

# INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

July 3-6, 2025 | Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

August 9, 2024

Dear A.A. Friends,

This is an exciting time in the planning of our 2025 International Convention. The *Registration and Housing Processes* will open on September 10, 2024, at Noon, Eastern Time. This memo includes information on the two ways to register and obtain housing, if needed.

# **ONLINE REGISTRATION AND HOUSING PROCESS**

Attendees planning to register and book housing online through our vendor, Showcare, *should use the Online Registration and Housing Process*. In the online portal, attendees can register, as well as add on our exciting product offerings, Once the online registration is complete, attendees seeking housing will be guided to book an option.

Attendees can access the Online Registration and Housing Process via a link on our website at <u>https://www.aa.org/international-convention</u>. Additionally, the attached Registration Brochure is filled with information about the 2025 International Convention you want to review.

# PRINT FORM REGISTRATION PROCESS

Due to security and privacy guidelines, we no longer allow attendees to provide their credit or debit card information on our Print Registration Form. The **Print Form Registration Process** will allow attendees to pay for the registration fee and our additional product offerings by <u>check or money order only</u>. If your print registration form arrives by mail to Showcare before registration opens, it will not be processed until September 10, 2024.

## HOW TO REQUEST HOUSING USING THE PRINT REGISTRATION FORM

In the *housing section* of the print registration form, attendees can indicate they want to "reserve housing." Individual members will be able to indicate a preferred housing dollar range and book up to two (2) rooms. We require attendees to provide a *valid email address* to complete the booking of a housing reservation. *You must have a credit card to reserve a hotel room*.

NOTE: YOUR CHECK OR MONEY ORDER SHOULD INCLUDE THE TOTAL OF THE REGISTRATION FEE AND ALL SELECTED PRODUCT OFFERINGS. PLEASE DO NOT ADD IN A HOUSING DEPOSIT WITH YOUR CHECK OR MONEY ORDER.

We will do our best to match you to your requested housing range, but if not available, we will search for a housing option at the closest available rate. A link to the housing system will be emailed to you with your confirmation so you may provide your *credit card information* to complete the reservation. Please read the entire *Print Registration Form* for all details regarding the process.

# UNABLE TO ATTEND THE 2025 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION IN PERSON? WE HAVE NEW OPTIONS FOR YOU TO PARTICIPATE.

You can use the Online Registration or Print Registration Form to:

- Register for a <u>Virtual Session Program Track</u>. This is a two-day 8 session virtual program track. The sessions will be live streamed as they are taking place and will not be available for purchase after the Convention. Cost is \$35 (USD).
- Purchase the <u>2025 International Convention Three Big Meetings Video Product.</u> It will be an anonymity-protected video recording available for viewing after the Convention is over. Cost is \$60 (USD)

Registration and housing questions? Call (514) 380-9375. Press 1 for English, press 2 for Spanish, press 3 for French, or email: <u>2025IC@showcare.com</u>.

Warm regards,

Patrick C. 2025 International Convention Coordinator 2025ic@aa.org



# **DISCOVER VANCOUVER**

Vancouver is located on the unceded traditional territories of the  $x^m = \partial k^m = \dot{y} = m$  (Musqueam), Skwx wú7mesh (Squamish), and səl ilwəta?t (Tsleil-Waututh) peoples, who have lived on this land for thousands of years. In 2014, Vancouver was designated a City of Reconciliation, embarking on a sustained relationship of mutual respect with local First Nations.

A cosmopolitan city right on the edge of nature, Vancouver makes it easy to combine an urban getaway with outdoor adventure. From family-friendly fun to thrill-seeking exploits; from marine exploring to mountaintop luxury, you'll find plenty of things to do in Vancouver. Vancouverites know their city's culinary scene. They know where to find the best tower of fresh seafood, the finest house-made charcuterie, and the most delicious taco truck!

