

District 64 District Council Semi Annual Meeting Sept. 21, 2024

Call To Order and Welcome:

The meeting was called to order by District Director Stephen Bryden at 10:00 am. Timers were appointed as follows - Connie Bok, Patrick Goodridge and Susan Page. The meeting was held on zoom with District Executive and Presidents and Vice Presidents of Education online. The meeting was live-streamed for inclusion of the general membership.

Review of the District Mission:

The District Mission was read by Susan Page, Logistics Manager.

Credentials Committee Report:

Alfred Kerperin, Credential Chair reported that quorum had been met. There are 68 eligible clubs each with 2 votes each. Quorum requires that 1/3 of the clubs be represented with 46 votes. There are 78 Presidents and Vice Presidents of Education present. There are 24 District Executive members represented bringing the total to 102 votes. This meets the number of votes required for quorum. (Report attached.) Without objection, the report was adopted as filed.

Review of the Agenda:

Without objection the agenda was adopted as circulated.

Voting Procedures:

Parliamentarian Laverne Wojciechowski explained the voting procedures. Voting cards have been distributed and a raised hand icon will also be accepted for those without voting cards.

Standing Rules:

The proposed Standing Rules were read by Sylvia Nilsson-Barkman, Administrative Manager.

Motion: Sylvia Nilsson-Barkman moved that the adoption of the Standing Rules as circulated. Second by Doreen Roman. Carried

Approval of the Annual Meeting Minutes:

The minutes of the Annual Meeting held on April 20, 2024 were approved as circulated.

Appointment of the District Leaders:

Stephen presented the Appointed Executive Members and Area Directors to the assembly.

Motion: Doreen Roman moved that the list of officers for the 2024-2025 year be approved. Debb Solvason seconded the motion. Division Director Nancy Ellenson, Division B was added to the circulated list. The motion was carried as corrected. Carried. The list is attached.

District Budget:

Lloyd Gwilliam provided details of the 2024-2025 budget. The income is projected as \$58,744 and the expenses are projected as \$58,733. (Report attached.)

Motion: Lloyd Gwilliam moved to adopt the 2024-2025 budget as presented. Carried. (Note: no second required due to required meeting business.)

District Financial Guidelines: Several changes need to be addressed as follows: Spring Convention changed to Spring Conference

Section 1 District Controls

- added Bank Signing and Approving Authority to match TI
- Monthly Reconciliation on Merchant Accounts added to include PayPal, Eventbright etc.
- '- Added instructions on e-transfers

Section 3 Travel Outside the District:

- added registration and Trio travel to International Conventions
- meal costs to be included while at a TI convention

Section 4 District Spring Conference and Control

- added clarity on wording for Spring Conference re including expenses for hotel rooms for the Trio and Convention Chair
- added clarity that the District Director must sign all contracts
- added controls on 50/50 raffles requiring a license
- all funds related profit and loss to District events are District funds
- added Area and Division Directors attend the annual business meeting be reimbursed if the meeting is held in person

Motion: Lloyd Gwilliam moved to adopt the financial guidelines as circulated. Greg Parents seconded. Correction: District 64 to be corrected to read District 64. Carried as corrected.

Alignment Committee Report:

The report was presented by Doreen Roman on behalf of the Alignment Committee. He provided the rational for changes to the circulated Alignment report and movement of clubs into specific Areas. The new club, Bison Global Communicators will be placed in Area 22, PC Super Speakers will be placed in Area 44, City Slickers will be placed in Area 24 and Toast of IG in Area 44. (Report attached.)

Motion: David Storey moved that the Alignment Report for the year 2024-2025 be adopted. Carried.

Year End Audit Report: Audit Chair Lloyd Gwilliam provided the 2023-2024 Audit report. Sherri Wood and Teresa Cooper also served on the Committee. They found that online participation with hybrid attendance was financially beneficial, club officers paying fees for TLI's can be off-set by fundraising but should record keeping should be tightened up especially complying with provincial licensing regulations and practices with other merchants like PayPal. (Report attached.)

Motion: Lloyd Gwilliam moved that report of the Audit Committee be adopted. Carried.

