


UKNA RSC Motion Form: From HIGNA ASC March 2022

	<p>Motion: To direct the World Board to amend the Guide to World Services in NA: Approval Process for Recovery Literature, Specifically Sub Section B.1, Approval-form Literature: To clearly stipulate the minimum approval time for new recovery literature pieces of 50 pages or more from 150 days to 1 full conference cycle or two years (Whichever is closest) to provide clarity in the guidelines for the Fellowship and for the World Board.</p>
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Why is the motion necessary? The time period of 150 days has been applied to all NA Approval Form literature regardless of its size or content and the WB, despite having the discretion to change that time period appropriately have never exercised that discretion. For example, the fellowship is being given the same time period to assess, review and approve an IP of 2 pages as that of much longer pieces, such as the “Spiritual Principle A Day”. In addition, this motion also seeks to address the issue of Approval form Literature not being allowed enough time to be translated into other languages before being made available to the global fellowship for their approval. It is these disparities and others which this motion hopes to address.

What are the specific objectives of the proposal? To separate shorter lengths of NA Approval Form literature, such as IPs, from the longer pieces, thus allowing the fellowship more time to be thorough in its decision-making process prior to their final approval.

What human and financial resources are required? If this motion is adopted by the UKNA Region for inclusion in the CAR for 2023 the RD team would need to liaise with the World Board to ensure its CAR readiness.

<p><i>Proposer (Name, service position/ASC)</i></p>	<p>Highlands & Islands Groups of NA ASC</p>
<p><i>Seconded by (RCM) Name + ASC:</i></p>	
<p><i>Date and location of Region meeting</i></p>	

<p><i>Number of RCMs present: Quorum 11</i></p>	<p><i>Consensus reached?</i></p>
<p><i>Region date from which policy will be active:</i></p>	<p><i>If temporary, date of re-evaluation:</i></p>

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Supporting Notes...

Approval Process for Recovery Literature Note:

Policies regarding recovery literature are also contained in the Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust (FIPT).

The FIPT was adopted in 1993 after conference action at WSC 1991 that affirmed that what was then the World Service Office, Inc. (now NA World Services, Inc.) was the exclusive authorized publisher and distributor of NA's literature and that they hold in trust for the Fellowship the ownership of all NA-related copyrights and trademarks. Conference action also instructed the WSO to take legal action against any infringement of this trust at their discretion. The FIPT lays out the operational rules of this trust. It is available upon request.

Most Fellowship questions about the FIPT and the use of the NA literature and copyrights can be found in NA Intellectual Property Trust Bulletin #1, Internal Use of NA Intellectual Property, which can be found as an addendum in this guide.

A. Review-form Literature

1. Literature developed by the World Board is sent out for a review period before the development of an approval-form draft. **The time and method of this review, considering translations, is determined by the World Board based on the needs of the Fellowship and the piece in development.**

2. Review-form literature is not for use or display in NA meetings.

B. Approval-form Literature

1. Approval-form literature is prepared by the World Board and is distributed for a period of time, considering translations, determined by the World Board of not less than one hundred fifty (150) days. **The length of this approval period is determined by the World Board based on the needs of the Fellowship and the piece being considered for approval.**

2. Approval-form literature should not be read during NA meetings, although it may be sold and made available to members at NA meetings.

C. WSC Approval

1. The conference shall not vote on any proposals to change existing Fellowship approved NA recovery literature unless such changes have appeared in the Conference Agenda Report.

2. Literature approved under this process is marked as Fellowship-approved.

- For clarity this motion is not seeking to address the current approval process of the “Spiritual Principle a Day Book “although it has been prompted by it.
- At the Region in March some confusion was expressed around the intent of the motion as it was presented and it was brought to the body’s attention that in Section B: 1, of the above that the WB already has some discretion regarding the length of approval time set for each piece, our research has found that that despite this discretion the WB have never exercised it.
- The specific section in clause B:1 of the guidelines above that we are asking to have amended is also highlighted in yellow above, which, to us, seem undefined, rather vague and ambiguous. **“The length of this approval period is determined by the World Board based on the needs of the Fellowship and the piece being considered for approval.”** We have researched WSC CAR’s and WSC Final Reports going back over a number of years and have found no evidence that the WB have ever chosen to exercise their option to extend the approval time of any new recovery literature, regardless of size or content.
- The same or similar could be said of a similar sentence in section A: 1 regarding the literature review process as highlighted in red.
- We feel that this motion is in order and seeks to better define and clarify this section of the GTWS guidelines as reproduced above.