



District 64 Annual Reports

District Director Annual Report - Michael Bayer, DTM, AS

I would like to take this opportunity to thank every member of the District for their unwavering support and commitment to Toastmasters and the hard work it took to get us where we are today.

Charles Dickens wrote in “A Tale of Two Cities: *“It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom....it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair, we had everything before us.”* I think these words describes the journey we have been on for the last year.

In August 2022 it seemed like the worst of times when, at the International Convention, we attended a special meeting for low membership districts. At the time we had only 51 clubs in good standing. We were told that if we dipped below 50, Toastmasters would consider amalgamating us with another district. With that warning, last fall, it looked like we were about to enter *the winter of despair*. But something happened. The District rallied, membership started to rise, clubs came back. Today as we enter *the spring of hope*, we are experiencing the result of our commitment to Toastmasters and excellence.

My mantra for the year is “Creating a culture of continuous improvement by improving 1% every day.” The results we have achieved are a testament to your collective efforts in achieving excellence.

We still have along way to go. Soon we will be setting new goals for ourselves and the District. Always remember that *we have everything before us*. The only thing limiting us is ourselves.

With a little more than a month left in the Toastmasters year, I encourage you to embrace *“the age of wisdom”*. Continue working on your Pathways projects. Set goals for personal achievement. Set goals for club achievement. Volunteer for a role at the District level. Simple ways to achieve excellence.

It has been a privilege to serve as your District Director. Thank you again for your support, encouragement, commitment to excellence and your friendship.

Program Quality Annual Report - David Storey, DTM

I am very fortunate to have been part of some excellent planning committees this year as your PQD. Karen Kiazzyk-Kaatz and her committee did a great job with our first in person event of the year, The Fall Rally. It was a success with 47 members attending at the Viscount Gort last September.

Alfred Kerperin and his committee hosted Fall TLI and Selkirk TM hosted Winter TLI. Both were extremely well received by the District membership producing great overall reviews and feedback. Both had over 60 registered members. The Spring Conference held earlier this month had 60 live attendees and 24 online attendees. Thank you to the Spring Conference Committee for all your hard work. I loved meeting both old and new friends at the event and hope to have more in person events next year.

As far as educational completions and Distinguished Clubs, there have been 268 pathways levels completed as of 19 May, including a DTM from Catriona Younger. There are currently 37 members who have earned their Triple Crowns this year. We have 6 Distinguished Clubs and 23 "almost distinguished" clubs listed in the dashboard.

Congratulations to:

President's Distinguished
Elmwood Seniors TM Club
Winnipeg TM

Select Distinguished
St. Ignatius TM Club
Licensed to Speak

Distinguished
Island Shore TM
Steinbach Professional Development TM

We need 29 Distinguished or better clubs to be a Distinguished District. It is possible, do the math of 23 almost and the 6 who are. I believe in the power of this District and its membership.

Nancy Ellenson and I are planning and scheduling COT for Jun/Jul and Aug if necessary and we are including Liz Jonasson as next year's COT for a harmonious handover. Training will be online and registrations will be coming soon. In your Club Distinguish Program, items 9a and 9b are your club officers trained in the 1st half and 2nd half training respectively.

Charleswood, Speaking Made Easy and Whiteshell earned the 7x7 x 2 ribbons this year.

40 of 66 clubs completed the minimum of 4 and 4 training to earn their DCP point. Note that you need both a minimum of 4 in each half of training to earn the DCP point.

I loved the challenge that this position provided me this year. It had its fun and crazy busy moments, but personal growth and learning was absolutely worthwhile and it has been my honor to have served you in this role. Members of the District and Mr. District Director, that is my synopsis for this year.

Club Growth Director Annual Report - Stephen Bryden, PM5, SR4

Fellow District 64 Toastmasters,

I am the Club Growth Director and this is my report for May, 2023.

I can't believe the Toastmasters year is coming to a close so soon, just a month away. Many challenges and opportunities presented through the year were overcome, engaged in, and jumped on. I am grateful for the opportunity to serve with the CGD team and along side so many members working together to make a difference to enable the District, Clubs and Membership's succeed.

Many thanks to Doreen Roman, Liz Jonasson, Laverne Wojceichowski, Man Doan, Laurette Greenlay, Lillian Mabon for your service to date. I can confidently say that through navigating challenges and opportunities are exactly what makes this Toastmasters membership journey an amazing rollercoaster, laboratory of learning, growth enriched experience!

To date the membership has worked very hard to bring back clubs into good standing from suspended status as well as creating momentum with extending club growth. The District had 68 clubs as its starting base at the very start of the year, and now has an updated base of 71 due to some clubs coming back from the brink from post pandemic years. During this past year's fall dues renewals our District fell down to 51 clubs total which was a critically low number and put our District in crisis.

