

**AIDS ACTION NOW!**  
Annual General Meeting  
519 Church Street Community Centre  
(November 19, 1991)

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1. **Welcome**

Welcome by Co-chairs Glen Brown and Darien Taylor.

2. **Adoption of Agenda**

There was a motion to accept the agenda by Ric Hatt which was seconded by Linda Gardner.

3. **The Year in Revue:**

Darien Taylor commended the work of the steering committee, the various AAN! committees, and inter-organizational work done by AAN!

Accomplishments for the year of 1990-1991:

1. The Provincial Committee's Lobbying Brief was endorsed by the new NDP government.

2. The Clinical Trials Booklet of TAAR is soon to be distributed.

3. Briefs to the Human Rights Commission produced results forthcoming from that commission.

4. Major actions were mounted over the year:

1. TISAH was taken from the University of Toronto and taken up by Health and Welfare.

>> A focus for 1992 will renew pressure for the AIDS Treatment Information System.

2. The issue of Women and AIDS figured largely in this year's demos.

3. There was a large turn-out to tell Evelyn Gigantes the HIV community's concerns.

4. There was an occupation of Francis Lankin's office.

5. AAN! applied pressure on a number of drug funding issues.

6. AAN! joined South Asian AIDS Prevention in a demo on the Indian Embassy.

7. AAN! was out in full force on Gay Pride Day

>> AAN! renewed pressure on the provincial government to get appointments of HIV+ people on the Ontario AIDS Advisory Committee.

>> AAN! played an important role in the National AIDS Committee

>> AAN! formed alliances with the Ontario Abortion Coalition, The Coalition Against Poverty, Advocacy Resource Centre for the Handicapped, and the Ontario AIDS Network.

>> The Treatment Information Exchange (TIE) became independent of AAN! as the Community AIDS Treatment Information Exchange (CATIE).

>> AAN! took a higher consultation profile with pharmaceutical companies, CRIT, and pursuing various public policy and legal group consultations.

>> A revitalized Prison Committee of AAN! was instrumental in getting condoms distributed in correctional facilities.

Darien gave warm thanks to Glen Brown who was stepping down from his position as Co-chair and took time to remember nine friends lost to AAN! over the 1991-92 year.

There was criticism from the Floor about AAN!'s failure to make demands for the fast-tracking of AIDS drugs in Canada. Darien responded that AAN! was still monitoring the Emergency Drug Release Program and said that we were not sure that the EDRP was a failure. There was mention of intentions to develop a position at ARCH to determine what aspects of the EDRP were not working.

There was a suggestion from the Floor that AAN! should abandon the EDRP in favour of the fast-track system. Glen Brown responded that fast-tracking put lives at risk to poorly tested drugs. AAN! would continue to push demands for drugs through compassionate access and through sound testing procedures.

There was a mention from the Floor that people in the community wanted to see a higher profile from AAN! on the street and recent efforts to distribute info at Church + Wellesley had been greatly appreciated.

Glen Brown offered thanks to the hard-working membership of AAN! and special thanks to the 519, The Second Cup, CATIE, and the Primary Care Physicians (with special thanks to Dr. Philip Berger).

4. "The Cupboard's Not Bare": John Clarke of the Ontario Coalition Against Poverty.

John Clarke made a special appeal for support for the Unemployed Workers Union's anti-poverty march through Rosedale. He noted that while it was attractive to go after Brian Mulroney, Bob Rae must be held accountable for his government's neo-conservative swing.

Susan Kasurak will lead an AAN! contingent in the march. AAN! made a contribution towards the organization of the demo.

5. Financial Statement

The total expenditure for 1990-91 was \$18,533.93 with a \$959.05 budget deficit. There was an operating budget short-fall of \$5,000. A motion to accept the financial statement was submitted by Brent Southan and seconded by James Thatcher.

6. The following committees were introduced:

Treatment Access and Research, Provincial Lobbying, Membership and Recruitment, Media, Fund-Raising, Human Rights, Prisons Committee, Women's Caucus, and the Francophone Committee.

7. Nominations for 1991-1992 Steering Committee

Darien Taylor and James Thatcher were declared the new

Co-Chairs without ballot.

The following AAN! members were elected to the Steering Committee without ballot: Glen Brown, Stephan Collins, Alan Cornwall, Karin Donnan, Brian Farlinger, Mark Freamo, Linda Gardner, Bob Gardner, Ric Hatt, Susan Kasurak, Bill Leeming, Tim McCaskell, Michael McGaraughty, Jamie Moffat, Dorey Mohsenzadeh, John Mountain, Kalpesh Oza, and Doug Wilson.

8. The Year Ahead: Policy Options 1992

Glen Brown presented the following highlights:

1. The agenda for AIDS research: a) consolidated efforts with CAS; b) more consultations with CRIT and the pharmaceutical manufacturers, and; c) greater effort to push demands to initiate research.
2. On the issue of ethical research: No person should be coerced into a trial.
3. EDRP: There must be more effort towards political pressure to review the EDRP -- What are the advantages and disadvantages to speeding up drug regulation (without lowering standards)?
4. There must be renewed efforts to demand government subsidies on payments for drugs.
5. TIS must be up and running soon and until then, CATIE must continue to fill the gap.
6. The government must oversee the standardization of AIDS treatments.
7. There must be a review of the provinces clinical facilities.
8. Beyond treatment access there must also be freedom from poverty for HIV+ individuals, adequate housing, and homecare.
9. More work must be done to overhaul AIDS prevention in the prison system.
10. Pressure must be renewed for anonymous testing.
11. The coercive powers of the province's MOHs must be reduced.
12. There must be more review of the standards of human rights in Ontario.

James Thatcher commented that we must continue to fortify our relations with the Primary Care Physicians.

There was concern from the Floor about AAN!'s lack of a position on euthanasia.

There was further demands from the Floor that AAN! be more visible in the community.

There was thanks to Glen Brown from the Floor for his political insights and for his tireless support of individuals living with AIDS and HIV.

There was a call to adopt the 1992 Policy Options paper which was moved by Michael McGaraughty and seconded by Julia Barnett.