to give input to the NAWS Strategic Plan. We have always sought input internally and used what we have heard at workshops and through conversations with delegates and other members to help shape planning priorities. But this year, we distributed a survey to regions about internal and external challenges and successes. The results of the survey are helping to shape next cycle's strategic plan. We will look forward to discussing the process further with Conference participants and getting ideas about how to increase participation.

As this report is being published, we are finalizing the *Conference Agenda Report* for publication in English and subsequent translations. There are 25 regional motions for this year's *CAR*. The Board is not forwarding any *CAR* motions. We will have essays in the *CAR*, however, about the *Fellowship Individual Property Trust* and the *Future of the WSC*, among other things.

We continue to believe that the key to a discussion-based Conference is being able to talk about ideas throughout the cycle, not just forward items in the *CAR* for yes-or-no decision. This is still our weakest area.

Participants still have several opportunities to share their ideas with the Conference population before the WSC convenes.

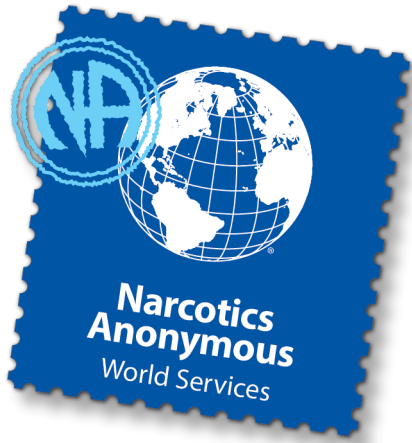
- ◆ **CAT mailing:** Beginning last cycle, we have opened up the Conference Approval Track mailing to include ideas forwarded by regions.
- ◆ **Conference Report:** Regions are also able to submit material to be included with the *Conference Report*.
- ◆ **FTP Site:** Another new vehicle for Conference participants to share ideas is the FTP site at any point in the Conference cycle. At any point, a delegate can forward material to the Board for uploading to the site, and the Board will send an email to all participants letting them know something new has been uploaded. We know the FTP site is not the most user-friendly mechanism for some of you, but we are trying to work with what we have for now. There are a number of other platforms available to try if this is something Conference participants might actually use.



SERVICE MATERIALS APPROVAL PROCESS

We have just released review draft copies of tools from the two service material focuses this cycle—a Program draft from Conventions and Events, and a Consensus-Based Decision Making Basics draft from Local Service Toolbox. The drafts will be mailed to delegates with this *NAWS News* and are also posted on the project pages: www.na.org/conventions and www.na.org/toolbox. These pieces will be out to delegates for a 90-day review period, after which revisions will be posted online as approval drafts.

We plan to discuss the approval process with delegates at the 2018 World Service Conference, and ask participants whether the tools that come out of the Service Materials Project should be Board-approved or Conference-approved. Some of our current service material is Board-approved (e.g., *PR Basics*, *Planning Basics*, and *H&I Basics*), and some is Conference-approved (e.g., *PR Handbook* and *Treasurers' Workbook*). Board approval has a quicker approval and revision process, with the 90-day review giving delegates oversight of the process. However, some members may prefer to see the approval drafts included in the Conference Approval Track material for Conference decision. Ultimately, this choice will be up to the participants at the WSC.



FELLOWSHIP DEVELOPMENT AND PUBLIC RELATIONS PROJECT

This WSC project is aimed toward zones, with a goal of increasing understanding that effective Fellowship development efforts depend on public relations work with an emphasis on collaboration among service bodies. Keeping that goal in the forefront, we hosted our second web meeting on 16 September 2017. We had participants from the Canadian Assembly (CANA), the Russian Zone, the Latin America Zonal Forum (LAZF), the European Delegates Meeting (EDM), the Asia Pacific Forum (APF), the Plain States Zonal Forum (PSZF), and the Multi-Zonal Service Symposium (MZSS). Our discussions focused on successes and benefits for PR efforts and Fellowship development, which seemed to illustrate that those who are successful with their PR efforts had more addicts coming to NA. We began the dialogue of collaboration within respective zones and reaching out to other zones for collaborative PR efforts. There seemed to be a benefit from simply having the opportunity to share experience among the participants since this is a fairly new service effort at a zonal level. We will be hosting a third web meeting for zones on 20 January 2018. The topics, which came from the zones, are recruiting and training PR trusted servants and creating a PR strategic plan.