Now, close your eyes and breathe in deep. As the earthy, cedarscented air fills your lungs, listen to the birds twittering, wind rustling through leaves, and evergreen needles crunching underfoot as you wander the forest's carpeted path. As you round the corner, Stanley Park's Lost Lagoon comes into view. Just a few minutes past are the towers and skyscrapers of downtown Vancouver. This is what inspires Vancouverites every day.

# MEETINGS, MEETINGS AND MORE MEETINGS

Beginning Thursday at midnight through early Sunday, marathon A.A. meetings will be held in English, French and Spanish. A.A. topic meetings, workshops, panels, special interest meetings, and regional meetings will be held Friday and Saturday at the Vancouver Convention Centre. Sharing with members from around the world will energize you to carry the message back home!

#### **NEW FOR 2025 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION**

# WE ARE OFFERING A VIRTUAL SESSION

**PROGRAM TRACK:** Attendees who are unable to attend the 2025 International Convention in person can register for a two-day 8 session virtual program track. The sessions will be live streamed as they are taking place and not available for purchase after the Convention.

# A.A. EVENTS IN VANCOUVER!

Vancouver Convention Centre is located at the downtown waterfront and where on Thursday evening we will hold a Block Party at venues around the Convention Campus. Friday night we all come together in the BC Place Stadium for the Flag Ceremony and Opening A.A. Meeting; Saturday night for an Oldtimers A.A. Meeting; and Sunday morning for the Closing A.A. Meeting. There will be more fellowship opportunities outside the BC Place Stadium after the Friday and Saturday night A.A. Meetings.

# **AL-ANON AND ALATEEN ACTIVITIES**

A variety of daytime activities, including meetings and workshops for Al-Anon and Alateen, are scheduled at the Hyatt Regency Vancouver. There will be meetings offered in French and Spanish, along with the English program. And, of course, Al-Anons and Alateens will join the festivities at the Thursday night Block Party near the waterfront and at venues around the Convention Campus, the Big Meetings and more.

# 2025 INTERNATIONAL A.A. CONVENTION SOUVENIR BOOK

The 2025 International Convention Souvenir book, "A BOOK OF FELLOWSHIP: 90 Years of Love & Service" is a lavishly illustrated celebration of our Fellowship, its vibrant history, and A.A. around the world today. In these full-color pages, you'll read the inspiring stories of Bill W., Dr. Bob, and the early A.A. s who spread the word of Alcoholics Anonymous, one alcoholic to another, in ever-widening circles. A treasure trove of archival and new material, this autograph book-size volume brings to vivid life the message of Recovery, Service and Unity that lies at the very heart of our program. Including blank pages for notes and autographs, "A BOOK OF FELLOWSHIP: 90 Years of Love & Service" will make a one-of-a-kind keepsake of the 2025 Vancouver Convention.

If you preorder the International Convention souvenir book when you register prior to May 9, 2025, you will receive the book in the mail. If registering after May 9, 2025, the book will be available for pick-up at the Vancouver Convention Centre.

# GRAPEVINE'S "LANGUAGE OF THE HEART" SOUVENIR JOURNAL

To help celebrate the 2025 International Convention, collect your memories, thoughts, ideas, prayers, jokes, stories, and the signatures of friends and people you meet in this beautiful journal from AA Grapevine. Keep track of a wonderful weekend of sober celebration in Vancouver with fellows from around the world, and then use it for years to come. The journal features wonderful quotes from our cofounder Bill W.'s collected writings from Grapevine's most popular book, *The Language of the Heart*, the theme of the 2025 Convention.

If you preorder the Grapevine's "Language of the Heart" souvenir journal when you register prior to May 9, 2025, you will receive the journal in the mail. If registering after May 9, 2025, the journal will be available for pick-up at the Vancouver Convention Centre.

# **CONVENTION APP**

A 2025 International Convention app will be available for download for mobile devices. This will give attendees instant access to the convention program, schedule changes, maps of the Convention Center and Vancouver area, updates and alerts, and more. Print programs will still be available for attendees.