Finance Managers report on the First Quarter: Difficult to give a complete report but the profit and loss report to the end of August 2024. Revenue is \$2221.00 and Profit from Spring Conference of \$600 brings a profit of \$2809.10/ Loss includes expenses for awards, public relations, travel and food of \$2,878.43. (Report attached.) Motion: Lloyd Gwilliam moved the acceptance of the Profit and Loss Report. Carried.

Division Director reports: attached

Director and Manager Reports: attached

New Business: There was no new business.

Announcements:

Adam Belaire - Fall Rally Sept. 28 from 10 to 2, no cost, hybrid, must register Doreen Roman - Fall TLI on Nov. 16, Robert McDowall, ASAP is hosting Jennet Pidgeon - Talking Books at 1:30 online, all are welcome Karen Kiazyk-Kaatz - Birchwood Toastmasters Open House, Sept. 24, Maurice Stament, speaker; Speaking Made Easy, old house Sept 24 @ 7 pm with Darcy Truthwaite, speaker

Patrick Goodridge - Anishinabe Toastmasters meet in hybrid meetings <u>from 5:30 to 6:30 pm</u> on Wednesdays at the Manitoba Indigenous Centre

Susan Page - Travelling Gavel is at Manitoba Hydro Toastmasters and can be stolen anytime.

Stephen Bryden - Next District Meeting is scheduled for Oct. 26 at the Dakota Library in St. Vital. It will be hybrid. In the afternoon a 100th Anniversary Celebration will be held.

Next District Council Meeting: May 3, 2025 prior to the Spring Conference.

Adjournment:

Stephen adjourned the meeting at 11:58 am.

Attachments:

District 64 Credentials Report:

Here is the credentials report for the business meeting of September 21, 2024:

There are 68 eligible clubs in the district as of September 20, 2024. Each club receives two votes, one for the president and one for the vice president education.

To achieve a quorum, one-third of the presidents and vice presidents' education of eligible clubs must be represented, which is 46 votes

There are 78 presidents and vice presidents represented. As such, we have achieved a quorum.

There are also 24 district executive committee members represented. District executive committee members do not count towards achieving a quorum.

The total ballots available are 102. If everyone votes, a simple majority would be 51; a 2/3 vote would be 68.

Respectfully Submitted

Alfred Kerperin, DTM, PDD,

2024 - 2025 District 64 Credentials Chair

District 64 Toastmasters

Appointed District Leaders 2024-2025

Area Directors

- Area 11 Robert McDowall
- Area 12 Hemant Bhasvar
- Area 14 June Storey
- Area 15 Karen Chambers
- Area 21 Susan Page
- Area 22 Brenda Smith
- Area 23 Michael Zacharias
- Area 24 Corinne Gusnoski
- Area 31 Julieta Petrelli
- Area 32 Jackie Schesnuk
- Area 33 Karen Hiebert
- Area 34 Rodney Juba
- Area 41 Ralph McQueen
- Area 42 Karen Kiazyk Kaatz
- Area 43 Kacou Coffie
- Area 44 Annie Henry

Public Relations Manager

Don Wood

District Finance Manager

Lloyd Gwilliam

Audit Committee Chair

Helen Dyrkacz

District Administration Manager

Sylvia Nilsson-Barkman

Logistics Chair

Susan Page

District 64 Club Re-Alignment Changes

_

2024-2025

Division A Club Comments

Area 11

250 Winnipeg Toastmasters Club 419 Assinaboine Club

1419 Still Talking Toastmasters Club

Area 12

2614 Health Muslim Families Toastmasters Club

9274 Seven Oaks Club

597417 Young Professionals Club

839686 Comedy Club Eh!

Area 14

2065 Flin Flon Toastmasters Club

2215 Grace Toastmasters, Winnipeg

1160379 Talking Books Toastmasters

28676077 KGS Toastmasters

Area 15

5265 Charleswood Club

7194 P.B.S. Club

8167 Anishinabe Club

643557 St. Ignatius Toastmasters Club

28675783 OneWinpak Toastmasters Club

Division B

Area 21

313 Centennial 313 Toastmasters Club

831 Skyliners Toastmasters Club

1396 Crossroads Toastmasters

2170 Venio Dictum Club

6452 River City Toastmasters Club

Area 22

2403 Testament Toastmasters

5416 Dryden Toastmasters Club

3325034 Virtual Toastmasters

TBD Bison Global Communicators NEW CHARTER as of Sept 3 2024. Plan is to place in Area 22, once formally updated at TMI.

