

District 112 Director's Report – 7 March 2025

To all members and District officers in attendance at the online District Executive Meeting: 7 March 2025.

District Mission

The district's mission is to **build new clubs** and **support all clubs** in achieving excellence. All District activities are focused on achieving this mission.

District Purpose

The objective of District 112 is to improve the quality and performance of Toastmasters clubs within its boundaries, while expanding the network of member clubs. This will increase access to the Toastmasters educational program, allowing a larger number of individuals to benefit from Toastmasters.

District Vision for 2024/2025

The District's vision is to "**Build Membership Together**". This vision was built into our Marketing Plan, Communication Plan and our District Success Plan and is a part of all the decisions we have made. The purpose of this vision is to enable more New Zealanders to experience the benefits of becoming a Toastmaster.

Core Values in action

- 1. Respect Members are valued, especially their time.
 - Welcome to District 112 email sent to new members
 - Pathways induction workshop how to get started in Pathways around the 26th of each month
 - Dates of district events are published on our District Calendar
- 2. Service Members receive value for their membership.
 - Pathways new member's level one recognition
 - Promotion of triple crown pin and how to achieve one
 - All feedback was discussed and responded too
- 3. Excellence Quality clubs create excellence.
 - Club Officer training tools and resources to support clubs
 - Club Support Team experienced toastmasters were available to assist clubs when required
 - Travelled to support workshops, external training and visitations
 - Provide online training, support with the warmth of true Toastmasters fellowship

4. Integrity – Doing what we say.

- The Marketing team has been developed, and their work is in use by clubs
- The budget was designed with emphasis on Marketing to support membership growth

District Goals

The district goals set by Toastmasters International to be achieved by 30 June 2025 are:

- 1. Club Growth Goal 129 paid clubs
- 2. Membership Payments Goal 4509 membership payments
- 3. Distinguished Clubs Goal 52 distinguished clubs
- 4. District Officers trained Goal 100% (achieved)

District Success Plan

The strategic initiatives adopted in the District Plan were to focus on building membership, with emphasis on marketing to the public. We ensured that we also followed the District Mission for new clubs and achieving excellence for all.

How are we achieving these goals?

- Support members and clubs to increase Pathways adoption
- Club support programs
- Frequent promotion and marketing of Toastmasters, and I thank PRM Kenneth for her efforts

Year in review.

When reading this section, I would remind you that our vision is "Building Membership Together"

The year started in June 2024, with the training of Division Directors, and soon after the training of the Area Directors. At these meetings the concept of "<u>building membership</u>" together was explained, and everyone bought into this concept. We understood the dangers we were facing with low membership and the pending realignment. I find it very interesting that everyone came on board in support of the Trio and the direction we were taking. The Trio appreciates your support.

With the Trio training in Anaheim and various spheres of information that Toastmasters International Trainers imparted, we all found it a fascinating time providing us a greater scope of what our goals can and should be. Our Regional Advisor Stephen Budai was one of the trainers, and an excellent trainer indeed. Thank you, Stephen. As a Trio, we appreciated being given this amazing opportunity and will remember these trips forever. Attending the final of the World Championship of Public Speaking was a huge highlight for us. In fairness, every part was a highlight, and we appreciated that Toastmasters International (TI) also values the Trios of the world.

We returned from our in-person training and further enhanced our Club Officer Training (COT), with the convenience of online or hybrid for COT and other sessions. We read the Area Director visit reports and smiled at their honest and helpful reports. These have provided even more insights into some challenges, which we are able to address either in training or in person – and I thank our Program Quality Director (PQD) Marlene Krone and our Club Growth Director (CGD) Mark Tweedale for their positive approach in solving challenges. The Trio found their feet and are now an unstoppable force for the good of D112. We are a strong team in our support of each other, and to the goals we are working towards.

One thing stood out for me this year, and that is seeing Area and Division Directors working together for contests and council meetings. There is a lot of effort that goes into running these events, and from the events I have managed to attend, district officers should be very pleased with their efforts. Attendance for the Division contests was higher than in past years, and some divisions took it further and used these events as a marketing exercise – something I encourage others to do. There were also a few centenary celebrations, this being our 100yr of Toastmasters. Working together does make that task easier, and District did help with funding for the marketing aspect, which assisted in improving the quality of the contests.

Pathways, and the Basecamp structure can be daunting, especially for those who see it for the first time. The monthly workshops are reasonably well attended, and to our trainers under the leadership of PQD Marlene, I thank you for your efforts.

I understand that there are a handful of Toastmasters who do not promote Pathways to their new members, and I have a message for you. My concern is that when you take money from a person joining Toastmasters International, and do not provide them for what they have paid (Pathways), then it could be considered fraud. Everyone who pays their dues is entitled to get what they paid for, and Pathways is one of those items. Fortunately, this is a rare situation, but one that must be stamped out completely. On a positive note, the majority of our members do exercise integrity and respect, and I appreciate everyone who is doing the right thing. Thank you!

I have enjoyed and grown during my time as D112 District Director. I wish all in D112 every success.

Kind Regards 2024-2025 District Director Richard Perkins DTM <u>districtdirector@d112tm.org.nz</u>