**2025** INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

# INDIVIDUALS WITH ACCESSIBILITY BARRIERS

Many efforts have been made to assure your participation, as well as compliance with the Canadians With Disabilities Act. Transportation will be available to you in Vancouver, if required. Please indicate on the registration form if you wish to be contacted regarding your needs for transportation and/or housing. Wheelchairs will be available to rent. You will need to make your own arrangements through our vendor.

## WEATHER

Daily high temperatures in July in Vancouver are around  $70^{\circ}$ F, rarely falling below  $55^{\circ}$ F or exceeding  $85^{\circ}$ F. The highest daily average high temperature for July is  $75^{\circ}$ F. As warm as the summer temperatures can be outdoors, be prepared for cool temperatures indoors — the air conditioning will be on!

# **TRAVELING TO CANADA**

The U.S. and Canada each have restrictions and regulations that apply to citizens and visitors who travel from one country to the other. U.S. citizens need a valid U.S. passport to travel to Canada. Citizens from other countries need to view Canadian Visa Requirements. Border crossing into Canada has significantly changed, particularly in the last two years. For more information: access links to Canada Border Services Agency website:

#### https://ircc.canada.ca/english/visit/visas.asp

It is suggested that those who believe they have some past legal incident, such as a DUI or felony that could inhibit their ability to cross the border to attend the 2025 International Convention, seek assistance/information by accessing the Canada Border Services Agency link:\_

https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugeescitizenship/services/immigrate-canada/inadmissibility/ overcome-criminal-convictions.html

# **OTHER LANGUAGES, INCLUDING ASL**

As a truly international gathering, meetings in multiple languages including American Sign Language (ASL), French, Spanish and more — will be available Friday and Saturday. Additionally, the Big Meetings in the BC Place Stadium will be simultaneously interpreted into several languages based on need and cost. ASL interpretation will be provided at the Big Meetings; look for the seating section to be set aside for this purpose.

# TRANSPORTATION AND OTHER INFORMATION

#### **AIR TRAVEL\***

You may wish to take advantage of airline flight discounts available through one of our partners. SkyTeam comprises 19 international airlines: Aerolíneas Argentinas, Aeroméxico, Air Europa, Air France, China Airlines, China Eastern, Czech Airlines, Delta Air Lines, Garuda Indonesia, ITA Airways, Kenya Airways, KLM, Korean Air, Middle East Airlines, Saudia, TAROM, Vietnam Airlines, Virgin Atlantic, and Xiamen Air. To book your travel now, visit skyteam.com/GlobalMeetings, click on Attend Your Event in the left bar and enter Event ID **4860S**.

AirCanada is also providing our group with discounted travel. To book visit **aircanada.com** and enter the Promotion Code **RF4VA681**.

#### **CAR RENTAL\***

As with airlines and hotels, car rentals are available at standard discount rates.

- Budget: Contact either <u>www.budget.com</u> or 1 (800) 842-5628 reference BCD #**Z727996**
- Avis: Contact either <u>www.avis.com</u> or 1 (800) 331-1600 reference AWD number X227399.

### **CONVENTION TRANSPORTATION**

We have hotel rooms throughout the Vancouver area! No door-to-door shuttle bus service will be available. During registration you will be able to purchase a three-day TransLink Compass Card. This card will be sent to you with your badge for those who register prior to May 9, 2025 will allow you to use public transit throughout Metro Vancouver for three days. This includes SkyTrain, Bus Service, and SeaBus. If you are staying in the area longer, these cards will be reloadable for you to add additional days.

#### SAFETY TIPS

The staff and volunteers of the 2025IC are committed to the safety and security of our guests throughout the entire event. Here are some recommendations to ensure that the 2025IC experience is a pleasant and safe one.

