

INTERNATIONAL OFFICER/DIRECTOR CANDIDATE BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION



Candidate's Name:

Candidate's Office: Region Number:

Toastmasters member since:

Education:

Employer and/or position:

Served as district governor of district number Term of service:

In term as district governor, district achieved: Distinguished Select Distinguished President's Distinguished

Toastmasters offices held and terms of service (international and regional level):

District Governor 2012-13
Lieutenant-Governor Education & Training 2011-12
Lieutenant-Governor Marketing 2010-11
PRO 2009-10

Toastmasters honors and recognition (international level):

Excellence in Education & Training 2011-12
Excellence in Marketing 2010-11

Relevant work experience and how it relates to Toastmasters and your role as a Board member:

Leadership Coach (2010 - present) where I help others become leaders in their own lives.
Owner/ operator of a primary production business (1999 - present) which included the development and implementation of a business plan and marketing plan
Creator of a new business in garden design (1994 - 99), necessitating close attention to detail and clients' needs
Primary Teacher (1980 -1992) where I learned the need for clear and succinct language to convey key ideas

What experience do you have in strategic planning?

Initiation and co-ordination of the development of a 5 year Strategic Plan for District 69 modelled on the key principles of TI Strategic Plan, 2010
Initiation of a Strategic Plan for PNG to fit within the District 69 plan
Strategic planning while a member of the school Board
Development of a business and marketing plan for my agricultural enterprise

What experience do you have in the area of finance?

Owner operator of a primary production enterprise - responsible for all aspects of financial management
DG - budgeting and managing District Finances
School Board - responsible for budget, financial oversight and accountability

What experience do you have in developing policies?

While serving on the school Board, I gained valuable experience in formulating and reviewing policies relating to a wide range of school issues including education, discipline, health and safety and governance.

What lessons did you learn from previous leadership positions?

One of the biggest lessons is the need for the leader to operate from an attitude of ethical service rather than ego. As I progressed in my leadership journey, I learned the importance of having a strong sense of direction and purpose. In my role as DG I experienced the power of listening, humility and empathy and acting in a calm, thoughtful manner in emotionally-charged situations, the need for a cohesive team and navigating according to a set of values.

What experience and key strengths would you bring to the Board of Directors?

I bring to the Board my ability to adapt to change and to work co-operatively, my warmth and humour and the ability to see the big picture. My previous Board experience, involvement in strategic planning and proven ability to work successfully in challenging environments are relevant to my serving as a director.

Why do you want to serve as an international officer/director?

I want to continue learning and serving. My first-hand experience in developing Toastmasters within an emerging market (Papua New Guinea) has given me an understanding of the power of the Toastmasters program to transform lives and a passion to bring the benefits of Toastmasters to as many people as possible. I believe Toastmasters is an organisation dedicated to service to humanity - one member at a time; and my vision is to be a voice to facilitate that.

What volunteer experience do you have outside of Toastmasters?

My previous volunteer experience includes membership of various Landcare groups, actively working on environmental care and repair.
I have served as a member of the school Board.
I have presented a weekly radio show on sustainable living for over 2 years at the local community radio station

Have you worked with other Boards of Directors outside of Toastmasters? If so, describe your experience.

My experience includes serving on the Board of Directors of a private school with 500+ pupils. The school was in voluntary administration and having worked collaboratively with the administrators and the bank, all parties were able to agree on a solution, meaning the school reopened. During the period of major change and restructuring that followed I was privileged to serve as Chairman of the school Board.

In your opinion, what are Toastmasters International's major objectives and how would you work to achieve them?

At its most fundamental level, Toastmasters empowers the individual to find their own voice and inspiring them to develop their own potential and in turn to develop the potential of others. The Toastmasters International Strategic Plan 2010 sets out a blueprint for the future where significant changes are flagged and I believe I have the energy, drive and enthusiasm to work towards them through serving on the Board and its committees.

Additional information about candidate:

My passions are bicycling, reading, eating healthy food and enjoying quality sleep. For me, time to reflect on my experiences in order to understand them is vital. I am naturally curious about life.