STRATEGIC PLANNING—FRAME ISSUES AND PRELIMINARY PRIORITIES

This was our second Board meeting of the Conference cycle focused on drafting the 2018–2020 NA World Services Strategic Plan. We reviewed our work from the previous meeting, and in this session we identified which issues are so important that we should prioritize them for the upcoming cycle. We looked at all identified issues and asked ourselves: For each issue, what is the challenge that we are trying to address and/or opportunity we are trying to pursue; and, if we were successful in addressing the issue, what would change and be different? Using this method to frame each issue helped us remain focused. We returned to prioritization at the end of our session, choosing high, medium, and low priorities. Our final step for this was to develop goals to for each identified area in the strategic plan.

We are explaining our process in order to aid those who are interested in strategic planning; the framing steps are relatively simple and straightforward. We remain grateful to the 66 regions that provided us information for the upcoming cycle's strategic plan. The regional input is helping to shape our goals. We plan to finalize the plan at our next meeting. The 2018–2020 NA World Services Strategic Plan and the scan data we received from Conference participants will all be released with the 2018 Conference Approval Track materials. Thank you again.

WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE

CONFERENCE PREPARATIONS

Here at NAWS we have fully entered into Conference season. What that means is we spent time at this Board meeting discussing the contents of the *Conference Agenda Report (CAR)* and looking forward to other Conference prep, such as an orientation web meeting.

The English-language *CAR* always comes out 150 days before the Conference, which in this case means it will be available no later than 29 November. Translated versions are published a month later; for this cycle, they will be out by 29 December. These dates and other important deadlines and publication dates are always included in the introduction of *A Guide to World Services in Narcotics Anonymous (GWSNA)*. *GWSNA* is posted at www.na.org/conference. If you are planning to attend the WSC, checking out the materials on that webpage will help prepare you.

This year's *CAR* will have 25 regional motions. The Board is not offering any *CAR* motions, but we will have essays on important topics such as the *Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust* and what sessions to expect at the Conference. We also plan to include a survey on recovery literature, service materials, and Issue Discussion Topics, as we did in 2016, so that the Fellowship can indicate priorities for the cycle ahead.



REGIONAL MOTIONS

One of the regional motions asked the World Board “to investigate and pursue ways for Conference participants who are unable to attend the WSC due to visa and other issues beyond their control, to engage in sessions at the WSC” remotely.

We discussed this request and recognize that it may have potential unintended consequences; however, we will recommend finding a way for delegates who are unable to attend the WSC due to visa issues or other issues beyond their control to participate in some way. We believe that participants will support this attempt, but ultimately it will be up to the WSC. Conference policy currently requires that Conference participants be present for voting, but that is—to us—a secondary consideration at this point. Right now, we are focusing on possible ways to make participation meaningful for both the participant(s) and the WSC, regardless of how the Conference decides to approach the issue of decision-making.

We are putting this in *NAWS News* because we would like to hear your thoughts. Please send those thoughts to wb@na.org. We greatly appreciate hearing from as many participants as possible.

FELLOWSHIP DEVELOPMENT AND SUPPORT

The following items are simply some highlights of activities performed on your behalf by NA World Services between July, and October. A full report on all travel made for the Conference cycle will be included with the *Conference Report*. We remain grateful for the opportunity to interact directly with those we serve at events like these.

- In late September, we attended the Canadian Assembly of NA (CANA) and the Canadian Convention of NA (CCNA/ACNA), hosted by CANA. CANA is a zonal forum consisting of the five regions of Canada. As a zone, they come together annually for a face-to-face meeting and meet virtually other times of the year. CANA has been using a strategic planning process to manage their service efforts for more than ten years. As a zone, they have a strong focus on public relations and Fellowship development. Our role there involved supporting their planning efforts. We also co-facilitated a few workshops, partnering with members of CANA. The assembly typically hosts a local workshop on Thursday evening, just prior to the start of CANA, and also provides two workshops at the convention. This year the Issue Discussion Topics were the focus of those workshops.
- Natal, a beautiful city in Northeast Brazil, hosted the Northeast Brazil Regional Convention in September 2017. Northeast Brazil is a non-seated region that is part of the Brazilian Zonal Forum. The convention welcomed



approximately 200 attendees, members, and family, and could be seen as small if compared to attendance at other Brazilian NA events. Nonetheless, this was an amazing convention where recovery was felt throughout and members and family were able to enjoy a great recovery celebration that was relaxing and fun. Emphasizing Brazil’s service spirit, NAWS held two workshop sessions—NAWS update and Social Media—facilitated by our one Portuguese-speaking Board member. We appreciated the invitation from the NE Brazil Region, and judging by the level of participation and interaction in both workshops, we can say that service is growing and so is the NA community there.