- Know Your Surroundings
- Carry Important Documents
  - Use The Buddy System
- Ose the buddy syste
  - Be Discreet
- Use the 2025IC Resources, such as our Mobile App.
- Be Medically Prepared
- See Something, Say Something

#### GROUND TRANSPORTATION BETWEEN AIRPORT AND HOTEL

#### TAXI OPTIONS

Fares range from \$35-\$45 CAD based on traffic conditions from the airport (both terminals) to downtown Vancouver.

All taxis are first come first serve basis from one of our two taxi stands at YVR. Taxi stands are located on International Arrivals Level 2 and Domestic Arrivals Level 2 and are served by licensed taxi operators. For South Terminal passengers, the taxi stand is located right outside the terminal – only Richmond Taxi, Garden City Cabs, and Kimber Cabs operate there.

#### **RIDE APP SERVICES**

Ride App services have arrived at YVR and are committed to providing their passengers with reliable and diverse transportation options. Lyft, Uber and KABU are authorized providers of Ride App services at YVR.

#### **Getting Picked Up at YVR**

For the safety, security and efficiency of the operations, Ride App services at YVR are highly regulated. To ensure they deliver on their commitment to provide an exceptional airport experience for their customers, there are three pick up areas:

- International Arrivals, Level 2
- Domestic Arrivals, Level 2
- South Terminal

# AA 2025 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION July 3-6, 2025 | Vancouver, British Columbia 2 WAYS TO REGISTER • ONLINE: www.aa.org • MAIL: PO Box 7032, Lancaster, PA 17604

#### A. REGISTRATION (PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

• No badge required for children 12 years and younger • Both sides of this form may be duplicated • See reverse side for cancellation policy.

