

April 1, 2020

My name is Donny and I'm an alcoholic. It is my absolute privilege to serve you as your Area 80 Panel 70 Delegate. I truly hope this email finds each and every one of you healthy and well! We are all experiencing tremendous change in our private lives, our professions and our recoveries. As I am sure you know there have been many cancellations in AA including the Western Canada Regional Forum, The International Convention, and many other round ups and anniversaries as well as our local groups and the physical closing of our own Central Office.

So just how are we coping? Online has become the new norm! Many of our home groups maintain regularly scheduled online meetings. While there are a number of meetings available worldwide right now, I would like to encourage you to please continue to support your local groups. Every group exercises their autonomy through a variety of ways. Hopefully your group has contacted central office or emailed updates@aamanitoba.org to let us all know how to join whether it is a direct link or a group email. Central office continues to answer phones and fill literature orders, the Area 80 assembly was held via Zoom, as will the General Service Conference traditionally held in New York.

Now that we know AA is alive and well at all levels, can we do more to help keep it that way? YES! Many of our clubrooms depend on 7th Tradition contributions to cover expenses like rent which may be due even though they sit empty. This is also the case for our Central Office and the General Service Office in New York.

My home group in Oakbank has set up an account that we can send e-Transfers to. This is vital so that we may continue to contribute to the other arms of service.

Central Office has made e-Transfers available for both their Birthday Plan and regular Tradition Seven contributions. Their email is: aambco@mts.net Please be sure to call Brenda at 204-942-0126 to provide her with the password for the transfer! **Area 80** Birthday Plan and 7th Tradition contributions may be made directly through our website aamanitoba.org or by e-Transfer to area80treasurer@aamanitoba.org (please contact Lawrence at 204-761-5032 with password). The **General Service Office** also has a direct link in the contributions tab at aa.org for Birthday Plan and 7th Tradition donations.

May you find comfort in the Power that saves us and in the knowledge that this too shall pass!

In Love and service, Donny