

# 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):

Lt. Governor of Education and Training, 2010-2011  
Lt. Governor of Marketing, 2009-2010

Toastmasters honors and recognition (international level):

Excellence in Education & Training Award and Distinguished District for the 2009-2010 term  
Excellence in Marketing Award and Distinguished District for the 2008-2009 term  
Two-Time Distinguished Toastmaster

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

I have eleven years of progressive management experience in strategic planning, implementation, policy analysis, marketing, advertising, corporate communications, stakeholder relationship management, fiscal management, partnership development, media relations and program management. My extensive professional experience has prepared me to understand the bigger picture at the board level to provide effective senior leadership and support the needs of an educational organization that is multi-generational, international and diverse in every sense.

What experience do you have in strategic planning?

I enjoyed ten years of senior roles in strategic planning in the public and private sectors. As the Manager of Strategic Planning & Partnership Development for the British Columbia Government in Canada, I was responsible for developing multi-year strategic and action plans. I led the process of identifying business goals, integrating business objectives across the organization, getting buy in from internal and external partners, increasing organizational resources, developing performance measures, and allocating budget and human resources.

What experience do you have in the area of finance?

Through my involvement in the non-profit, public and private sectors in the last fifteen years, I managed projects with budgets over \$2 million with a good understanding of reporting and auditing requirements. My fiscal management responsibilities included budget preparation, budget forecasting, maintaining financial records, reconciling financial data, reviewing statistical data and preparing financial reports for stakeholders.

What experience do you have in developing policies?

With seven years of experience in policy development with all three-levels of government in Canada, I understand the importance of balancing local, national and international interests. My experiences include identifying and evaluating possible policy solutions, researching complex issues, analyzing best practices from alternative models, conducting gap analysis, compiling data, applying an evidence based approach, recommending policy actions and mitigating risks.

What lessons did you learn from previous leadership positions?

Keep the vision and goals in the forefront at all times as a leader, review progress and change tactics when necessary, set clear expectations, communicate early and often, understand what motivates our team, develop human capital, embrace challenges with a can-do spirit, keep ego in check, be open-minded for continuous learning and listen to others. Most importantly, enjoy the experience.

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

I have extensive experience in strategic planning, fiscal management and policy development. My recent work in marketing and advertising has given me solid understanding in brand management and how to effectively position ourselves in the marketplace. I am passionate about having the opportunity to support our organization within the international context and serve multi-generational and diverse members.

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

Serving as an international director would enable me to apply my professional experience, strengths and talents. We live in a rapidly changing world due to technology and global development. I'd like to contribute to Toastmasters International so our members can meet their educational needs, develop ability to pursue their goals wherever they are, and be able to stay relevant in our changing world.

What volunteer experience do you have outside of Toastmasters?

With fifteen years of active volunteerism, I have supported all major international arts and cultural festivals in Vancouver including folk music, jazz, film, dance and writers festivals. I was a Volunteer Coordinator and managed over 150 volunteers for Under the Volcano Festival of Art & Social Change. In addition, I was the President of my Strata Council, volunteered as a fitness instructor for YWCA, and was a panel speaker for a pre-UN women's conference in Canada.

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

Serving as a board member for In Visible Colours Film & Video Society and China-Canada Young Women's Society, I was part of the efforts in ensuring that the organizations were fiscally sound, following their mandate, meeting the program needs of its members, fulfilling reporting requirements and providing guidance to the staff who operationalized the directions from the board.

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

We are a world renowned educational organization in communication and leadership. Our major objectives are to support members' educational needs world wide and continue to promote our brand internally and externally. This requires leadership from the board so there is vertical alignment throughout the organization while we stay relevant in the competitive global marketplace. I'd like to contribute and be part of the leadership at the board level to effect change.

Additional information about candidate:

I travelled to many Asian, European, and South American countries and visited Toastmasters clubs in Scotland, Japan, Hong Kong and US. My bilingual skills and experience in intercultural communication and cultural awareness prepare me to participate at the board level and contribute to an international organization within a global environment.