

International Officer/Director Candidate Biographical Information

TOASTMASTERS
INTERNATIONAL®

Candidate's Name: Thomas Jones Jr.

Candidate's Office: International Director

Region Number: 1

Toastmasters member since: August 1, 2005

Education: Masters of Public Administration
Masters of Organizational Management

Employer and/or position: Royal LePage City Centre/Real Estate Consultant/Management Consultant

Served as district governor of district number 21 Term of service: One Year

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 - 2010-2011
Lt. Governor of Education and Training - 2009-2010
Lt Governor of Marketing -2008-2009
Public Relations Officer - 2007-2008
Division Governor - Area Governor 2006-2007

Toastmasters honors and recognition (international level):

Distinguished District Award
Lt Governor of Education and Training Education Award
District 21 Toastmaster of the Year

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

I have held various management/leadership positions during the last thirty years where "remaining relevant in an evolving marketplace" had to be reflected in policy, operations and financial management. As a Board member, I will utilize my experience in organizational management/leadership to help find practical ways to retain current members, recruit new members, and to increase our relevance within the world marketplace.

What experience do you have in strategic planning?

As the General Manager for Envirotec Systems (Ebco-Hamilton Partners), I developed and implemented the first strategic plan for the British Columbian Air Care Program which was later cloned and used throughout North America by other air quality management programs. I was on the Board of the Directors for the Harvey 100 Club Inc., and introduced strategic planning as a means of ensuring continuity of services for a marginalized client-base.

What experience do you have in the area of finance?

I have assisted in the budgetary planning and financial oversight for a \$74 million project for the state of Illinois Air Quality Management Program as Project Manager. While serving as General Manager for several companies, I have worked with teams to create zero-based budgets annually. I am knowledgeable about financial management as a result of advanced business degrees and the practical application of leading and managing various for-profit and not-for-profit organizations.

What experience do you have in developing policies?

As a leader with Envirotest Systems Inc, Systems Control Inc, and Green Seed Solutions Inc, I had the opportunity to develop policies across the stakeholder-spectrum that helped to guide and direct decisions for all levels of management. As a management consultant specializing in small businesses, I have developed policies critical to helping small business owners to focus on the critical success factors of their businesses.

What lessons did you learn from previous leadership positions?

I have learned the importance of asking the tough questions of the right people to determine the real cause of problems so as to make the best decisions based on the information available. I have learned the importance of listening to those around me and giving the credit to those who work with or for me. I have learned that our greatest asset is our people and at all cost they must be taken care of and respected. You can't praise your people enough for they are the backbone of any organization. You can not fake caring for your people.

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

I would bring a quiet resolve and the tenacity to question the obvious. I would bring my energy, hope and love for this organization which would allow me to question the not so obvious. I would bring my courage to say what needs to be said with respect and diplomacy. I would bring with me my faith in the organization so as to be a constant reminder of who we serve - our members.

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

I would like the opportunity to give back to an organization that has transformed my life by giving me the gift of better communication and an improved leadership style. I want the world to know about Toastmasters and to have the opportunity to reap the benefits our organization offers.

What volunteer experience do you have outside of Toastmasters?

I regularly volunteer my time at Detoxification Centres, Alcohol and Addiction Treatment Centres, Parent Teacher Association at the schools of my children. I volunteer as an instructor teaching, "Take the Fear out of Public Speaking" at one of the local High Schools for Adult Continuing Education and I volunteer as a life coach.

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

I have served on the Board of Directors and the Board of Trustees of the Harvey 100 Club, Inc, a not for profit organization that donated space to assist in the treatment of alcohol and drug addiction. In this capacity, I was able to help move the board from an operational focus to strategic planning that helped to ensure the continuities of its programs.

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

It is my opinion Toastmasters International's major objective is to ensure its continued relevance in the "new world" order. The world has changed since my youth and since I joined Toastmasters eight years ago and yet the need for effective communication has remained the same. We must work diligently to ensure that what we offer is known to the masses and available to all.

Additional information about candidate:

My personal and professional mission statement is about serving mankind, giving back, and paying it forward not as a gesture or for any accolade but as a "way of life". I believe that communication is the foundation of all we do and that each of us can change the world as we interact with each other.