Club charter paper work is submitted to TMI.

AMENDMENT

_

Originally to be placed in Area

22... however now very recently there is one club in Area 22 at risk of not being in good standing AND Area 24 has very recently seen City Slickers return to good standing making Area 24, 4 clubs.

Area 23

2150 Downtown Winnipeg Toastmasters

1 4032 Elmwood Seniors Toastmasters Club

4645 Key Club

5570 Peak Performers Club

1308854 We Believe in Winnipeg Toastmasters

Area 24

1452 Canada Life Toastmasters - WPG

1421533 Princess Auto

7889143 The Ice Breakers Club

7695 City Slickers NOTE: Very recent became in good standing and

back on dashboards in Sept 2024.

Division C

Area 31

58 Healthy Talkers Club

940 Manitoba Hydro Toastmasters Club

4715 HSC Toastmasters

4851 UWInnipeg Toastmasters

9485 Wawanesa Speak Easy Club

Area 32

2991 Speak Up Parkland

3064 Portage Toastmasters

5678 Summit Toastmasters

4967333 Core Communicators

28676931 WIS Toastmasters

Area 33

2375 Vital Words

3366 Francs-Parleurs Club

685120 Daytimers Club

2959098 Island Shore Toastmasters

7598123 Winnipeg Peace Builders Toastmasters Clun

Area 34

3977 Selkirk Toastmasters Club

4249 Whiteshell Toastmasters Club

1346250 Speaking Made Easy Toastmasters

2785592 Toastmasters In the Arts

Division D

Area 41

4574 Manitoba Morning Club

8166 A.S.A.P. Toastmasters Club

9933 Keystone Speakers

585066 Millennium Toastmasters Club

2Area 42

1522 Confidently Speaking

8002 Headliners Toastmasters

1067530 Licensed to Speak

2383484 Birchwood Toastmasters

Area 43

3406 Carillon Toastmasters Club

5351 Prairie Voices Toastmasters Club

7605 Star Of The North Toastmasters Club

7277358 Steinbach Professional Development Toastmasters

Area 44

4586 Toast of IG Club was suspended at start of 2024-2025 year

leaving Area with only 2 clubs.

9330 West Winners Toastmasters Club

1294201 Wednesdays Off Waverley (WOW)

2772242 PC Super Speakers Required move from Area 43 (5 clubs) to Area 44 at year start to ensure more than 2 clubs in this Area. TMI requires Areas have more than 2 clubs.

To begin I wish to thank immediate Past District Director, Distinguished Toastmaster David Storey, for appointing me to the position of Audit Chair. I wasn't sure what to expect, but I can truly say I learned a lot. I also wish to thank my fellow year-end Auditors - Distinguished Toastmaster, and Past International Director, Sherri Wood and Distinguished Toastmaster Teresa Cooper. These are terrific people to help dig through policy, protocols, piles of receipts, reams of reports and well, math.

The year end audit - I will be brief, although brevity was not followed with the actual written audit report circulated. Don't take the length as a sign of anything. Stick over a century of combined Distinguished Toastmaster knowledge, financial acumen and business experience in the same room and you would expect no less. Please note the Audit Committee also addressed lingering issues, some dating back several years as far as 2019. Practices that have been passed down from year to year through unwritten policy. Hence the need to call for the District Financial Guidelines to be updated and the Spring Conference Guide resurrected. Both have been idle for tool long.

There may be little time for oral questions after this report so if you have something you would like answered feel free to type it into the chat. Either myself, or one of the committee, will be sure to respond.

I encourage you to read the full report. It is a 20 or 30 minute read so this 3 to 5 minute oral presentation will only be a brief summary. The committee agreed I should focus on three key areas.

Firstly, online participation. The District should be applauded for continuing to offer hybrid content to support online attendance at District events. Considering our geography it is a great way to provide education, networking, communication and contact. However, uptake is very poor. The Committee believes a key issue may be pricing and suggests that area be reviewed in an attempt to increase participation. You can read about that in the full report.

