



Candidate Statement for Gavin Hyslop - Club Growth Director 2020/21

The 2020/21 Toastmasters Year will be a challenging year as we work with the impacts of COVID 19 on our clubs and members, many of whom are struggling with uncertainty, impacts on employment and income, meeting in an online environment with diminished social contact and networking, as well as the loss of members.

We all want our clubs and members to thrive, grow and meet their communication and leadership goals.

The District Officers play an important role in supporting the clubs to help their members and to grow clubs, and the Club Growth Director is a key role in providing that support within the District Team.

I believe that I have the skills and experience to be the Club Growth Director in what will be a challenging but exciting year.

Typically, the District Team has developed a plan for the year and then implemented that plan, making minor adjustments along the way. However, 2020/21 will be different with the District Team, needing to adjust an environment that will be a lot more dynamic and changing to past years. It will require us all to be reactive to a changing environment and responding to those changes while being supportive of our current members and clubs, and to encourage them to develop new skills and promote these new skills to the broader community to gain new members.

Working as a project manager and development manager in the property industry for more than 20 years, I have been regularly involved in these types of changing environments; when things don't go to plan and you make changes; when things arise that you had not anticipated and you need to adjust. Working on projects, you still have a plan and goals you need to achieve and when things don't go to plan, you need to adjust the plan so that the goals are still achieved.

Working on large and, small scale projects has required me to work as a leader and as a team member, using my leadership and communication skills. Skills that are transferable and essential for the role as Club Growth Director.

Within Toastmasters, I have also developed my communication and leadership skills over the 10 years I have been a member. I have undertaken most club officer roles and have been an Area Director and Division Director over the past 3 years, as well as project managing all the logistics for the 2018/19 Conference, which was a massive task and a fantastic success.

I want to be the Club Growth Director because I want to make a difference to all the clubs, members and future members and I believe that I have the skills and experience needed for the role in what will be challenging times in 2020/21.

I hope that I can call on your support in the Club Growth Director elections and then in 2020/21 as we all work to help our clubs and members grow.

Gavin Hyslop 08 May 2020
Central Division Director 2019/20