- Southern California’s Spanish-Speaking Area Convention invites NAWS each year to provide workshops on a variety of topics of local concern. This year we were able to workshop the Atmosphere of Recovery in Service IDT. Anytime we do this workshop, we hear ideas that have both local significance and universal relevance. Some ideas offered at this event included being an example of recovery, teaching newer or inexperienced members through mentoring and sponsorship, and using leadership to make all feel welcomed and part of. This workshop created a buzz of interest since most participants had experienced unsavory examples of group business meetings and service committee processes, and found it refreshing to explore what the opposite experience could look like for them. We hope to hear how this Spanish-speaking area is putting the lessons of this workshop into action plans.
- This year’s European Convention was in the beautiful Algarve region of Portugal. Twenty-nine NA communities met some distance from the convention for four days at the European Delegates Meeting. There were a great number of topics discussed and workshopped at this meeting, as is typical at an EDM. There was an update and workshop held about youth in NA, which was incredibly well prepared and well received. We were able to provide an update on what is happening at NAWS, answer questions, and hold a workshop to gather additional input on the potential mental health IP. We had received very little input from members in Europe up to this point, so we were glad to have this opportunity to gather more. The input was thoughtful and meaningful. The EDM team works diligently to collaborate with NA World Services, and their efforts are greatly appreciated. The EDM is a great example of a vibrant, functional zonal body. We were also able to deliver the first published copies of the newly revised Sixth Edition Basic Text in Portuguese. It was a privilege to witness members seeing the results of their hard work.
- We attended two national conferences for addiction professionals in the US as a part of our ongoing PR efforts. In July, we went to the National Association of



Drug Court Professionals. This was a lively conference with many prosecutors and judges stopping by our booth to inquire about the Basic Text who wanted to gain a better understanding of recovery in NA. Several professionals asked about their ability to attend open NA meetings. The National Conference on Addiction Disorders (NCAD) was less robust. Several professionals in attendance expressed the changing landscape in treatment with medication.

TRANSLATIONS

In addition to the face-to-face interactions, PR, service material development, and other activities at NA World Services, another vital element of our Fellowship development efforts is translations. Most translations projects, particularly booklength pieces, represent years of work from the local translation committees and NAWS staff. Some of the pieces published since the last *NAWS News* were:

- **Danish**
The NA Step Working Guides Intro Guide (revised to the Basic Text 6th Edition)
- **Farsi**
Guiding Principles: The Spirit of Our Traditions
- **Papiamentu**
Welcome through Multi-Year Keytags

We also published:

- **Line-Numbered Basic Text, *Narcotics Anonymous***
This version of the Basic Text facilitates precise identification of text location for review, discussion, and Stepwork with a format that numbers each full sentence in the left page margin. Softcover with an 8½" × 11" finish size.
- **2018 JFT Calendar**

WEB MEETINGS

With the move to the Zoom platform, web meetings seem to have gained in popularity due to the ease of participation and the ability to see attendees and offer audio discussion in small groups rather than needing to type to participate. The Board will be facilitating a fifth web meeting for Conference participants on 18 November 2017. We know it is not much of a change, but we want to try starting this meeting an hour later, at 11:00 am Pacific Time, to see if it is any easier on our members in the Asia Pacific Zone who have been getting up in the middle of the night to join us. This web meeting will address preparing for the Conference with a major focus on the Future of the WSC 3 report. As many of



Send us your *NA Way Newsletters* and Newsletter Guidelines

Our thanks to NA newsletter subcommittees that added *The NA Way* to their mailing lists or sent us copies of recent issues. **There's still time to add naway@na.org to your mailing lists and to submit your material** (articles, artwork, etc.) to be included in the newsletter issue. If your article is published, we'll cite your newsletter as the original source, and we'll link to your service body or newsletter webpage in the electronic version of the .(magazine (if we have a URL

We also received some of your newsletter guidelines, which have been uploaded to the Local Service Resources* page at www.na.org/localresources. **There's still time to share your guidelines** for others to use and adapt in their .newsletter service efforts. Email yours to naway@na.org

!Thank you

The resources on this webpage are developed by local service bodies* and aren't approved or endorsed by NA World Services or the World Service Conference (unless clearly designated otherwise). If you have .other service resources to share, please email them to fsmail@na.org

us are aware, CAR season is virtually upon us, and we are trying to gain a sense of direction to prepare for the next WSC and our future.