Secondly, Club Officers paying fees for profit during TLI (Toastmasters Leadership Institute). We have to be mindful that Toastmasters does not condone fundraising off of Club Officer Training. That comes under Protocol 7.1, section 4 Club Officer Training. The Committee did suggest one method, used in the past, to make some money with the TLI while respecting Toastmasters protocols. You can read that in the full year-end report, possibly scan the previous report for more.

Thirdly, record keeping. Several areas need tightening up. The most striking example is the use of 50/50 raffles for fundraising. These events are auditable by Liquor, Gaming and Cannabis Authority of Manitoba - locally right here at home. Our current level of record keeping would fail an audit potentially taking away this wonderful tool. Other record keeping areas addressed were use of PayPal, e-transfers, handling of cash, etc. Written guidance, for future reference, were added to the District Financial Guidelines. You can read more on those in the full report.

Finally, I want to end with a short discussion about fundraising. Each year Toastmasters provides the District with 25% of membership payments to help fulfill it's mission. This forms the bulk of the budget which at times may not be fully spent. Post Covid our District carried large unspent reserves which Toastmasters has been clawing back, for example \$14,000 last February. My last report I expressed frustration in our fundraising to put money in one pocket while Toastmasters was taking money out of the other pocket. However, in the last half of this year your District Team, headed by District Director Distinguished Toastmaster David Storey, worked hard to utilize some of that remaining excess reserve to support local needs. Spend the money here at home. We should applaud them as that is not an easy task, yet they were successful. The positive news? Going forward any fundraising will be used to support programming right here in District 64 - in our pockets.

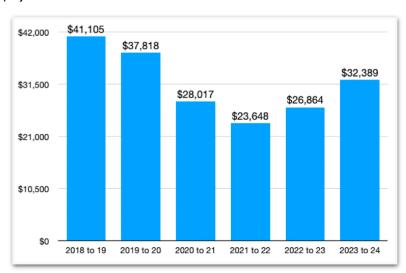
As I said before, this and more can be found in the official written report circulated. Please do take the time to read and absorb.

Respectfully submitted, Lloyd Gwilliam, District 64 Audit Chair 2023 to 2024

District 64 Financial Report - in Canadian Dollars

This report will share information on cash flow. Prior to Covid District membership was at a higher level. Therefore, the budget allocation from Toastmasters, in the form of the 25% of membership dues, was much higher than current. This is displayed in the chart below:

With the Covid fuelled membership losses the District's funds availability dropped 42% to \$23,648 in 2021-22. Since then membership has been trending upward which is enriching the District budget. This year the District has recovered to \$32,389. Most of this is due to an increase in membership while another portion is due to the fact that Toastmasters raised the 6 month membership dues from \$45 US to \$60 US providing the District with an additional \$3.75 US per member per 6 months dues.



As the District strives to

return to pre-Covid normal actives, such as in person District meetings, in person special events, and in person contests, there will be a need to keep a keen eye on the budget as there is substantial less wiggle room than pre-Covid. That \$8,000 to \$10,000 difference can fund a lot of activities.

Below is a quick review of the current cash situation as of August 31, 2024:

BMO Main Bank account (local) - \$4,814 BMO Spring Conference Account (local) - \$2,423 District Reserve Account (held by TI HQ) - \$5,646

For a total balance of \$12,883

Please note that in recent years the District Reserve (where the main source of revenue resides) would be over \$40,000 at this point. However, as that is higher than allowed by the Toastmasters Governing Documents to ensure their non-profit status is protected, Toastmasters would claw back a % of the excess. For example this past February they removed \$14,000 from the District 64 reserve. In order to ensure future District 64 funds were less susceptible to this claw back the 2023 - 24 District Team applied some of that excess reserve to support local needs.

While a smaller reserve protects the District's funds for use locally it means the District has to be more mindful of the budget depth - so to speak. For instance the settling of the Trio's trip to the August training and International Convention, at some \$8,000, if applied in August would have drained the reserve of \$5,646 noted above. Fortunately, those expenses will settle in September which coincides with the September membership dues renewals which will more than offset the expense.

