




District Leadership Candidate Nominations 2024-2025

The poster features a central image of the Earth surrounded by several hands of different skin tones reaching out to touch it. The background is a dark blue space with stars. Text is overlaid on the image in a gold/yellow color.

 District 112
New Zealand North

Annual District Conference

Friday 3 May—Sunday 5 May
Great Lake Convention Centre

Taupo 2024

"He aha te mea nui o te ao? He tangata! He tangata! He tangata!"
"What is the most important thing in the world? The people! The people! The people!"



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Introduction

The District Leadership Committee have completed the district leadership interviews for elected district officer roles for District 112. I thank the committee for their time and commitment to finding the next leaders for our District.

District Leadership Committee Members:

Chair, Wendy Wickliffe, DTM, IPDD
Division K, Marcus Bristol, DTM
Division L, Elizabeth Viljoen
Division M, Howard Chaffey
Division N, Joanna Perry
Division O, Christine Alcott, DTM
Division P, Graeme Smylie, DTM
Division Q, Suresh Paleti
Division R, Jan Stroup

I present the biographies of the nominated candidates for the membership to consider.

James Hippolite

District Director 2023-2024



Next Steps

Timeline

Candidate Showcase will take place in-person at the Taupo Conference. However, in the interest of fairness, I have made Candidate Showcase available online for free for members to observe proceedings.

District Council Meeting will be held in-person at the Taupo Conference. District Council Members will need to be either in-person, or purchase an online Registration, in order to be able to participate in the District Council Meeting. Voting takes place during District Council Meeting. Voting is restricted to current District Officers, Club Presidents and Club Vice-Presidents of Education. The only proxies which will be permitted are Presidents and Vice-Presidents. One may hold both votes, if the other can't attend.

Please try to arrive at least 15 minutes before the scheduled meeting time, so that proceedings are not held up.

Date	Time	Event	Zoom
Fri 3 May	5:15 pm	Candidate Showcase	Meeting Link
Fri 3 May	6:15 pm	Candidate Corner	Meeting Link
Sat 4 May	1:00 pm	District Council Meeting	Registration Link

District Voting Platform

The District uses a purpose-built Voting Platform, provided for us by Michael Fenton, District Director of D70 in Australia. In order to vote during the District Council Meeting, if attending in-person, please bring a Smartphone, Tablet or Laptop to be able to go online to use the District Voting Platform. You will need to know your Membership ID in order to log in. If you do not provide your Membership ID, we will not be able to provide that for you on the day, and you will not be able to log in, and you will be unable to vote.

For those at home, you will need to split screen between your Zoom Meeting window, and the District Voting Platform window. As each vote is announced, the relevant question will appear in the District Voting Platform for your response.

If a District Council Member is unable to attend, please log into the Platform to register your absence. This will permit your co-club officer to claim your vote and hold it in proxy.

The link to the District Voting Platform is <https://district112.on.votapex.com/index.php>.




Floor Candidates


Candidates from the floor will be entertained for all vacant positions. Please check the Guidelines for eligibility. <https://www.toastmasters.org/leadership-central/governing-documents#ArticleVIIOfficers328>. Please send District Nomination and Candidate Release forms to me at districtdirector@d112tm.org.nz before 25 April, in order to qualify to be a floor candidate.

- <https://www.toastmasters.org/resources/district-leader-agreement-and-release-statement>
- <https://www.toastmasters.org/Resources/District-Leader-Nominating-Form>



Role	District Director	
Name	Richard Perkins, DTM	
Bio	<p>With a background as a teacher, and my involvement in a senior role for a nationwide community-based organisation, I have dedicated myself to fostering knowledge and growth in others. I have gained invaluable experience and leadership skills in a volunteering world over many years of service to Toastmasters across three districts while serving in various District Officer roles.</p> <p>The recent experience of both the Club Growth Director and currently Program Quality Director roles have prepared me for the role of District Director. The knowledge gained of Pathways with personal experience, and recently gaining my fourth DTM, add to the experience one expects a District Leader to have.</p> <p>In planning for what we as a District want to achieve this year, my primary focus will be on growing our membership and enhancing the club experience. This will be guided by innovative initiatives while infusing fun and motivation into our goal achievement. A great deal of planning has already been completed which is a step closer to our success. By working collaboratively with club and district officer, I am committed to cultivating a thriving Toastmasters district in our organisation's 100th year.</p>	