We also regularly conduct web meetings for PR and H&I. An H&I web meeting will be scheduled in November, please email for more information. PR enthusiasts can look forward to the PR webinar, which will happen on 11

January at 4:00 pm PST. The next Inmate Step Writing web meeting will take place on 10 January at 3:30 pm PST. NAWS facilitates the discussions, and the topics for discussion come from members involved in PR or H&I. Any member may join; simply provide your name and email address to either pr@na.org or handi@na.org.

In addition, we are using web meetings for our service material projects—Conventions and Events and Local Service Toolbox—as well as holding regular web meetings for those who are serving in rural and isolated places. Email conventions@na.org or toolbox@na.org for more information about these web meetings.

Even though face-to-face remains the preferred method for communication for most of us, we are finding the Zoom platform for web meetings to be surprisingly effective. These web meetings offer the ability to communicate and share information and experiences, and are particularly effective for facilitating small breakout groups. If you have not participated in a web meeting yet, we encourage you to join us. Web meetings are a great way to get connected and involved. Our projects benefit from hearing input from our global community, as opposed to the limited number of people who can serve on a workgroup. Because there are many opportunities to participate, we hope that more members take part. Interested members can learn more at www.na.org/webinar.



FINANCIAL UPDATE

PROPOSED PRICE INCREASE

The Board revisited our recommended price increase, scheduled to take effect 1 July 2018. The initial price increase was based on inflationary rate, cost of goods, and consumer price index through July 2018, which is the implementation date for the increase. Due to the generous and record contributions from the Fellowship, we decided that we could reduce the proposed 7.5% increase to 6% effective July 2018, and we left the proposed increase for the Basic Text at its originally scheduled 5% increase. In addition to the inflationary rate, we also had to consider operating costs, base shipping, fuel surcharges, duties, taxes, etc.

None of us wants to raise prices, but the cost of everything we do increases over time. If you look at an inflation calculator like <http://www.usinflationcalculator.com/> or <http://data.bls.gov/cgi-bin/cpicalc.pl> you can see the effect since the last price increase in January 2014. And those increases shown are only through 2017, not July 2018 when the increase will actually take place. Smaller, more incremental increases ensure that we have the resources needed to fulfill our vision. The good news is that costs are not the only thing that increases over time—so does the reach of our program.

Whether related to the concerns about the price increase or the issues raised in the *Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust* inspection request, we have also received questions about who purchases literature from NA World Services. Based on volume, regional service offices make up the lion's share of our sales; next are NA groups and ASCs, followed by literature resellers, like Hazelden, and treatment centers.

As the table below indicates, the quantity of the literature that the Fellowship purchases far exceeds what we sell to those outside of NA. That said, we appreciate any opportunity to distribute NA literature, since whatever the customer type, the literature will likely end up in the hands of an addict, and the revenue gained supports our ability to deliver additional services.

The following is the breakdown by percentage of the top five customer categories for the 2015–2016 fiscal year; these percentages don't change much from year to year. The discount rate varies depending on the volume of each order, but averages out to about 13% for all literature sales. Contract customers and resellers are the exception to variable, volume-based rates. We establish an annual discount rate for resellers and other high-volume buyers based on the previous year's total.

Customer Type	Number of Invoices	% of total invoices	Amount of Invoices	% of total Amount	Median Order	Average Discount or Range
Service Offices	444	2%	\$2,419,458.14	30%	\$483.55	16–24%
Groups	15,890	77%	\$1,749,253.66	22%	\$48.95	2% average (ranges from 0–6%)
ASCs	1,877	9%	\$1,455,393.92	18%	\$620.68	5% average (ranges from 0–9%)
Resellers	9	.04%	\$571,398.22	7%	\$34,409.76	24%
Treatment Centers	692	3%	\$499,757.35	6%	\$334.32	6%

FIPT INSPECTION REQUEST UPDATE

As you may know, we have received a request to inspect the *Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust* property. We sent information about this request to all of the regional delegates, and we hope to have a report in the *Conference Agenda Report* as well. Some members have inquired about the resources spent on the *FIPT* inquiry. We spent a great deal of time at the last WSC discussing NA World Services' efforts to protect the Fellowship's property, particularly with illicit literature, and we sought the Conference's guidance on how far we should go. Since this *FIPT* inspection request was the first of its kind—a request from one region, that was far-reaching and broad—we believe the most responsible thing to do was for us to move forward with caution and seek professional advice.

