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Photo Available Upon Request

Toastmasters members elect Pat Johnson to its international Board*Senior Vice President of 250,000-member organization hails from Victoria, British Columbia*

RANCHO SANTA MARGARITA, Calif., Sept. 15, 2009 – Pat Johnson, of Victoria, British Columbia, has been elected Senior Vice President of [Toastmasters International](http://www.toastmasters.org), the world's leading organization devoted to teaching skills in communication and leadership. Toastmasters members elected Johnson to a one-year term during the organization's 78th annual International Convention, held last month in Mashantucket, Conn.

A Toastmaster for more than 25 years, Johnson has earned the title of Distinguished Toastmaster – the highest level in the organization's educational program. She is a member of several Toastmasters clubs, including the Camosun club in Victoria. In addition, Johnson has held many distinguished leadership positions within the organization, serving as a district governor and international board member. Last year, she was the Second Vice President of the Toastmasters Board of Directors.

"My life has never been the same since joining Toastmasters," she says. "It provided me with an opportunity and laboratory where I was supported and encouraged to discover who I was and what I was capable of."

Johnson credits Toastmasters with helping her learn how to support others and become a cheerleader for their projects. "I am a better community member, parent, employee, leader, friend and manager because of what I have learned," she says.

Johnson has a background in adult education and is currently the assistant director of business education for the British Columbia Pension Corporation (<http://www.pensionsbc.ca>). In addition, she has spent many years as a manager and leader in business, government and the not-for-profit arena, specializing in executive coaching and financial planning. The longtime music lover also has sung in a national choir and participated in an award-winning marching band.

About Toastmasters

[Toastmasters International](http://www.toastmasters.org) is a nonprofit educational organization that teaches public speaking and leadership skills through a worldwide network of clubs. The organization currently has 250,000 members in 12,000 clubs in 106 countries. Since its founding 85 years ago in October 1924, the organization has helped more than four million men and women give presentations with poise and confidence. For information about local Toastmasters clubs, please visit www.toastmasters.org.

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