

## This ESOS Service Pamphlet

The purpose of this service info pamphlet about ESOS is to provide some answers and share questions often asked within the Edmonton Area NA fellowship (EANA) This pamphlet is written for addicts by addicts; herein when we say we, we mean all of us in NA within the Edmonton locale.

## Want to join ESOS?

Legally, 'the Board of Trustees' should consist of at least five members & no more than twelve.

Eligible NA members are nominated to EASC, 'speak to their intent', and elected by EASC.

The clean time requirement is 3 years to be either a trustee or an officer.

The Board meets six times per year, on the last Thursday of every even month @ 7pm-9pm.

All members of NA may attend as observers.

## More about ESOS...

- The Bylaws (policies) of ESOS are available on the EANA website: [www.eana.ca](http://www.eana.ca)
- ESOS reports to the EASC monthly meeting
- ESOS has its own folder on the EASC Shared Drive or check the archive for past information.

## ESOS Mission Statement –

As presented to & accepted by  
EANA in the Summer of 2015

ESOS exists to protect the Edmonton Area of Narcotics Anonymous from personal liability when doing contractual business for the fellowship.

## Duties and Responsibility

1. To procure an office space and negotiate lease, insurance, and rental of that space.
2. Sign contracts for Fellowship events.
3. To deal with judicial problems if requested.
4. To maintain Non-Profit status.
5. File with CRA once per annum [Canada Revenue Agency].

## ESOS



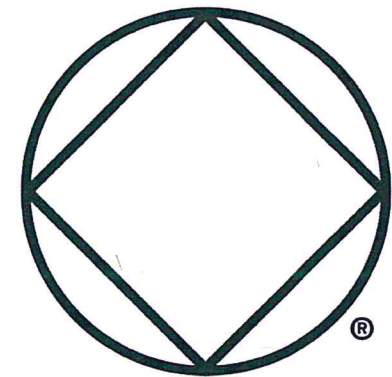
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## Edmonton Service Office Society (of Narcotics Anonymous)

Known as The BOT  
*"The Board of Trustees"*



## NA Service Info Pamphlet

**ESOS '...directly responsible to those they serve' i.e. EANA**  
(Tradition 9)

[botchair@eana.ca](mailto:botchair@eana.ca)  
[www.eana.ca](http://www.eana.ca)

## What is the ESOS?

The Edmonton Service Office Society has two main statuses.

Firstly, it is a service entity within the service structure of the Edmonton Area of Narcotics Anonymous (EANA) directly responsible to the Edmonton Area Service Committee (EASC) (*Tradition 9*).

Secondly, is a lawfully incorporated entity, recognized as a Non-Profit Society by the province of Alberta under *The Societies Act (RSA 1980)*.

ESOS serves a role called a 'fiduciary', a body that is entrusted to assume liability, and act on behalf of EANA, in legal matters. Primarily, this serves to protect individual members of NA from lawsuit when in committee service for EANA, such as organising a convention.

It's like an extra layer of insurance.

The term 'Service Office' originated from NA World Service Office literature which recommended NA communities have a local service center; a physical place to store NA books and hold committee meetings (See *A Guide to Local Services*, p102)

## FAQs about ESOS

- Do the other NA Areas in Alberta have an incorporated body or Board like ESOS? No.
- How many NA communities worldwide use an incorporated body or Board? At least sixty six regions "have some form of corporation or entity with legal status as part of their structure" (WSC CAR 2014, p59).
- Does it cost us anything? Yes, there have been expenses for filing tax returns.
- Does it save us money? Yes, we get cheaper insurance rates.
- Could we get insurance without it? Yes, other NA Areas & other fellowships in Alberta have insurance as unincorporated societies without a Board, but their rates are more expensive.
- Does ESOS rent the library office? Yes, on behalf of EASC for committee meeting use, the literature depot, photocopier and storage.
- Could we rent the library's community office space without a Board? No. We can only have a lease due to ESOS's legal Non-Profit status.
- What contracts are signed for? Examples include insurance (NA meetings & events), rent (event venues & the office at the library) and leasing (the photocopier).

## FAQs of the rhetorical kind – what do you think?!

- Why all the controversy?!
- Will the existence of ESOS provide legal indemnity in the event of a lawsuit?!
- Is the name "Trustees" actually suitable?!
- Are we entitled to Non-Profit status?!
- Does that make NA fully self-supporting?!
- In NA, do we protect addicts in service?!
- How can we keep it simple?!
- How might we better carry the message of recovery in NA to the addict who still suffers?!



## Narcotics Anonymous

For more information about NA in Edmonton, why not check out the EANA website [www.eana.ca](http://www.eana.ca)

And for info on NA World Services, Inc. check out [www.na.org](http://www.na.org)