Each District meeting look for the District Finance Manager to report on the Profit and Loss, bank account balances, and cash flow.

Respectfully submitted, Lloyd Gwilliam, District 64 Finance Manager 2024 - 25

Hello District Council and Toastmaster Members

Good to see so many on-line today!

The District public relations team is ready for a fun and successful year. We have a great team this year: Susan Page is our Mail Chimp Administrator; keeping the membership informed through e-mails. Marcus Le Nabat is our 2024-25 Website Administrator overseeing our District 64 website. Production of our District newsletter, filled with events, deadlines and celebrating accomplishments, will be done by Kent Heinrich, our News Letter Editor.

The District Executive has applied, to the provincial government, to have the third week in October to be proclaimed as "Toastmasters Week" in Manitoba – corresponding with the 100th anniversary of Toastmasters.

Our goal is to help clubs develop and implement promotional programs using social media, posters, brochures and other marketing avenues.

As part of this goal, every month a Public Relations Challenge will be issued. An assignment, as it were, to better promote your club (which any club executive officer can assist with, not just the VP-PR). This September is: Clean Up Your Club Contact Challenge.

<Explanation via Shared Screen to Follow>

By Monday, September 30, have your club contact information entered, and then e-mail: publicrelations@district64.ca to confirm completion. At the next District Meeting a random draw of eligible clubs will take place and two prizes will be awarded. Get on this today. Manitoba Morning and Crossroads Toastmasters have already completed the challenge. Be forewarned: I shall be testing out the Contact Club feature for all competing clubs, beforehand.

Let's have a fantastic year!

Don Wood Public Relations Manager D64 Division B is off to a good start! Of the 17 clubs in this division, 10 area visits have been scheduled with four of them having been completed. 14 of 17 clubs made sure their officers made it to training, and five of those clubs are currently 7/7: Crossroads, River City, Virtual, Downtown, and Peak Performers. Be sure to watch for some upcoming Open House Events: Crossroads – Oct 23, Dryden – Oct 11, and Downtown TM just had one on Wednesday morning. I highly recommend waking up for their meetings if you are able! Congratulations to City Slickers for becoming a club in good standing and to all who have been working hard on Pathways projects. Keep up the good work!

Nancy Ellenson Division B Director



<u>Division C Report</u> Janice Storozuk, Division C Director District 64 Meeting: Sep 21, 2024

Division C Team & Clubs

Division C Director Janice Storozuk					
Area 31 Director Julieta Petrelli	Area 32 Director Jackie Schesnuk	Area 33 Director Karen Hiebert	Area 34 Director Rodney Juba		
Healthy Talkers Speak Up Parkland		Vital Words	Selkirk		
Manitoba Hydro	Manitoba Hydro Portage		Whiteshell		
HSC	Summit	Daytimers	Speaking Made Easy		
UWinnipeg Core Communicators		Island Shore	Toastmasters in the Arts		
Wawanesa Speak Easy	WIS	Winnipeg Peace Builders			

1. Club Officer Lists

100% of Division C clubs submitted new club officer lists to TMI by the June 30 deadline. This means every single club is off to a positive start with their DCP journey.

2. Area Director Visits

Between July 1 & Sep 8/24, **26**% of Area Director reports are complete. Two in Area 31 (Healthy Talkers; Manitoba Hydro) & three in Area 32 (Core Communicators; Summit & WIS). All Area Directors are planning unofficial and official visits before November 30.

3. Club Officer Training (Round 1)

Among 19 clubs, **79%** of all officers participated in training. Congratulations to 7 clubs for having all 7 officers trained: Manitoba Hydro, Wawanesa Speak Easy, Summit, Francs-Parleurs, Island Shore, Selkirk & Speaking Made Easy.

4. Sunshine Clubs

Eleven clubs held meetings over the summer: Healthy Talkers, Manitoba Hydro, HSC, Portage, Summit, Core Communicators, Francs-Parlors, Island Shore, Selkirk, Whiteshell & Speaking Made Easy. We now wait to hear which clubs may have at least 2 new members by September 30 to receive a 2024 Sunshine Club ribbon.

