



TOASTMASTERS INTERNATIONAL NEWSLETTER

District 60 Division E News And Events

February 2020

What's Coming Up? Things you need to know!

Club Officer Training:
Lindsay, February 15th

Division E Contest
March 28th 2020

Division E Workshops
Watch our [Facebook Page](#) for details on these, coming this spring!

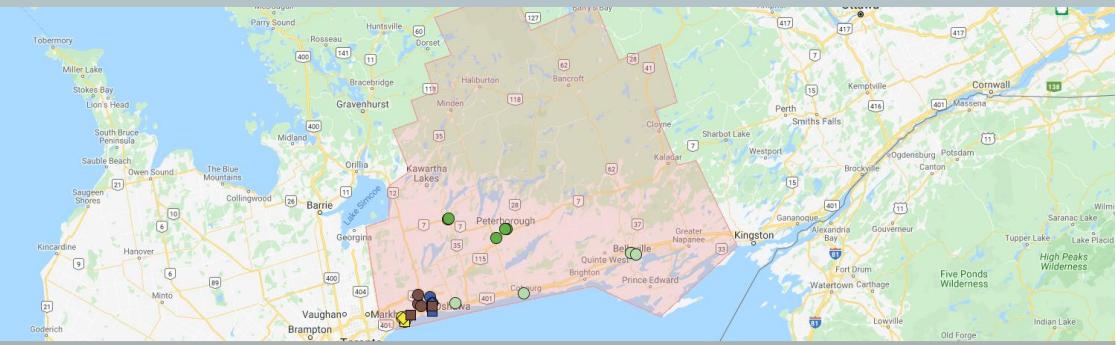
District 60 Conference
April 18th-19th 2020
<https://www.toastmasters60.com/annual-conference-2020/>
*If you're a Club President or Vice-President Education, your vote is needed at Saturday's business meeting!

International Conference
August 5th-8th 2020
<https://www.toastmasters.org/events/2020-international-convention>

Want to see what's happening nearby?
Check the
[District 60 Events Calendar](#)

There's a new kid in town - the District 60 Podcast!

Check it out at <https://www.buzzsprout.com/811460>. Do you know a regular every-day District 60 Toastmasters who might be a terrific guest for a podcast episode? Please send names along with a short blurb about their story to podcast@toastmasters60.com



Division E Director's Message

Welcome to our second newsletter! If you haven't had an opportunity to catch up on all of the exciting news and information from our first one in November, you can check it out here:

<https://www.toastmasters60.com/wp-content/uploads/November-2019-Division-E-Newsletter-1.pdf>. It's been an exciting year with new clubs and great potential for more to come, a dynamic leadership team, and plenty of interaction with local clubs. One of my favourite things is having an opportunity to speak with members, whether at training, workshops or at their club meeting. It's both important and interesting to understand what they love about their Toastmasters experience and where we as a leadership team might provide further support. If you haven't visited anywhere outside of your club, I'd encourage you to do so – attend a contest, visit another club, or volunteer for a district role!



Division Growth

Division E is growing! Welcome to our two newest clubs: Whitby Toastmaster Pros, chartered October 1, 2019, and Ontario TechU Toastmasters, chartered December 7th, 2019. Information and club kick-off sessions are also in process at Durham College and OPG Darlington with a hope of two new clubs there before the year's end. Do you know a company or area which would benefit from a Toastmasters club? Submit leads to the link on the left, or contact Kris Nelson directly with any questions!

Submit Club Leads Here:

<https://bit.ly/newleadsform>

Contest Season 2020

The International and Evaluation contest season is upon us, and by the time you see this newsletter, your club has already held a club-level contest, or has appointed a member to represent them in the upcoming Area Contests. Don't forget – while your Area Director is responsible for organizing the contest, your participation in sending contestants, providing a judge and other helpers, and supplying refreshments is a key part of the contest's success. To help, Division E recently offered a free Judges' Workshop in late January, and it was exciting to see so many attendees looking to learn and develop their skills as judges for upcoming contests. All of Division E's Area and Division contests are listed on the District 60 Events Calendar: <https://www.toastmasters60.com/d60-calendar/>. You'll want to attend your area contest to support your club's representative and get to know others in your area, and then to attend the Division E contest on March 28th for even more fun!