#### MAIN ATTENDEE (All fields are requested)

LAST NAME	FIRS	TNAME		NAME ON BADGE			
ADDRESS					APT #		
СІТҮ	ST/F	PROV	ZIP/POST	COUNTRY	COUNTRY		
EMAIL (*REQUIRED FIELD)		TE	LEPHONE				
BADGE TYPE (CHECK ONE)	1. 🗌 AA	2. AL-ANON	3. 🗌 ALATEEN	4. 🗌 FRIEND	/SPOUSE		
SIMULTANEOUS INTERPRETATION	1. 🗌 SPANISH	2. FRENCH	3. 🗌 AMERICAN SIGN	LANGUAGE	4. 🗌 OTHER		
FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION	1. 🗌 YES	2. 🗌 NO					
YEARS OF A.A. MEMBERSHIP	1. 🗌 LESS THAN 1 YR.	2. 🗌 1-3 3. 🗌 4-10	4. 🗌 11-20 5. 🗌 20	-35 6. 🗌 35-5	0 7. 🗌 50-55 8	8. 🗌 55-60	9. 🗌 OVER 60
AGE GROUP	1. 🗌 13-15	2. 🗌 16-25	3. 🗌 26-39	4. 🗌 40-55	5. 🗌 !	<b>56-65</b>	6. 🗌 OVER 65
	ON-SITE 🗌 YES, PLEASE	COMMUNICATE WITH ME (	ON ACCESSIBILITY SUPPO	RT AVAILABLE			
EMERGENCY CONTACT	TELEPHONE						
I WOULD LIKE TO RESERVE HOUSING	☐ 1 ROOM ☐ 2 ROOMS	ARRIVAL DATE	PRICE RANGE: □\$200-\$300 CAD (~\$145-\$218 USD) DEPARTURE DATE □\$300-\$400 CAD (~\$218-\$290 USD)				
I WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE ADDITIONAL	L COMMUNICATIONS FROM	AAWS, INC. AND AA GRAP	EVINE, INC. AFTER THE 2	025 INTERNATION	NAL CONVENTION		
ADDITIONAL ATTENDEE (All fie	lds are requested)						
LAST NAME	FIRS	T NAME	NAME ON BADGE				
ADDRESS					APT #		
CITY	ST/F	ROV	ZIP/POSTAL CODE COUNTRY				
EMAIL (*REQUIRED FIELD)		TE	LEPHONE				
BADGE TYPE (CHECK ONE)	1. 🗌 AA	2. 🗌 AL-ANON	3. 🗌 ALATEEN	4. 🗌 FRIEND	/SPOUSE		
SIMULTANEOUS INTERPRETATION	1. 🗌 SPANISH	2. FRENCH	3. 🗌 AMERICAN SIGN	LANGUAGE	4. 🗌 OTHER		
FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION	1. 🗌 YES	2. 🗌 NO					
YEARS OF A.A. MEMBERSHIP	1. 🗌 LESS THAN 1 YR.	2. 🗌 1-3 🛛 3. 🗌 4-10	4. 🗌 11-20 5. 🗌 20	-35 6. 🗌 35-5	0 7. 🗌 50-55 8	8. 🗌 55-60	9. 🗌 OVER 60
AGE GROUP	1. 🗌 13-15	2. 🗌 16-25	3. 🗌 26-39	4. 🗌 40-55	5. 🗌 !	56-65	6. 🗌 OVER 65
🕹 🚿 ACCESSIBILITY ASSISTANCE	ON-SITE 🗌 YES, PLEASI	COMMUNICATE WITH ME	ON ACCESSIBILITY SUPP	ORT AVAILABLE			
<b>B. PAYMENT</b> (PLEASE PRINT CLI	EARLY)						
Advanced Registration Fee is:         \$160 USD PER PERSON X\$185 USD AFTER APRIL 15 TOTALING \$         \$216 CAD (when using Canadian checks)         PER PERSON X\$250 CAD AFTER APRIL 15 TOTALING \$         2025 International Convention Virtual Session Program Track         A live two-day 8 session virtual track for people who are unable to attend the 2025 International Convention in person.         \$35 USD			Grapevine one-ye \$36 USD \$49 \$49 USD Internation Grapevine one-ye \$29.99 USD (ALL exc	CAD (check) nal <b>ar digital suk</b>	QUANTITY	TOTALING	\$ pp (OPTIONAL)
			Grapevine one-year Complete subscription - Print, online and app (OPTIONAL)				
			□ \$56 USD □ \$76 □ \$69 USD Internation		QUANTITY		\$
			La Viña one-year p \$14.45 USD \$ \$21 USD Internation	20 CAD (check)	otion - Spanish o	-	
			La Viña one-year digital subscription - Online and app (OPTIONAL) \$14.99 USD (ALL except Canadian check) \$20 CAD (check) TOTALING \$ La Viña one-year Complete subscription - Print, online and app				
AA Grapevine Souvenir Journal – Trilingual (OPTIONAL)   \$15 USD (includes shipping)  \$20 CAD  QUANTITY: TOTALING \$				tional INCLUDE ALL NECE	QUANTITY	FOR THE POS	-
l will be responsibly	e for fees that may be (	charged by financial ir			DDRESS AND PHONE I		
					. mountent-tuni	J CHECK.	
1/We enclose th	e following total registra			•	)rders made navak	ale to	

"General Service Board Convention." International Checks/Money Orders (Except Canadian) must be in U.S. funds drawn on a U.S. bank.

#### WE SUGGEST DUPLICATING BOTH SIDES OF THIS FORM.

Send completed form with payment of Section B items only to: 2025 International Convention • PO Box 7032, Lancaster, PA 17604

**REGISTRATION OPENS SEPTEMBER 10, 2024** ADVANCED DEADLINE IS: **APRIL 15, 2025** 

# **2025 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION | ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS**

# **REGISTRATION BY WEB OR MAIL**

Before you provide us with your personal information, check how we use it, with whom we share it, and how we protect it. Go to **www.aa.org/privacy** or **www.aagrapevine.org/website-policy.** 

Registration opens September 10, 2024.

**Advanced Registration Fees** (prior to April 15, 2025): \$160 USD or \$216 CAD (Canadian residents only if paying by CAD check or money order).