5. Pathway Level Completions

Between July 1 & Sep 8/24, members have 14 level completions: 3 L1s, 2 L2s, 4 L3s, 5 L4/L5/DTMs. Congratulations to Connie Bok (Summit, Aug 22/24) & Laurette Greenlay (Speaking Made Easy, Sep 3/24) for completing your **DTMs**.

6. DCP Goals

Congratulations to 3 clubs for receiving DCP points in the first 10 weeks of the TM year: HSC (1), Summit (3) & Speaking Made Easy (1).

7. Membership Growth

Division C's July 1/24 membership base is **272**. Between July 1 & Sep 8/24, **6 new members** have joined our clubs. Currently, 9 clubs have less than 10 members. The Division C team will focus efforts to help these clubs' memberships find more members.

All members across District 64 are invited to visit these lower-membership clubs & earn Club Ambassador points:

- HSC: Tuesdays, 12:05, online
- UWinnipeg: alternating Mondays, 12:05, hybrid
- Portage: Wednesdays, 7:00, hybrid
- Francs-Parleurs: Wednesdays, 5:30, online
- Daytimers: 1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 2:00, blend of in-person & online
- Island Shore: Tuesdays, 7:00, hybrid
- Winnipeg Peace Builders: Wednesdays, 8:30, online
- Whiteshell: 1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 11:00, online
- Toastmasters in the Arts: Wednesdays, 10:30, online

MONTHLY REPORT, DIVISION A

August 2024

Area Director Visit

- Area 12 completed a visit to Comedy Club, Eh!
- Area 14 completed an in-person visit to Flin Flon Toastmasters Club in July.

Club Officers Training, 7by7

- All clubs achieved their First Training Period goal, with minimum 4 officers trained.
- Thank you to over 87% of club officers in Division A who completed their first round of training.
 You made the time to learn more about the roles you have.
 - o Area 11: 78.95%
 - o Area 12: 81.48%
 - o Area 14: 88.89%
 - o Area 15: 97.14%
- Congratulations to club officers of over 81% of Division A clubs that submitted their Club Successful Plan. The clubs are:
 - o 00000250 Winnipeg Toastmasters Club
 - o 00000419 Assiniboine Club
 - o 00001419 Still Talking Toastmasters Club
 - o 00002065 Flin Flon Toastmasters Club
 - o 00005265 Charleswood Club
 - o 00007194 P.B.S. Club
 - o 00008167 Anishinabe
 - o 00009274 Seven Oaks Club
 - o 00643557 St. Ignatius Toastmasters Club
 - o 00839686 Comedy Club, Eh!
 - o 01160379 Talking Books Toastmasters
 - o 28675783 OneWinpak Toastmasters
 - o 28676077 KGS Toastmasters

Open House & Speak-a-thon

• Looking forward to a list in the next reporting period.

Mentoring Existing & New Members

• Looking forward to a list in the next reporting period.

Moments of Truth

• Looking forward to a list in the next reporting period.

Speech Contests

• Looking forward to a list in the next reporting period.

Additional Information

• Not applicable in this reporting period.

Division D Report





Area 41 - Ralph McQueen

Manitoba Morning returned to regular meetings September 7th. All 7 officers trained. They got a returning member and new member in their first meeting.

ASAP has been having successful hybrid meetings and currently planning the Fall TLI. ASAP members are committed to each bring a new guest at everyone meeting.

Millennium Toastmasters is currently meeting off site but will be back in their regular location at Atlantic Garden City United Church on 725 Atlantic Ave in October. They have completed their Club Success Plan and 5 officers trained.

Keystone Speakers continually meets every 3rd Monday of the month on zoom. They are a specialty club, and they focus on business-oriented education sessions and helping members get their accredited speaker designation.

Area 42 – Karen Kiazyk Kaatz

Confidently Speaking acquired 3 new members in June and mentors are assigned to the members. Club Success Plan is complete and member education goals are identified.

Open House is planned for October 23rd to celebrate Toastmasters 100 years.

Birchwood Toastmasters has an open house planned for September 24th; Guest Speaker is Maurice De Mino. Laurette Greenlay, their club coach from last year will be around to help the club increase their membership.