District Leadership – what's in it for you?

It's incredible how quickly a year passes, isn't it?

We've already passed the midpoint of the Toastmasters 2019-20 year, and that means that there will be openings for new leaders coming up for election or appointment at the April 2020 District 60 Conference. Are you interested in leadership for the coming year? Talk to your Area Director or myself

about opportunities for 2020-21, and see how stepping beyond the boundaries of your club can help you learn, grow, and make new friends in the process.

The [District Leadership Handbook](#) provides details on district leadership roles, but District 60 offers a variety of other opportunities as well. Check out the [District support team](#) to see what might best fit you.



Club Elections – thinking ahead

While we're thinking about the speedy passage of time, it's also a good time to start thinking about your club's plans for next year. Current club officer appointments will end on June 30th – does your executive already have some candidates in mind for these roles next year? Acting as a club officer is a great way to develop leadership skills in a "safe" environment, and to learn more about the Toastmasters world beyond your club. The [Club Leadership Handbook](#) provides details on club officer roles.



Supporting Our Clubs:

Part of my mandate this year has been to support clubs in both membership retention and in attracting new members. In our world, a digital presence and social media are a growing part of this, and a hands-on workshop on how to use these tools is under consideration by Division E's Webmaster and Public Relations Manager. Would you attend a hands-on workshop on social media and/or setting up and using your website? Would you prefer this in-person (bring your laptop/device), or through an online portal? Your feedback on this would be most appreciated – please reply me directly at krisnelson.tm@gmail.com.



Club Officer Training

Session 2 of Club Officer Training continues, and many clubs have already had four officers trained in each of Sessions 1 and 2 to achieve their Distinguished Club Program point for this! For those clubs who had seven officers trained in Session 1, your Area Directors will be visiting soon to hand out your travel mugs if they haven't done so already. The Session 2 prize for getting all officers trained is a Junior Padfolio – check out this and other District 60 incentives at <https://www.toastmasters60.com/2019-2020-incentives/>.

The planned Club Officer Training session on January 25th was cancelled due to weather concerns, and has been rescheduled for (February 15th) at the same time and location. If your club executives haven't yet received training, register now at <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/take2-division-e-club-officer-training-session-2-tickets-91620073105>. Still haven't found a session that works for your schedule but keen to be trained? Reach out to your Area Director or myself to talk about options and solutions.

Why is training so important?

One of the most rewarding moments in my Toastmasters career so far was teaching VP Education in at the main COT/TLI a couple of years ago. I was incredibly intimidated as I read my attendee list, and noticed a couple of extremely experienced Toastmasters there, but was also impressed that such tenured officers still felt there was something to learn from attending training for the umpteenth time. My greatest reward came from one of these experienced Toastmasters, who commented to district leadership that this was one of the best training sessions attended over many years of doing so.

Wow! If these very experienced Toastmasters still learn from Club Officer Training after so many years, chances are great that you can, too! While some serving officers may have been trained for these roles before, this remains an important area for your club's overall health.

Here's why:

- information about performing your role changes over time, and the recent introduction of Pathways has specifically affected several club officer roles
- you'll meet others performing your role in other clubs who may have experience or information of benefit to you, or who you may be able to help
- ensuring that at least 4 club officers are trained in each session is one of the easiest ways to guarantee your club an easy point in the Distinguished Club Program ("DCP"). This is an important measure of overall club health.

Distinguished Club Program

How's your club doing with its goals this year? There's a reason that the Distinguished Club Program exists, and it's not only for bragging rights as to who's been President's Distinguished three years in a row. The Distinguished Club Program provides a measure of club health – an important one.

Educational awards represent six of the ten points available towards distinguished achievement. If members are actively speaking and participating in club meetings, achieving at least two or three of these should be easy. If your club isn't achieving educational awards – why not? The Pathways program offers a variety of projects with options for new and experienced, young and old members alike in a variety of streams, and topics for Level 1 speeches are wide open. This is also the last year in which legacy program awards will be counted – does your club have members who are working to complete these before June 30th?

