

Scott H. BC Yukon Area 79

BC Yukon Area 79 is approximately 900,000 sq miles, which qualifies it as the second largest Area in the Canada/U.S. Service Structure. Area 79 contains some districts that are the same size as the states of Mississippi and Maryland combined. From the southern most tip of British Columbia to the northern most tip of the Yukon Territories is a staggering 1,500 miles.

BC Yukon has 47 Districts and 800 Groups, many of which are serviceable only by ferry, small plane, boat or ski-doo.

A trip from Vancouver to Prince Rupert is just under 1/3 the length of Area 79, geographically. Approximately 500 miles in a straight line. However, actual road travel, due to detours around vast mountain ranges, rivers and lakes, extends the trip to approximately 20 hours and 950 miles, the equivalent distance from Vancouver to San Francisco.

Challenges of distance, terrain and sparse population are met by the efforts of many, including an active Remote Communities Committee. We have a number of meetings by telephone between groups and A.A. members in isolated communities and a meeting has recently been established that links A.A. members in 14 isolated northern communities by video teleconference once a week.

A recent upgrade to our Area's website has added a password secured portion through which our Area Committee can communicate with each other and with General Service Representatives.

We have two quarterlies and two assemblies annually with 250-400 members attending. We have 95% participation by our districts. Locations for these meetings are chosen through a bidding process at our Pre-Conference Assembly. Area 79 participates in and hosts Forums and Western Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assemblies in our Western Canada Region, the most recent being a sold out WRAASA in February this year.