Licensed to Speak will attend Birchwood Toastmasters open house on the 24th. Some of the membership will attend the Fall Rally in person. A Pathways overview is schedule for Oct 1. Open house schedule for October 22nd, it will be a potluck to celebrate 100 years of Toastmasters.

Headliners is a small but mighty group that is continuing to work on increasing their membership goals.

Area 43 - Kacou Coffie

Steinbach Professional Development Toastmasters is doing well attracting guest and working the program. President Jon Funk is proving strong leadership using WhatsApp to enhance communication among the club executives.

Prairie Voices got back in good standing and is re-building the club in regards to membership. Club Coach Susan Page will be there to support them as they continue to have vibrant meetings on the 2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month.

Carillon Toastmasters reached Sunshine status with two new members. President Sheryl Poirier received her 3rd DTM.

Area 44 – Annie Henry

Toast of IG recently got off suspension is meeting regularly and in the process of rebuilding the club.

West Winners will be hosting the Fall Rally.

Wednesdays off Waverley (WOW) and PC Super Speakers are continuing to have active meetings.

District 64 Toastmasters,

I am happy to report the CGD team is hard at work so busy, that I think I missed Summer! Can I have a Summer do over?

Nonetheless, Fall is here, and the Toastmasters year has started off with a bang! I want to welcome our newest chartered club to District 64, please help me welcome Bison Communicators. Thank you to Catriona and her crew for all your hard work as sponsors and continued hard work as mentors. Excited to have Bison Communicators as part of District 64 community.

The extension team is working on a few potential prospects. So far the ones we are talking to have some fairly high interest in building a club. We are looking for members who want to be a sponsors, mentors or help on the demo meeting team throughout the year. As a team, we are working to compile target lists for some cold calls, reaching out to past clubs we have lost, and looking at areas for developing new clubs. If you have an idea of prospects or want to help out with being a sponsor, mentor or part of the demo team, please reach out to me.

On the retention side, the team has been working on reminders to get your renewals in. Deadline is coming up at the end of the month. To be a club in good standing you need a minimum of 8 members payments in by Sept 30 and to get your DCP point. Its an easy DCP point to get your club started off on the right track. If you need assistance how to process the payments please reach out. Can we achieve all clubs getting that DCP point? I think we can!

The Travelling gavel has set out on its journey through the district. MB Hydro capture it from Crossroads Toastmasters this past week. Where will it go next? The Club Ambassadors are out in full force visiting clubs. We have had a total of 60 visits so far by 32 different people. We have a few clubs that are struggling and could use some support so if you have the time please consider supporting these clubs to have quality meetings. If your club is needing support please email ambassador@district64.ca. So that Karen can let the troops know who needs support. Together we can build our clubs to all have strength in their numbers.

Lastly the retention team is working on building the club coach numbers up. We have 26 clubs that are eligible for a coach. We are working to reach out and pair clubs with coaches. So far we have 7 coaches officially signed up and 10 more coaches needing to be matched. If you are a club that needs a coach and someone in your club hasn't completed the Club Coach module or you are interested in being a Club Coach and have not completed the module. Doreen and Myself will be hosting a workshop right after this meeting at 1pm, we will go through the module together so by the end of the hour you will be ready to be a coach or be able to support a coach in your club. Let me know in the chat and I will send you the zoom link to the workshop. It would be wonderful if we could get all 26 clubs to have a coach.

As for me specifically, its been a whirlwind first couple of months. Mmy first District Leaders Training and International Convention was a special experience. I learned so much, met some amazing, passionate people who I have developed great friendships with. I came home with so many ideas for things to try and do this year.

Its going to be a great year! There is so much positivity and each of you have stepped up to Explore your journey within Toastmasters. Thank you to my team for your hard work and great ideas for planning this year, hopefully we will get an opportunity to get every idea done. The energy is contagious and I can't wait to see how each of you and the district as a whole, grow this year.

Cheers!

Connie Bok Club Growth Director District 64 2024-2025

Greetings District 64

2024 - 2025 year is off to a great start. Fast and Furious.