Payable by: Check, Money Order, or Credit Card

International checks and money orders (except Canadian) must be in U.S. funds drawn on a U.S. bank. NOTE: We cannot accept travel agency checks for multiple registrations.

You may register online through **www.aa.org**. Look for the logo with International Convention information, including the link to registration.

Or fill out and mail the registration form with full payment to:

Mail: 2025 International Convention (check or money order) PO Box 7032 Lancaster, PA 17604

Once registered, your confirmation will be emailed to you. A valid email address is required for registration. Your registration form will not be processed if it does not contain a valid email.

The registration fees after April 15, 2025 will be \$185 USD or \$250 CAD. All attendees who register either via mail or online by May 9, 2025, will receive their badge and purchases in the mail prior to the International Convention.

Registration forms sent via mail and received after May 9, 2025, may not be processed. Please plan to check in at the Onsite Registration Counters at the Vancouver Convention Centre. We encourage you to register by May 9 to avoid long lines.

After May 9, 2025, online registration will remain open, and we urge attendees to pre-register before arriving in Vancouver. Badges and purchases for these attendees only must be picked up at Vancouver Convention Centre when you arrive at the 2025 International Convention.

If you have questions regarding the status of your mailed-in registration, please contact (514) 380-9375.

The Registration Hall opens Wednesday morning.

# CANCELLATIONS

All cancellations must be made in writing to **2025IC@showcare.com**. Refunds will be made only upon receipt of your written request and if received by May 9, 2025. No exceptions. There is a \$15 USD administrative processing fee for cancellations, which will be deducted from the refund. All ancillary items/products are non-refundable.

Cancellations requested prior to May 9 will be processed on a rolling basis.

# Language of the Heart Lenguage du cœur

# **HOUSING/HOTEL INFORMATION**

Hotel reservation information, including the Housing Bureau's contact information, will be part of the registration process. Housing for the 2025 International Convention will be on a first-come, first-served basis. If you are planning to book housing, we highly recommend registering online rather than via mail. Any housing cancelled after October 31, 2024 will be charged for one-night stay.

If you register by mail and select that you want to obtain housing, you will be placed based on your selected dollar range preference if space is available. A link to the housing system will be emailed to you with your confirmation so you may provide your credit card information. If you are not able to provide your credit card number within 48 hours this housing will be cancelled.

# DO NOT SEND A HOUSING DEPOSIT WITH YOUR REGISTRATION CHECK OR MONEY ORDER.

Individual members will be able to book up to two (2) rooms.

While we are trying to meet everyone's needs, we attempt to ensure fairness for the entire Fellowship so that single attendees and attendees traveling in a group have equal access to hotel arrangements for the Convention.

# **REGISTRATION POLICIES**

- 1. Registration payment must accompany all mailed registration forms.
- Mailed preregistration forms must be postmarked by April 15, 2025. After that date, the rate of \$185 USD or \$250 CAD (if paying with Canadian check) must be included.
- Any changes to registration information already processed must be made in writing before April 15, 2025, or onsite. All changes must be made by the current registrant on file. No charges will be assessed for corrections to badge information excluding substitutions (see below).
- 4. Substitutions made on or before April 15, 2025, will be subject to a \$5 USD / \$7 CAD processing fee.
- 5. Substitutions after April 15, 2025, must be made onsite and will be subject to a \$15 USD / \$20 CAD processing fee.

Note: You must have the original attendee's badge to make onsite substitutions.

- 6. Your badge will be mailed to you. Remember to bring it with you to Vancouver. Replacement of lost or forgotten badges will be subject to a \$15 USD / \$20 CAD reprint fee.
- Registration questions? Call (514) 380-9375. Press 1 for English, press 2 for Spanish, press 3 for French, or email: 2025IC@showcare.com.
- 8. Convention-related questions? Call G.S.O. at (212) 870-2025.

Convention Dates: July 3 – 6, 2025 Advanced Registration Deadline: April 15, 2025, Registration & Housing Opens: September 10, 2024