IMMEDIATE PAST DISTRICT DIRECTORS' D112 REPORT
7 April 2023
Report from Stephen Budai, DTM

- **Well done, Team.**
  This year our District Trio has had the task of bringing in-person Toastmasters meetings back to the club and District events as the new norm. The membership of D112 has been "zoomed" out and is now reverting to what was normal four years ago.
  Our District Director, Wendy Wickliffe, has led her close and extended teams and can be duly assisted with James Hippolite, PQD and the new "boy", Richard Perkins, as CGD.

- **Direct Involvement.**
  One of my earlier tasks was assisting the District team in being matched with mentors.
  This scheme can work well if everyone is willing to assist as mentors and others are willing to have an assigned mentor. You perform best with a keen listener and sounding board.

  District Leadership Committee Chairman. I worked on a tight timetable to meet the DLC and officer selection guidelines.
  I was fortunate to have such a great committee, and I sensed that they learned from the experience and how the selection process works.
  Identifying potential District leaders was challenging, and many shoulders had to be tapped.
  This will challenge the new District Team, looking for the gaps in the Area Directors needed for the new year. However, the District Director elect must speak to many prospects about the opportunities District leadership offers.

- **Indirect involvement.**
  This year the team has been working on having an in-person conference. After two false starts, which can be disheartening, the District has engaged Parnell Conference Centre as the venue.
  Challenges that I have seen have been the late marketing for the conference.
  Logistically we are limited to a modest attendance number, and some members will be disappointed as they miss out.
  The lessons learnt will be carried over to the 2024 conference, to be announced.
  There are experienced knowledge within the District, and we need to use it as it can be demoralising having to reinvent the wheel.
  I'm confident that everyone attending the conference over the weekend, 6 & 7 May, will be satisfied with the event.

- **Impact of recent weather events.**
  The recent weather bombs that hit our district should not be glossed over. It affected the North, parts of Auckland, the Bay of Plenty, Gisborne, Napier and Hastings.
  Our thoughts and blessings go out to all those affected by the events. However, we must ensure they are looked after now, as they will focus on something other than Toastmasters for some time.

- **Matters on the Horizon.**
  The incoming team has the following challenges as I see it.
  - Contests, the lack of participation by contestants and able functionaries.
  - District Budget Income 2023-2024. With membership tracking as they are now, the incoming team will work very hard to stretch the dollar far and wide.
  - The Increase in the membership dues to $60US. How this is “sold” and marketing is essential. The Toastmasters program is still cheap compared to other available programs.
  - The Pathways Program adoption at the club level defies me, as we have been in this program since 2017. However, this is surmountable and needs regular attention.
  - Hybrids club meetings are being frowned upon by many clubs. I would like to see it encouraged as we close the door to potential members who may want to join your club via Zoom for whatever reasons.

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Immediate Past District Director
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