We started with our Club Officer Training, which proved to be a great success. 378 out of 464 officers were fully trained (81.4%), including Bison communicators who were in the process of chartering. 61 out of 66 clubs reached the goal of having 4+ officers trained (92%).25 out of 66 clubs have all 7 officers trained. (38%). 25 out of 66 clubs have all 7 officers trained. (38%). 50 CSPs submitted (76%). There is still time for the other clubs to get the CSP in. So far 4 clubs have qualified as a sunshine club. For the other clubs if it is only membership you need there is still time to get the members. It is time now for clubs to consider doing the Moments of Truth. This is a great program to help your club.

Adam is working hard on finalizing Fally Rally events for Sept. 28. I will attend via Zoom.

A reminder to everyone that Pathways will be shutting down on Oct. 8 and should be up and running on Oct. 27, 2024. Patrick will happy to help clubs on this.

Upcoming events: Toastmasters week in October. Fall TLI in November hosted by Robert McDowell and ASAP club. Second Round Club Officer Training will start in November. Speech Contests will start in January and until April. Winter TLI will be in February hosted by June Storey, myself and Selkirk Toastmasters. Spring Conference will May 9 and 10.

Toastmasters Convention was very informative as always. There will be a few changes happening with Toastmasters International. We are going to have a great year. I would like thank my team for helping me with all the quality programming you are doing. Please reach out if you have any questions.

Doreen Roman DTM Program Quality Director District 64 2024/2025

Hello District Council and Members Watching on Live Stream

I can't believe we are almost 25% through the Toastmasters year.

Here we are together at the District Council Meeting. This is one of the first major milestones that formally kicks off every year with completing important business for the District along with submitting several key documents like the District Success Plan to Toastmasters International.

It is still so early and I am already energized and inspired by hearing so many great things happening by the Division Directors and District Executive reports.

I am confident our District will experience growing momentum and we are on the cusp to achieve amazing things this Toastmasters year.

In fact this is **the crucial year** to maximize our District's momentum upwards!

As some may have heard, this past Toastmasters International convention the board of directors had communicated to membership that Districts in Regions 1 through 7 will be assessed and borders re-organized. District 64 will be apart of this change. However, this change will not directly impact this current Toastmasters year 2024-2025. In fact any formal border changes will not happen until July 1, 2026.

Toastmasters International has communicated good reasoning for these changes that will ultimately lead to a more healthy organization as a whole... Districts, Clubs and members alike. I do not have enough time in this report to share all the details.

We will send communications out about this coming change and I will also host a District Director fireside chat coming in early to mid October. Please watch for the ZOOM event. I encourage the District Council and membership to attend so that we may engage and continue this conversation together.

Though this recent news means there is some uncertainty ahead for District 64... that should not dissuade us from taking meaningful action today where I am convinced District 64 can shine brightly and achieve Distinguished Status!!! Something that has not happened in a decade. Lets show the world what our membership can achieve together!

I would like to close with a positive message...

Every "Distinguished" journey starts with a first step!

To me every Toastmasters year starts with taking a first step with anticipation, service and tenacity, that ultimately leads, for every member, new steps in personal growth!

First Step... As District Director, I am grateful for the opportunity to lead the District Executive Committee comprised of amazing people led by: "The FAB 5" that includes myself, Doreen Roman Program Quality Director, Connie Bok Club Growth Director and supported by Don Wood Public Relations Manager and Lloyd Gwilliam District Finance Manager.

Anticipation... Under David Storey's leadership last year, our members have taken a huge step, raising the bar, for District 64 to aspire to achieve new heights.

Service... It's inspiring to see a new Toastmasters army stepping up to serve our members, clubs and district's success. Through amazing people serving and growing together, magic will happen.

Tenacity... I believe through our member's dedication to our core values of respect, integrity, service and excellence it can move mountains to enable member and club success.

The stage is set with anticipation, fuelled with dedicated service while learning and growing with ferocious tenacity ... I am convinced this combination will fuel the fire for us to achieve Club, Area, Division and District "Distinguished Status"!

This year will happen FAST! So jump in and embrace your Toastmasters journey, so that we can achieve success together!

At your service, Stephen Bryden District Director District 64 Toastmasters International 204-914-8985 Stephen.bryden@shaw.ca