Membership awards represent two of the ten points available towards distinguished achievement. Is your club attracting new members? Member retention is important for stability, mentoring, and club health, but new members bring exciting ideas and enthusiasm into a club, and help to shake up that "we've always done it this way" mentality which can lead to stagnation.

Administration awards represent the final two of the ten points available towards distinguished achievement. This should be easy for every club – get your executive list in on time, pay your dues (for at least eight members) on time, and ensure that at least four of seven officers attend training twice each year. It's been said that if you mind the little things, the big ones will look after yourself, and these two points are a perfect example of this. A well organized club is probably also one which follows up with guests or missing members, encourages educational achievement, and reaches out often to the community... which brings us right back to the educational and membership awards. Isn't it amazing how that works?

Now – how does your club health measure up, and what will you do about it?

Pathways

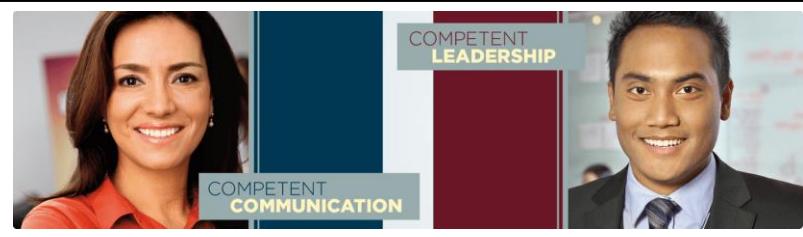
What's your path? Now that the full path is unlocked, have you checked out what's ahead? I know I have! Once you put learning in front of me, I am compelled to race towards it. Pathways is no exception, and while I still have occasional tech challenges, I've found all kinds of wonderful opportunities there. Opportunities to try things about which I've always been curious, such as blogs and podcasts, abound, and some of the Level Five projects really get my attention. I can't wait to do the Ethical Leadership project – there are so many areas in our society which could be discussed by such a panel. Did you work on more than one manual at a time in the legacy program, or do you find that you sometimes have speeches you want to give or practice which don't fit readily into a current higher-level path? In the same way that I always had a Competent Communicator manual 'on the go', I now keep a Level One on the go. For me, this means I'm currently working on three paths, but it provides me with the open road that fits my many unexpected speaking opportunities.

If you haven't already had an in-depth look to see what Pathways has to offer you, what are you waiting for? For Pathways help or questions, our Pathways Chair Tony Nelson and his team of ambassadors are glad to assist – just email Tony at irish1277@gmail.com. You can also ask your mentor or a club officer for assistance, or reach out to your Area Director or myself for more help.



What's still needed for your legacy designation?

Are you still working on a legacy designation? June 30th is coming up quickly, and it can seem overwhelming to look at what's left in order to earn your DTM or other designation in time. Good news: there's help! If you need speaking opportunities, District 60's Stagetime can assist <https://www.toastmasters60.com/stagetime/>. Connecting with other clubs is also a great way to find new opportunities – some clubs have availability for extra speeches either regularly or occasionally. Please feel free to also post on the Division E Facebook page if you're looking for opportunities or speakers locally. With so many new clubs springing up, mentor and sponsor opportunities are also available – contact your Area Director or myself about support to help you achieve your goals!



Realignment in 2021

You may have heard that our own District 60 and our neighbouring District 86 have both grown extensively since the last District realignment in 2008. As a result, on July 1st, 2021, the two districts will split into three, and Division E will become a part of the new District 123. For the 2020-21 year, our division boundaries will remain constant, and divisions in the new district will be reviewed again for the 2021-22 year. Information from Toastmasters International about the realignment is available here: <https://www.toastmasters60.com/district-reformation/>.

Resources

Division E web page

Helpful web and social media information, contacts, and more!

<https://www.toastmasters60.com/division-e-2/>

www.toastmasters.org

If you're looking for information on education, contests, or more, it's probably here!

Looking for help? Contact:

Kris Nelson, Division E Director
krisnelson.tm@gmail.com

Daniel Doberstein, Area 42 Director
dan159aa@gmail.com

Julita Jaworski, Area 43 Director
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Jennifer Magee, Area 45 Director
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Tony Nelson, District 60 Pathways Chair
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Looking forward to a spectacular 2020!
Division E Director,

Kris Nelson.