



District 86 Toastmasters

District Committee Meeting #1, 2025-2026

Meeting Minutes

September 15, 2025, 9:00 am
Zoom Virtual Meeting

Chair: District Director, Bhushan Rele, DTM
Recording Secretary: Administration Manager Myrna Barthe, DTM, PDD
Parliamentarian: Iona Rodricks, DTM, PDD

7:34 p.m.	<p>Call to Order: Logistics Manager, Parveen Johal, DTM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading of the TI Mission and District Mission • Review of Standing Rules • Leadership Quote <p>Introduction of District Director: District Logistics Manager, Parveen Johal</p>														
7:40 p.m.	<p>Welcome – Opening Remarks: District Director Bhushan Rele, DTM Program Quality Director - Jeff Burroughs, DTM, and Club Growth Director – Bill Kirby, DTM</p>														
7:45 p.m.	<p>Credentials Committee Report – Credentials Committee Chair, Nicole Holas, DTM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Credentials Chair reported that registration is now closed. Responsibilities of the position, how the quorum was established and who could vote were reviewed. <table border="1" data-bbox="349 1129 1019 1373"> <tr> <td>Active Club Presidents and VP Eds</td> <td>199</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Quorum (1/3 club votes)</td> <td>67</td> </tr> <tr> <td># of Club Ballots Issued</td> <td>136</td> </tr> <tr> <td># of District Ballots Issued</td> <td>17</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total Ballots Issued</td> <td>153</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Simple Majority</td> <td>77</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2/3 Majority</td> <td>102</td> </tr> </table> <p>Approval of the Credentials Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Motion made by Area L54 Director David T. Shaw, DTM and seconded by Anne Dockeray, DTM, IPDD to approve the Credentials Report as presented. By a show of hands, 65 voted in favour and 1 opposed. Carried <p>District Director Bhushan Rele, DTM announced that we have met quorum.</p>	Active Club Presidents and VP Eds	199	Quorum (1/3 club votes)	67	# of Club Ballots Issued	136	# of District Ballots Issued	17	Total Ballots Issued	153	Simple Majority	77	2/3 Majority	102
Active Club Presidents and VP Eds	199														
Quorum (1/3 club votes)	67														
# of Club Ballots Issued	136														
# of District Ballots Issued	17														
Total Ballots Issued	153														
Simple Majority	77														
2/3 Majority	102														
7:54 p.m.	<p>Review Meeting Protocols – District Parliamentarian, Iona Rodericks, DTM, PDD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explained Parliamentary Procedure • Parliamentary Authority: Robert’s Rules of Order • Basic Definitions, Processing a Motion, How to Obtain the Floor and When to Speak 														
8:00 p.m.	<p>District Director, Bhushan Rele, DTM</p> <p>Adoption of Agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Motion made by Area L51 Director Mary Helwig-Hall, DTM and seconded by Harold Usher, DTM President Thames Valley #3726 to adopt the Agenda as presented. Unanimous. Carried. 														

Approval of Minutes

- Motion made by Division E Director Joshua Quilatan and seconded by Anja Gangur, President Speed River Toastmasters #5754632 to approve the District Committee Meeting minutes of April 22 and 24, 2025, as presented. Unanimous. Carried.

Assignment of New Clubs

- No new clubs to assign

Confirmation of District Leader Appointments

- **Chairs and Managers**

Chris Moses	Public Relations Manager	EH5
Cynthia Ayres	Finance Manager	DTM
Myrna Barthe	Administration Manager	DTM, PDD
Iona Rodricks	Parliamentarian	DTM, PDD
Parveen Johal	Logistic Manager	DTM
Nicole Holas	Credentials Chair	DTM
Cathy Herschell	Alignment Chair	DTM, PDD
Sylvette Mahoney	Audit Chair	DTM
Dulce Ruiz Padilla	Webmaster	PM3

- **Division C**

Xiao Dong Zhu	Division Director - C
Gosia Siuda	Area Director - C41
Linda Huang	Area Director - C42
Shreenidhi Anantharam	Area Director - C43
Dorota Polonska	Area Director - C44

- **Division D**

Sana Qalbani	Division Director - D
Andy Kar	Area Director – D81
Youselee Joseph	Area Director – D82
Disha Patel	Area Director – D83
Mannan Mohammed	Area Director – D84

- **Division E**

Joshua Quilatan	Division Director - E
Bushra Haqqi	Area Director – E01
Harish Shroff	Area Director – E02
Richard Robart-Morgan, DTM	Area Director – E03
Kannan Gopal	Area Director – E04

