

AIDS ACTION NOW!

Notes on Structure

During the discussions this winter on AAN's purpose and structure, members agreed that AAN's goals were best served by a structure that included standing committees, working committees and issue-based committees, guided and co-ordinated by the steering committee. It was also agreed to begin monthly treatment-based general meetings.

These notes are designed to start discussion on how best to describe the workings of the current committees and how best to begin new ones.

OVERVIEW

STEERING Committee: oversees policy development and implementation; co-ordinates activities of committees; directs finances and administration; strikes new committees as needed.

STANDING Committees: Media, TIE, Membership, Fundraising, Lobbying (?) and Policy Development (?):

Work is ongoing, multifaceted and integrated, with policy and administrative implications. Co-ordination with other committees essential, and has representation on Steering Committee.

WORKING Committees: L'Equip francophone, Phone Tree, Mailing lists, Artists, Leaflets.

Work is task-driven, with fewer policy implications. Co-ordination through Steering Committee not essential.

ISSUE Committees: Federal Treatment Policy, Provincial Treatment Policy, Low-income Treatment Access, Women's Treatment, Complementary Therapies, Early Intervention, Solidarity, Clinical Trials & Ethical Access, Doctor/Hospital Monitoring

Work can be reactive or proactive; research, liaison with other groups, developing policy and action proposals for the Steering Committee. Co-ordination through Steering Committee as appropriate; there should be a liaison person for Steering and other committees.

ISSUE Committee Mandates

(Draft Only)

Federal Treatment Policy

- research Federal government AIDS policies, spending, etc.
- research and develop proposals for AAN policy
- develop proposals (and oversee implementation) of action and lobbying plans.
- liaise with other organizations concerned with federal government AIDS policies

Provincial Treatment Policy

- research provincial government AIDS policies, spending, etc.
- research and develop proposals for AAN policy
- develop proposal (and oversee implementation) of action and lobbying plans
- work with Low-income Access Committee on policies around social assistance, drug subsidies, etc.
- areas of concern would include anonymous testing, co-ordinated care, treatment management, institutional care.

Low-income Treatment Access

- research on social assistance, drug subsidies, housing and other issues.
- liaise with other organizations concerned with fighting poverty
- research and develop proposals for AAN policy
- develop proposals (and oversee implementation) of action and lobbying plans.

Women and HIV Treatment

- research on diagnosis and treatment for women with HIV.
- liaise with Women and AIDS project, HIV+ Womens group and other concerned organizations.
- work with TIE project to improve treatment information options for women
- research and develop proposals for AAN policy, action and lobbying plans.

Complementary Therapies

- research on complementary therapies, especially on issues of access (to information and therapies).
- work with TIE project to improve information on complementary therapies
- research and develop proposals for AAN policy, action and lobbying plans