



District Leader

Biographical Information

Candidate's Name: **Minard Tapawan**

Candidate's Office: **Club Growth Director** District Number: **60**

Toastmasters member since: **2017**

Education:

Law Clerk Diploma - Seneca College
Professional Designations:
- Microsoft Certification - Microsoft Certified Solutions Engineer (MCSE)
- ISC2 Certifications - Certified Information System Security Professional (CISSP), Certified Cloud Security Professional (CCSP)
- ISACA Certifications - Certified Information Systems Auditor (CISA), Certified Information Security Manager (CISM), Certified in Risk and Information Systems Control (CRISC)

Toastmasters offices held and terms of service:

District 60 - Division C Director 2020
District 60 - Area 25 Director 2019
Z3roDay Cybernauts Toastmasters Club - VP Education 2021, 2022
Royal Class Club - VP Education 2020
We The York - President 2017, 2019, VP Education 2017, 2018

Toastmasters honors and recognition:

Recognition Awards: Visiting Victor Award 2020
Recognition Awards: Area Online Ovation Silver Award 2020
Educational Award: Distinguished Toastmaster(DTM) 2020
Educational Award: Innovative Planning 5 (IP5) 2021
Educational Award: Pathways Mentor Program 2022
Educational Award: Motivational Strategies 5 (MS5) 2022

Relevant work experience and how it relates to Toastmasters and your role as a District leader:

Problem-solving, influencing and dispute resolution are typical in the Information and Cyber Security spectrum. It is my ability to align people to a specific goal and the ability to influence or seek a compromise when warranted that encapsulates my day to day. As such, these skills are translatable to the Club Growth Director Role. However, while being a Cyber Security Professional has quite an enumerable set of experiences applicable to this District leader role, my experiences as an Area Director and Division Director complement them. As Division Director, I applied my experiences as Area Director to expand the value-proposition to every member in Division C. By supporting clubs at ground level, establishing open lines of communication and committing to a 24 to 48-hour response time to any inquiry, I was able to help the Area Directors and club leaders in my division concentrate on the precise operation of their meetings and effective administration of their clubs.

What experience do you have in strategic planning?

Due to the ever-changing Cyber Security landscape, it is expected of me to keep abreast of new and emerging technologies. The ability to plan strategically is essential in terms of assessing and determining the current and future states of the environment. The application of my strategic planning skills and experience will help facilitate the goals of the District. This is especially important for CGD role as understanding the current state to craft the goals for the District's future state will provide the basis of retaining and expanding the clubs in District 60.

What experience do you have in the area of finance?

As a Cyber Security Professional for a major Financial Institution, it is my duty to ensure the high degree of Return on Investment (ROI) for the solutions I support and the solutions that I recommend for future planning. As such, budget reporting and forecasting often come into play.

As the Director of Tennis at a prominent Tennis Club in the East End, I am tasked to ensure the delivery of a quality tennis program within a specific and often limited budget. As such, I ensured that the expenses are commensurate with the program to be delivered. This includes tennis equipment, instructor hourly rates, first aid training, and contingency planning.

What experience do you have in developing procedures?

Developing procedures is essential in my professional capacities. As a Cyber Security professional, I create procedures that are commensurate to the audience to which I am targeting. This includes the type of language, the terminology, and the presentation of the procedures (jargon, graphics, and tone). From a Director of Tennis standpoint, I create instruction sets, set up guides, and scripts for my instructors to follow so that they can execute a successful lesson. As previously stated, the aforementioned requires specific language, terminology and presentation due to the specific audiences consuming these procedures (instructors and students).

What lessons did you learn from previous leadership positions?

Learnings from my terms as Club President, Area Director, and Division Director were abundant. The first lesson was putting oneself in the shoes of the member. It takes lots of personal time to prepare for each meeting. Whether it is executing a role or delivering a speech, everyone wants to do well by putting their best foot forward. Their efforts are the platform from which they will progress and serves as the source of inspiration from which others will learn. Secondly, perseverance is required should ideas and efforts end up not as successful as initially perceived. Finally, patience is paramount as the answers will not necessarily present themselves expeditiously, solutions may not yield their benefits immediately, and responses may not necessarily be timely as I was reliant on other people and their respective priorities.

Why do you want to serve as a District leader?

My motivations as a leader are bounded by empathy. Enduring a speech impediment for the majority of my life, I understand the fear and anxiety associated with public speaking. However, I chose to overcome my apprehensions to face the stigma of a debilitating stutter. It was through the tenets of Toastmasters that I am able to stand on my proverbial soap box to share my stories, opinions and experiences. I realize that my situation is not unique. However, I do know that there are people out there on the cusp of a life-improving decision. They just need an example to follow. That is why I continuously share my story. As a District leader I will embark on a ride bound by introspection, vulnerability, perseverance and courage alongside my fellow Toastmasters and those just waiting for that inspirational moment for them to finally embark on their public speaking journey.

In your opinion, what are the District mission's major objectives and how would you work to achieve them?

District 60's mission statement is: "We build new clubs and support all clubs in achieving excellence." In my opinion, the major objectives would be on ensure club sustainability and club growth. The best way to achieve this is to ensure that the clubs within the District feel supported and visible through the value-proposition espoused Toastmasters. Moreover, by establishing open lines of communication, emphasizing the importance of prompt responses, and employing empathy, clubs will be able to do the needful in their respective deliveries of quality club meetings. Finally, guiding the clubs through the adherence to the DCP as it is their definitive guide to how the club is performing and where it can stand to improve.

Additional information about yourself:

I am an Information Technology Professional with over two decades of experience. I build positive and collaborative relationships with Business Stakeholders and Technology Owners to achieve value-driven accomplishments. My certifications from industry-leading companies (Microsoft, ISACA, ISC2, and Cisco) span multiple disciplines in Information Technology, Information Security and Governance. It is my firm belief that talents, efforts and time should be shared for the improvement of our communities and the betterment of the public. As such, I am an avid supporter of charities for which I volunteer, campaign, and promote. As a proud member of Toastmasters, I have acquired and applied my experiences and learnings to accomplish the following:

- Started and Sponsored an Information Technology/Cyber Security centric Toastmasters club to bridge technical and business speak (to which I led to President's Distinguished status in its inaugural year)
- Led fundraising campaigns to raise the much-needed funds for several charities including the United Way, Hospital for Sick Children and MLSE Jumpstart
- Elected to the Board of Directors for the Rosedale Day School

If elected Club Growth Director, I will apply the empathy, inspiration, and motivation that compelled me to become a Toastmaster in the first place, to support District 60's clubs and the members that sacrifice their time day in and day out to become better speakers, writers, and presenters.