- **Division L**

Ryan Kaupert, DTM	Division Director - L
Mary Helwig-Hall, DTM	Area Director – L51
Brenda Toth	Area Director – L52
Rachael LeBlanc	Area Director – L53
David T Shaw, DTM	Area Director – L54

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Division S <table border="1" data-bbox="370 138 1219 315"> <tr><td>Lakshmi Gannavarpu</td><td>Division Director - S</td></tr> <tr><td>Maksim Faronov</td><td>Area Director – S71</td></tr> <tr><td>John Humphrey</td><td>Area Director – S72</td></tr> <tr><td>Jimmy Chien</td><td>Area Director – S73</td></tr> <tr><td>Dulce Ruiz Padilla</td><td>Area Director – S74</td></tr> </table> Division T <table border="1" data-bbox="370 384 1219 560"> <tr><td>Randy Moore, DTM</td><td>Division Director - T</td></tr> <tr><td>Ankur Thakur</td><td>Area Director – T91</td></tr> <tr><td>Jesse McKnight</td><td>Area Director – T92</td></tr> <tr><td>Mayank Mandhare</td><td>Area Director – T93</td></tr> <tr><td>Vince Hall</td><td>Area Director – T94</td></tr> </table> Motion made by Gillian Sheldon, DTM President Grimsby Toastmasters and seconded by Joanne Osborne, President Hospitable Club #8992 to confirm the District Appointments as presented. By a show of hands, 74 voted in favour and 0 opposed. Carried 	Lakshmi Gannavarpu	Division Director - S	Maksim Faronov	Area Director – S71	John Humphrey	Area Director – S72	Jimmy Chien	Area Director – S73	Dulce Ruiz Padilla	Area Director – S74	Randy Moore, DTM	Division Director - T	Ankur Thakur	Area Director – T91	Jesse McKnight	Area Director – T92	Mayank Mandhare	Area Director – T93	Vince Hall	Area Director – T94
Lakshmi Gannavarpu	Division Director - S																				
Maksim Faronov	Area Director – S71																				
John Humphrey	Area Director – S72																				
Jimmy Chien	Area Director – S73																				
Dulce Ruiz Padilla	Area Director – S74																				
Randy Moore, DTM	Division Director - T																				
Ankur Thakur	Area Director – T91																				
Jesse McKnight	Area Director – T92																				
Mayank Mandhare	Area Director – T93																				
Vince Hall	Area Director – T94																				
	<p>Audit Committee Report - 2024-2025 Audit Committee Chair Rosario Estela. Anne Dockeray, DTM, IPDD Presenting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Audit Report submission <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Commitments ➤ Comments and Recommendations Committee Members <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Rosario Estela, Audit Committee Chair ➤ Fabiola Cleofa, DTM, PDD, Audit Committee Member ➤ Irfan Usman, Audit Committee Member Contact Information 																				
	<p>2025-2026 Budget: Finance Manager Cynthia Ayres, DTM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The District has a total revenue of \$137,190 and total expenses of \$136,912 for a balance of \$278 <p>Approval of the District Budget</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Motion made by Harold Usher, President Thames Valley Club #3726 and seconded by Area L51 Director Mary Helwig-Hall, DTM to approve the District 86 Budget for the 2025-2026 Toastmasters year as presented. By a show of hands, 100 voted in favour, 0 opposed. Carried. 																				
8:35 p.m.	<p>District Officer Progress Reports:</p> <p>Finance Manager Report - Finance Manager – Cynthia Ayres, DTM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reviewed Profit and Loss Statement – June 30, 2025 Reviewed Balance Sheet – June 30, 2025 																				
	<p>Public Relations Report – Public Relations Manager, Chris Moses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Projects working on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ E-mails mapping and updates ➤ District 86 Website updates ➤ Newsletter new look and exploring a new platform for cost savings ➤ PR Workshops 																				

- Media Outreach
- Social Media
- YouTube
- AI Integration
- Meetup
- District event promotions

- **Team Members**

- Graphic Design Coordinator – Ramanujam Raghavan
- Meetup Coordinator – Cheryl Rankin
- Social Media (Internal) – Shubh Karam
- Social Media (Public) – Wayne Kuhn, DTM
- YouTube & Video Production Coordinator – Randy Moore, DTM
- AI Integration Coordinator – Shane Castle
- Webmaster & Blog Coordinator – Dulce Ruiz
- Newsletter Coordinator – Carley Moore
- Press Release Coordinator – Jorge Meneses
- **Searching for a District Photographer**