Role	Program Quality Director	
Name	Marlene Krone, DTM	
Bio	<p>I am standing for the role of Programme Quality Director for 2024-2025. With nearly a year of dedicated service on the district leadership team as Club Growth Director, I am compelled to extend my commitment to advancing the organisation's mission in this new capacity. The role of Programme Quality Director is responsible for all aspects of education and training within the District, as well as being responsible for promoting and supporting club quality and member retention.</p> <p>My decision to pursue this leadership role is underpinned by a profound dedication to facilitating growth and success among individuals, aligning with the overarching objectives of our district. Throughout the previous term, I had the privilege of spearheading a dynamic club growth team, catalysing the establishment of new clubs and facilitating the journey of existing ones towards excellence. This experience reaffirmed my belief that by nurturing individual achievements, we collectively contribute to a more fulfilling and prosperous community.</p> <p>In my extensive 24-year tenure with Toastmasters, I have had the privilege of serving in various capacities within the district, including as an Area Governor/Director, Division Governor, Public Relations Manager, and Administration Manager. My journey has been enriched by assuming all club officer roles and culminated in the prestigious recognition of a Distinguished Toastmaster Award in 2012.</p> <p>Complementing my Toastmasters journey is a 45-year career as an executive assistant across diverse industry sectors. This professional trajectory has endowed me with robust organisational acumen, effective communication prowess, and adept managerial skills, all of which I am eager to leverage in advancing the district's goals.</p> <p>Driven by Toastmasters International's core values and guided by my personal principles of empathy, courage, and fairness, I envision a district characterised by dedicated leadership and unwavering commitment to excellence. Together, we can empower members to navigate their leadership journeys with confidence.</p>	




Role	Club Growth Director #1	
Name	Mark Tweedale ACB ALB VC5 LD5	
Bio	<p>Currently Division O Director 2023-2024. Area O3 Director 2022-2023. Division Area Director of the year 2022-2023.</p> <p>I have been a Toastmaster in our District since 2012. For the first 2/3 of those 12 years, I was very much Club focused, which continues - being an active member at Pakuranga & Botany Toastmasters.</p> <p>In the last few years, I have discovered there is so much more on offer outside my own clubs, as well as inside, through leadership roles -first as an Area Director, then this year as a Division Director. I really enjoy encouraging, supporting and guiding members and clubs in achieving their full potential.</p> <p>So far in my toastmasters journey I have completed the ACB & ALB in the Legacy program and the Visionary Communication & Leadership Development Pathways in the current system, as well as working on my DTM, which should be complete by July. This experience enables me to incorporate the old & new systems together so members from both journeys can achieve positive outcomes.</p> <p>I am confident that I can effectively fulfil the role of Club Growth Director. My vision for the coming year is reestablishing and growing our clubs. The foundations are there we just need to build on these and to give our members the encouragement and support that they deserve.</p> <p>I love a challenge and my challenge for this coming year is to take every member on this shared journey to make our organisation stronger and better than it already is.</p>	



Role	Club Growth Director #2	
Name	Withdrawn	
Bio	<p>As per policy, a second candidate was interviewed and accepted by the District Leadership Committee.</p> <p>However, after the cut-off period for nominations, and prior to publication of this report, this 2nd candidate has subsequently withdrawn for personal reasons.</p>	