When the *FIPT* was adopted in 1993, World Services was organized very differently than it is today. Three different boards—the World Service Office Board of Directors, the Board of Trustees, and the World Service Conference Committees—all operated independently. The only budget the WSC controlled was the WSC budget, and the WSC had no direct control or impact on the WSO budget. Those boards were united in 1998 as the World Board and NA World Services. At that time, financial policies were adopted for how all of World Services operates, including what was formerly the WSO. The expectations set out and adopted in those policies are much more recent than the *FIPT*. The *FIPT* and the inspection clause were never intended to provide a way for anyone to inspect all business practices of NA World Services, as we know it today.

With the benefit of hindsight, it would have been wise for the World Board to discuss this with the WSC prior to receiving an inspection request. Since this was something that had never occurred, we prioritized discussions about the direction and support of the *FIPT* at WSC 2016 and planned to continue those discussions at WSC 2018 before offering any changes for the Conference's consideration.



www.na.org/ar2016

We estimate having already devoted close to \$25,000 to this request, without actually proceeding with an inspection. Approximately \$20,000 of that figure reflects attorney fees to date, including the cost of phone and face-to-face meetings with our corporate and copyright attorneys, as well as work done by attorneys. A typical Board meeting costs over \$48,000 for four days, and the Board spent more than half of a day in their recent meeting discussing the issue, which is conservatively another \$5,000 of resources devoted to this issue. None of these estimates includes any staff time or mailings related to this request.

Most of the request we received seems to be driven by a desire to see a broad range of financial details rather than by a concern about the manner in which the Fellowship's recovery literature is being handled. We already spend between \$20,000 and \$30,000 per year to have an independent certified public accounting firm conduct an audit, the results of which are published every year in the *NAWS Annual Report*. We have an audit committee, which includes no current Board members, that works directly with the auditors to finalize this annual audit. If this audit is insufficient, the WSC needs to tell us what it would like to see covered. To respond to a request as broad as the one we received, our auditors estimate their costs to be over \$100,000.



www.na.org/fipt

We know the requesting region did not estimate the costs could be this high, and we are in a dialog to work with them to address their concerns and seek a practical solution. Some may wonder why a full audit costs up to \$30,000 and our auditors estimate the costs of the inspection request as more than \$100,000. Auditors usually examine a representative sample of transactions, reports, ledgers, and contracts, and then test the accuracy of that data. They form an opinion based on inspection of representative samples, but rarely look at every transaction. This is typically how audits and inspections are done. As an example, our auditors ensure that our discount levels are consistently applied to orders at the correct levels. That does not require looking at the tens of thousands of individual invoices referenced in the previous section. Similarly, our auditors send someone to oversee the cash-handling and other activities at the World Convention, but that does not mean looking at every single invoice or registration.

The concerns listed by the region consistently ask to see all information and records for two full fiscal years. Although the region estimated the inspection could be completed in approximately a week at a low cost, we estimate the cost to fulfill the request as written to be much higher. The region's request includes, but isn't limited to: inspecting all financial records, documents, and general ledger postings to developmental literature, subsidies, and allowances; all records/calculations relating to the cost of literature and all sales to our largest customers; all financial records for the World Board; all travel-related financial documents (general ledger details, expense reports, reimbursement request forms, travel receipts, etc.); all financial records for World Service Conference expenses; all documents, minutes (internal World Board and executive committee), and financial records relating to ownership or interests in distribution centers around the world; and all financial records and backup receipts for all expenses reported for the World Convention in Brazil. Providing this type of detail for the World Convention was an issue that was offered as a CAR motion in 2016 and for which the WSC decided not to devote the resources to pursue. This leaves the World Board challenged to determine which directions to follow. We also discussed at length the challenge of responding to concerns that clearly go beyond the purview of a FIPT inspection request.

