



**WORLD SERVICE OFFICE, INC.  
NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS**

**P.O. Box 9999  
Van Nuys, CA 91409**

**May 15, 1991**

**(818) 780-9951**

**Mr. Jack Bernstein  
C/O Cri Help Inc.  
11027 Burbank Blvd.  
N. Hollywood, CA. 91601**

**Dear Jack:**

I write to the B.O.T. through you as Chair of WCC. We have been confronted with an issue that we are not comfortable making a decision on, as the result, may have an impact on the fellowship as a whole. The question has to do with to what extent can we accept things offered as a result of the business we generate. The concern being that by doing so we may compromise either our 7th or 10th traditions.

This question arose as a result of some conversations I have had with representatives of the Canadian regions. The RSR from the Quebec region has expressed an interest his region has in donating to WCNA 22 excess funds generated from their regional convention to be used to offset the expense of translations.

At our November board meeting we had discussed the necessity to offer French at the event and have committed to fulfill that need in some way. The host chair explained to the board that the Canadian government provides funds to conventions and it was also suggested that provincial governments may do the same.

My response to Mario (RSR Ontario) was that I was relatively sure that the WCC would accept their benevolence, if they do in fact believe that is the best use for their funds. I also explained that we are aware of the government substitute and that accepting those funds may not be any different than accepting complimentary rooms at hotels or bonus flight coupons. You probably know that after years of discussion the WCC board finally came to the consensus that having arrangements with airlines to provide discounted fares to our attendees which also provides us with a couple complimentary flights, does not necessarily imply endorsement nor violate the idea of self support.

The perception is that it is a business deal that is offered to all and we are simply taking advantage of something that anybody else could. Thus I suggested that the board would probably have no great philosophical problem with utilizing the federal funds for translating.



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Mario explained that if that was the boards position he would like a letter from WCC explaining that position. The region has wrestled with this question and concluded that by taking the government funds, traditions would be ignored. Obviously, if WCC had outside funding for interpreters the region could use their resources in another way. They would like a position statement so that they can take advantage of this service if it is deemed to be acceptable.

After discussing this situation with a few people I have come to believe that this is a question to present to our distinguished pondering body since our forte is more of the show biz nature. Would you kindly pass this query around the table at your next beard combing session.

The host committee in Ontario is looking into the details, but what I know about the government program at this point is that they provide 50% up to \$10,000 to provide translation at large meetings. This is a very big issue in Canada and I believe that this is a political solution to a human problem. The Quebec region is recommending that we use the translators they have employed during their convention. The folks in Ontario seem to agree. It was estimated that 75% of the attendees coming from the mostly French speaking N.E. could benefit from translation services. To provide this for 4 workshops each day and all the mail meetings would cost approximately 2.5 K not including equipment.

This has exhausted my limited knowledge on the subject. Please offer us all some direction on this issue.

Regards,

Bill Winterfeld  
WCC Chair

cc: WCC Board Members  
B.O.T. Coordinator  
RSR Quebec  
WCNA 22 Host Committee