

History of the Tuesday Morning Big Book Study

The Tuesday Morning Big Book Study was founded in November 2017 at the Niagara Falls Public Library on Victoria Avenue. The meeting was started by Mike P., along with original members Key West Bill, Diane T., Joe W., and Kevin S. From the very beginning, the group focused on creating a welcoming, spiritually grounded environment dedicated to studying the Big Book and supporting members in recovery.

Early Years at the Niagara Falls Public Library

The group met in Room C at the library, averaging approximately 22 attendees per meeting. The space quickly became known for its warm atmosphere, consistent attendance, and strong fellowship. The meeting remained at the library until 2020, when the COVID-19 pandemic forced the closure of public facilities.

Adapting Through the Pandemic

When the library shut down, the group's commitment to meeting never wavered. Members continued gathering outdoors on the library patio, even through difficult weather conditions. The library provided a portable washroom for the group's use, but as winter approached, meeting outside became unsustainable. Despite these challenges, the spirit of the group endured.

Temporary Moves

Seeking shelter, the group temporarily relocated to Mike's brother's indoor soccer arena on Sinnicks Street in Niagara Falls. After only a few meetings there, Mike secured a new and more suitable location at the Battlefield Gospel Church on Ferry Street. Through the generosity of Pastor Carlton Francis, a long-time friend of AA, the group was able to rent and utilize the church hall for nearly three years. The Battlefield Gospel Church provided a stable home and a sense of renewal for the meeting during an uncertain time.

Transition to Mount Carmel Spiritual Centre

When the Battlefield Gospel Church was sold to the Canadian Fellowship of Immigrant Filipinos, the group was given two weeks to vacate. In need of a new home once again, Mike and Roberto reached out to the Mount Carmel Spiritual Centre, already home to the long-standing "Action Group" and another meeting the members had started — Saturday SOS (Sobriety on Saturdays) — where Key West Bill was already hosting meetings.

With the support of Steve, the General Manager and Executive Director of Mount Carmel, the Tuesday Morning Big Book Study was granted the 11:00 a.m. Tuesday time slot. This act of generosity ensured the continuity of the meeting and gave it a new, lasting home.

Today

The Tuesday Morning Big Book Study continues to meet weekly at Mount Carmel Spiritual Centre, carrying forward its message of recovery, unity, and gratitude. Its journey — from the

library to outdoor gatherings, from temporary halls to Mount Carmel — reflects the resilience and dedication of its members and the enduring spirit of Alcoholics Anonymous.