Role	Division K Director	
Name	Helen Madden	
Bio	<p>My primary reasons for joining East Coast Bays Toastmasters in 2007 were to overcome my fear of public speaking and to forge a sense of connection within the local community. However, within a few months, I was asked to join the Club Committee as Secretary and from then on I've never looked back. What I realised as I moved from one role to another within the committee, culminating in becoming Club President in 2010, was how much Toastmasters offers in terms of Leadership development. And it was when I took up the role of Club President that I felt a major shift of focus - away from what I could get out of Toastmasters for myself and towards a greater concern for the Club and each of our members; my desire being for members to get the most out of their Toastmasters experience and to feel supported and encouraged as they learnt and developed.</p> <p>Since my initial foray into Leadership at Toastmasters, I've gained more leadership experience through taking on management positions at the University of Auckland. I became a Research Programme Manager in 2021, where I managed a number of staff. And it was as a result of gaining this position, that I felt it important to be clear about my values as a leader. The values that underpin my leadership style are: Act with honesty and integrity; communicate clearly and directly; build and maintain collegial and collaborative working relationships; mentor team members; and always be authentic. Since I've worked as a Manager at the University, I have also had the opportunity to take on Leadership roles once again in Toastmasters. After rejoining the East Coast Bays Club committee in 2020, I moved up to become Club President for the second time in 2022-2023. And in my new-found confidence as a leader, I readily took up the opportunity to move into the role of K4 Area Director.</p> <p>Becoming an Area Director really increased my understanding of Toastmasters as an organisation and provided me with insight into how Toastmasters operates at a District level. I have now experienced firsthand the level of support and guidance which emanates from the top-down and would like to contribute to the organisation and its members to a greater degree. In my role as Area Director I have really enjoyed visiting clubs and learning more about the diverse club cultures and seeing the encouragement and support that is evident amongst members. I've also enjoyed collaborating with fellow Area Directors. Being able to share knowledge and advice has definitely contributed to my enjoyment of the role, and has contributed to our collective success. My focus as a Division Director next year will be on ensuring that Area Directors, club Presidents and club members in the Division feel connected, supported and encouraged to continue their own personal growth. I also hope to motivate Area and Club leaders to continue to develop their leadership skills further, thus ensuring the continuity of a strong District 112 Leadership team and infrastructure.</p>	



Role	Division L Director	
Name	Vacant	
Bio		




Role	Division M Director	
Name	Vacant	
Bio		



Role	Division N Director	
Name	Vacant	
Bio		



Role	Division O Director	
Name	Sandeep Kinge, DTM	
Bio	<p>Sandeep Kinge joined Toastmasters International in March 2013 in Navi Mumbai, India. Later that year, he moved to Qatar for better career opportunities and joined Doha Toastmasters Club. In his time at the Doha Toastmasters Club, he served as Sergeant At Arms, Vice President of Public Relations, and Vice President Education. After four years in Qatar, Sandeep moved to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and joined the UAE Advanced Toastmasters Club. He began his journey as Vice President Education again and played the role of Club President the following year. While in the UAE, Sandeep also took up the role of Area Director and a club coach.</p> <p>Recently, after five years in the UAE, Sandeep moved to New Zealand and joined Botany Toastmasters Club. He currently serves as the Vice President of Membership. Sandeep has completed Competent Communicator, Competent Leader, and Advanced Competent Leader from the old manuals. He has also completed three pathways from the new manual: Motivational Strategies, Dynamic Leadership, and Presentation Mastery. Earlier this year, Sandeep achieved his Distinguished Toastmaster (DTM) Award after successfully completing a Speechcraft programme in Auckland. Although it took him 11 years to achieve this accomplishment, Sandeep remains motivated to pursue his second DTM award in a shorter period of time. Learning from Toastmasters has helped him shape his career as well as improve his personal life. Sandeep is eager to learn more and more from the Toastmasters fraternity.</p>	




Role	Division P Director	
Name	Vacant	
Bio		



Role	Division Q Director	
Name	Vacant	
Bio		



Role	Division R Director	
Name	Meegan Herewini	
Bio	<p>Tēnā koutou. Ko Meegan Herewini toku ingoa. Greetings. My name is Meegan Herewini.</p> <p>I began my journey in 2019, in Auckland, in a small club by the name of Sunnynook Toastmasters. There I was lucky enough to be mentored by several passionate, caring, and experienced members.</p> <p>I have been a member of MITe Speakers Toastmasters, the Training & Coaching Online Club and Papakura Toastmasters Club. Each club has added to my Kete of knowledge, or basket of knowledge. Within these clubs I have taken on Executive Committee roles.</p> <p>In the 2021-2022 Toastmasters Year, I became the Area O4 Director. I loved my role, as it allowed me to meet so many members, and I was able to see how each Committee supported their clubs and its members. This role also gave me a taste for how the District, itself operates outside of club level.</p> <p>In the 2022-2023 Toastmasters Year, I became the Division L Director. I found this role challenging, because it involved leading, and not doing, which is not an easy concept for someone who is more hands on. However, with my team of Area Directors, and my fellow Division Director's, I came to understand what this role needed from me.</p> <p>Looking to my future in Toastmasters, I have come to realise that I need to take on another role to grow my knowledge further. I hail from the Horowhenua District, Levin to be more precise. For this reason, I chose to run for the Division R Directors role.</p> <p>Being a remote Division Director, will have its own set of challenges. However, being outside Auckland, is the challenge that most excites me. I am looking forward to learning a different way to be.</p> <p>Tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou katoa</p>	