However through incredible work of our members and fellow leaders we have climbed back up to 66 clubs of the new 71 base. We also have two clubs on the cusp of completing their full charter process, KGS and Winpak. And have several hot club leads still in the pipeline including: Pollard Banknote, Schroeder Foundation, Swan Lake and more. Our membership payments are also showing 1730 of 1813. There is still time to gain those last members and to complete any last late renewals that are still pending to continue to grow these numbers.

I cannot express on the amazing service, excellence and fortitude our membership has demonstrated so far this year. I am proud of the hard work and the results we are now seeing by these upward trends.

To this end, with the remaining time of this year and looking to the next, I am putting a call to action to all members in District 64:

"To seize the moment, embrace the learn by doing experience, serve with excellence, and hammer down on the accelerator to drive forward, our

membership, club and district retention, growth and success through the end of this year!"

Annual Financial Report - Michael Bayer, DTM, AS
Report attached.

Public Relations Manager Annual Report - Greg Wood, DYM, AS

We are using a subscription version of Mailchimp and Adam Belaire has set it up very well. He has created tags to allow us to send to pretty much any group we need. (VPE, Pres., ADs, Div Dir, etc).

He is also keeping the list as up to date as possible to ensure new members are included right away. Adam has also cleaned up all the bounced emails and duplicates. This improves our delivery rate and email classification (less of them ending up in spam)

Mail outs have all gone out in a timely manner at the request of the Trio. They also receive a test email to ensure the messaging is correct.

Adam continues to work together with Kim Hrubá on sending out the Newsletter.

Webpage - Adam Belaire has taken over looking after the website when we lost our previous Webmaster in the fall. This has been maintained with all new events and he has revamped the main page to allow for better communication. We've added a sub-section in an effort to start an archive of what we have done in the District over the years. He plans to add data for other years as it becomes available.

All of the district contacts are now in a table for ease of reading, and includes the name and proper e-mail addresses for each contact. All of these were updated and confirmed (except for the finance manager)

District Calendar - The Google calendar (<https://district64.ca/events/calendar/>) has been updated with all new events (that we get notifications about).

Social media - Yes, Adam Belaire has taken this on as well. (Much to my relief)

YouTube - TLI recordings have been uploaded to the District 64 YouTube channel. (<https://youtube.com/@D64Toastmasters>) Now that we are doing more and more hybrid events, we intend to upload portions of District 64 events.

Adam and I will be working together in the new year on the YouTube channel.
(Archiving old videos, creating playlists, and improving SEO)

Facebook - We currently use two Facebook pages, one private, and one public. Adam has just started a new initiative to spotlight different clubs. A different club will be spotlighted every Friday. We are particularly excited about this and plan to contact clubs to get more spotlight ideas. To be clear, when I say WE, I mean Adam as this is all him and he deserves the accolades.

The plans more fully involved in LinkedIn, Twitter, Instagram, and Blogs. We started fresh on January 1st on these sites. And to be clear, once again WE means Adam.

MeetUp - Kevin Schreyer (kevinschreyer@gmail.com) is handling our MeetUp area and that is going well.

Newsletter - Kim Hrubá is hard at work on the newsletter. I find it very readable and love the fact that it drives people to the website.

Annual Report for Division A - Hermant Bhavsar

(1) Sharon , Harry and myself completed the 2nd round club visit.

(2) Except Assiniboine club we visited almost 90 % Division A club visit

(3) District 64 fellow toastmasters, helped to run the speech contest beginning from January - May 04 and it ran successfully from club to the Division level

(4) Derk Nelson and Olumide Elsanmi represented Division A at the District contest. Both had the tremendous success

(5) May 15 , Winnipeg Toastmaster hosted an open house , the club also scheduled Les staats award, the club earned a Distinguished President club badge. The club growth officer David Storey attended the event.

(6) Unfortunately , following clubs are not meeting anymore 🙄 :
SMS ENGenuity, The officers club, Online Toastmaster, PC Supers Speakers

(7) Portage Toastmaster club is back in a TLI board and the club are meeting every Wednesday

(8) Division A are roaring the success due to positive and selfless attitudes of each club fellow members

Wishing all the best to next year's executive and the leaders.

Annual Report for Division B - Thanh Lam

It is encouraging to see that 8 clubs have already submitted at least 1 educational achievement and total of 39 Pathways level achievements across Division B. Centennial Toastmasters Club have taken the lead with 15 educational achievements across District 64. Congratulations!