We have no way of accurately forecasting future expenses related to this request. We remain hopeful that sharing our concerns with the region and listening to their concerns will bring about a practical solution that will not require any action from the World Service Conference. We believe we are being transparent and we are very clear about to whom we are directly accountable. We value the directions from our guidelines and believe that part of transparency requires communicating with the World Service Conference as a whole. Besides clarifying the concerns, which we are working on with the region, it seems irresponsible to immediately incur this kind of expenditure without giving the body we are responsible to, the World Service Conference, the courtesy of deciding how

to proceed should we be unable to find a solution directly with the region.

The purpose of the FIPT seems clear:

The sole object and purpose of this Trust is to hold and administer all recovery literature and other intellectual properties of the Fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous in a manner that will help addicts find recovery from the disease of addiction and carry that message of recovery to the addict who still suffers, in keeping with the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of NA.

*Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust,
Article I, Section 4*



WCNA 37: 30 AUGUST–2 SEPTEMBER 2018

LET'S CELEBRATE RECOVERY IN ORLANDO, FLORIDA!

Excitement abounds! Registration for the World Convention opened 25 September 2017, and we are thrilled to report that more than 3,300 members have already registered. The purchase of banquet tables (ten seats to a table) has been brisk. You may want to consider reserving yours sooner rather than later. The Blues Luncheon and Jazz Brunch tickets remain popular as well. It is heartwarming to be able to let you know that we have already received \$8,000 in newcomer donations. We are as jazzed as the members who have already registered—we are primed to have a fantastic recovery celebration! We hope those who have not registered feel inspired to register now.

We will be offering a drawing for two full WCNA 37 packages for pre-registrants prior to 31 July 2018. The two full packages include registration and all WCNA special event tickets, but do not include pre-registration merchandise. Also, we know many people are accustomed to booking hotel rooms on their own, but it really helps WCNA when you book in our room block. If you pre-register and book your hotel in the WCNA room block by 31 July 2018 (without cancellation), you will be entered into a drawing for a free, three-night stay. We will randomly select two pre-registrants and cover their room and tax charges for the Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights of WCNA.

As always, special-event seating assignments will be determined by the date of pre-registration; this means the location of your seat for ticketed events is driven by your pre-registration date, not by the date you purchase event tickets. As seasoned World Convention-goers know, the key to getting the best seats is to register early.

We are enthusiastic to see and to welcome everyone in Orlando! For more information: www.na.org/wcna.

HUMAN RESOURCE PANEL REPORT TO CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS

Hello all from the Human Resource Panel. At this writing, we are well into our nominations process. We have nothing new to report, but want to take this opportunity to say thanks to all who have had or will have a role in our process. Whether you are a candidate, a reference, or a committee member asked to provide candidate background information, your efforts increase our ability to be confident in our nominations decisions. As a reminder, we will meet in March 2018 to identify our nominees, and report the outcome in the Conference Report. As always, any input or questions are welcome. Write to hrp@na.org.

CALENDAR

Travel requests (considered by quarter)
Please send in your requests as early as possible.

1 November for January–March

1 February for April–June

Web Meetings

18 November—Conference Participants Web Meeting,
11:00 am PST

10 January—Inmate Step Writing Web Meeting, 3:30 pm PST

11 January—Public Relations Web Meeting, 4:00 pm PST

20 January—FD/PR Zone Webinar, 10:00 am PST

World Board meetings

6–9 December 2017

7–10 March 2018

WSC 2018

29 April–5 May 2018

DEAR DELEGATE

At the 2008 World Service Conference, participants were asked to share their experience, strength, and hope in letters to 2018 Conference participants. As we prepare for the 2018 WSC, we'll share a sampling of their letters here in *NAWS News*, in *The NA Way Magazine*, and in other pre-Conference publications.

This letter is from Bob G, who went on to serve on the World Board and passed away two years ago.

We miss you, Bob.

Dear Delegate of 2018,

I first attended the WSC in 1980. It was small and just the foundation of what the WSC is like in 2008. At that time the Fellowship had six to 700 meetings worldwide. In 2008 there are 75 times that amount. In those 20 years, an addict can now recover in their own language and culture. As a result of emerging regions and the expansion of technology, the growth during these next ten years will reach every addict in every country, in every language, in every culture, so that every addict can find recovery worldwide. May you experience the gratitude and commitment I first felt in 1980 and renewed in 2008. The unity and actions taken at the 2008 Conference will be seen as the catalyst for worldwide growth and unity equal to the growth I experienced over the past 20 years. May God bless you in your endeavors as a trusted servant.

*In fellowship,
Bob G, Florida Region, USA*