3 Clubs have already met the criteria to be distinguished and another 2 only need a few members. If the membership and educational goals can be met, then up to 5 clubs could become distinguished. At the moment Centennial Toastmasters Club is eligible for Select Distinguished Club recognition under the Distinguish Club Program with seven of ten goals met.

The Division B Contest was hosted by Island Shore Toastmasters Club on March 28, and was very well attended. Many thanks goes to all who attended to cheer on our Division B contestants and especially those who helped make the Division speech contest event a success. Until you have organized an event of this magnitude, you do not realize how much it takes to have an event run smoothly. Thanks always seems too little to say to those who helped with speech contest at the Club, Area, and then Division level, so I would like to say it again, Thank you!

Thank you to all clubs. Each club journey is different, and each has different struggles to overcome. I believe clubs and members have all grown in some capacity over this year. If your club have gained new members and achieving educational goals, then you are doing well. Congratulations.

Finally, I would like to say a heartfelt thank you to my Area Director, Barb Bayer and Stephen Clark for the work they have done this year and for helping me become a better leader myself.

The Division B Team is still here to the end of their terms which finishes on June 30 2023, so if you have any questions please don't hesitate to ask them or myself.

Annual Report for Division C - Kamla Hannah

No report submitted.

Annual Report for Division D - Karen Chambers

The Area Directors (Nancy Ellenson, Kerri Lipischak, Patrick Goodridge) have worked tirelessly encouraging their clubs and coaching them to promote growth as well as helping them to reach their distinguished goals. They have each done an outstanding job throughout the year with Speech Contests, Open Houses and showing support at Anniversary club celebrations. They have been reachable for each and every question or concern their clubs have thrown at them.

This year's speech contests overflowed with confidence and we were graced with very great speakers from each area. I was so pleased to be part of the experience as a first year Division Director and appreciate the expertise and knowledge of this great team.

The Area Directors are each amazing in what they do and I praise them for the commitment that they have shown their clubs.

Hats off to Nancy for always being there to guide other Directors as a mentor and willing to assist the District by leading Club Officer training. She has assisted her clubs to achieve a Distinguished Award and her positive contribution is recognized, well done Nancy.

Kudos to Patrick for pushing his clubs to think to the future and for his level of patience as he assists his clubs to be more aware of their processes to encourage club growth. Patrick has assisted one of his club to achieve Selected Distinguished Award after one of the clubs struggled to gain a clear vision for their future due to poor membership, way to go Patrick.

High five to Kerri for showing support to her clubs in maintaining their high values and great work ethic. She has worked tirelessly with her clubs to bring around their thinking and build a more positive energy for serious growth and motivation. Great job Kerri.

I have witnessed each Area Director's level of commitment to building membership through encouraging interactions. They each have shown their dedication and it is reflected in their visit reports. Our numbers currently reflect over 70% complete and climbing.

It has been a great honour working with this wonderful team of professionals and I feel that I have come out of this experience as a well-rounded Division Director due to such a supportive team in Division D.

Wishing you all the best of the summer.

Annual Report for Division E - Denise Joss

Greetings to All of District 64 from Areas 51, 52, 53 & 54,
Congratulations to our Division E Speech Contest finalists,
Lyle Appleyard –International Contest & Doreen Baker- Tall Tales
They competed in the District 64 contest at the May Convention.

To guarantee the old price for TMI Membership, we need pay the first installment by July 31st. Since our clubs pay in different methods-some for all year at once and others pay twice a year, we may need some creative planning like one half in July and one half in September. Is your club doing the self-pay or all money in to the club treasurer? Our dues need to be submitted on time so please talk to your treasure if you are self-paying.

All of our clubs in Division E have at least 8 paid members to keep them in "good standing". Birchwood Corporate Club is back in action with Wallace Greenlay serving as their president. Next year there will only be 4 Divisions in District 64. I have been excited to see how many clubs are earning points towards their President's Distinguished goal through the Pathways Program. It's the number of new members goal that's holding us back. Some clubs are providing an alternate/additional meeting time to increase attendance and give time to

complete their Pathways speeches. Some speeches can be evaluated outside of the club setting. We still have time to earn more Pathways credits for each club. The search to fill an election slate for club executive roles in May continues.

Assigning a mentor to share the executive roles for a few months will help your club members that are new to a role.

Division E Clubs continue with open houses to attract new members and inspire their current members. Thank you to those who have been guest speakers and shared their experience.

Club visits will continue to complete TMI club reports. Some assistance will be requested to complete reports in the areas without Area Directors.

Remember to celebrate achievements. We should plan to add humour and fun at our meetings as we learn.

Alignment Committee Report - Alfred Kerperin, DTM, IPDD

Report attached.