Club Growth Director Report – Club Growth Director, Bill Kirby, DTM

- Reviewed the results for the 2025-2026 Toastmasters year-to-date
- Reviewed CGD Goals
 - Goal 1 – Membership Payments
 - Annual Membership Renewals
 - Club Coaches
 - Events: Open House, Special Events & Speechcraft
 - Past Members & In-active Members
 - Marketing Clubs
 - Build Quality Clubs through Training
 - Club mentoring
 - Tracking through Distinguished Club Program
 - Recognizing with Membership Incentives
 - **Base:** 4,197 payments
 - **To Date:** 1,635 payments received YTD (Sept. 10)
 - **Growth Targets:**
 - Distinguished: 4,239
 - Select Distinguished: 4,323
 - President's Distinguished: 4,407
 - Smedley Distinguished: 4,533
 - Goal 2 – Club Growth
 - **Paid Clubs**
 - **Base:** 100 clubs
 - **To Date:** 100 clubs (no net change yet)
 - **Goals per Recognition Tier:**
 - Distinguished: 101
 - Select Distinguished: 103
 - President's Distinguished: 105
 - Smedley Distinguished: 108
- Reviewed Prospect Clubs in the pipeline
- Reviewed Statistics
- **CGD Team**
 - Club Extension Chair – Tova Gaisin, DTM

- Club Mentor Chair – Sharon Jenkins
- Gavel Club/YLP Chair – Madan Chauhan
- Club Coach Chair – Francoise Bowen
- CGD Sub Committee – Marketing – Nissrine Ghannoum
- CGD Sub Committee – Workshops & Training – Yushika Abeysiri-Gunawardhana
- Moments of Truth Ambassador – Sunil Do Rego
- Club Retention Chair – Aurie Contosta
- Open House Chair – Bijay Mainali
- Speechcraft Chair – **TBD**

- **TI and Taxes**

- Effective August 4th HST became chargeable on all TI transactions

- **TI and Dues**

- Dues are due by September 30th
- New member fee will increase from \$20USD to **\$25USD** on October 1st

- **Opportunity to Save**

- Convert guests to members in September and save \$5USD on the new member fee
- Encourage members to join until September 30th 2026
- Combine TI store purchases with clubs in your area to save on freight

- **What can you do?**

- Host quality meetings
- Onboarding of new members
- Provide club leads
- Focusing your energy is vital to engagement
- Schedule a Moments of Truth meeting
- Schedule and open-house event
- Grow your membership with speechcraft
- Complete club visits early (Area Directors)
- Attend training events
- ASK FOR HELP

Program Quality Director Report – Program Quality Director, Jeff Burroughs, DTM

- **Reviewed**

- Dashboard and Current Year Base
- Distinguished Club Goals (To Date – Sept 6)
- Education Awards Submitted
- Club Officer Training
- Success Plan Submission
- 1-Day Live Event - November 29
 - Conestoga Banquet Hall – 617 King St N, Waterloo
 - Keynote Speaker – Roger Caesar, DTM [3rd Place @ 2021 World Championship of Public Speaking]
 - Tickets: TBA (Limited Spots Available)

- **Humorous Speech Contest**

- Club Level: Sept 1 - Oct 11 (Any format, In-Person, Hybrid, Virtual)
- Area Level: Oct 12 - Oct 31 (In Person Only)
- Division Level: Nov 1 - Nov 14 (In Person Only)
- District Level: Nov 29 (In Person Only)

- **Table Topics Contest**

- Club Level: Jan 1 - Feb 14 (Any format, In-Person, Hybrid, Virtual)
- Area Level: Feb 15 - March 14 (In Person Only)
- Division Level: March 15 - April 11 (In Person Only)
- District Level: May 2 & 3 (In Person Only)

- **International Speech Contest**
 - Club Level: Jan 1 - Feb 14 (Any format, In-Person, Hybrid, Virtual)
 - Area Level: Feb 15 - March 14 (In Person Only)
 - Division Level: March 15 - April 11 (In Person Only)
 - District Level: May 2 & 3 (In Person Only)

- **2026 Spring Conference Details:**
 - Tentative Dates:
 - Virtual Meeting – Reports - April 28, 2026
 - Virtual Meeting – Elections - April 30, 2026

 - **Dates:** May 2 & 3, 2026
 - City: London, Ontario

 - Conference Location:**
 - Four Points Sheraton
 - 1150 Wellington Rd.
 - London, ON

- **PQD Incentives** – were presented

District Director Report – District Director, Bhushan Rele, DTM

- **Reviewed**
 - Area Director recruitment
 - Appointees submitted Aug 31
 - Area and Division Training
 - District Plans Due Sept 30
 - District Success Plan, Communications Plan – submitted
 - District Marketing Plan – Ready for submission
 - International candidate interviews completed
 - District 86 website: ongoing
 - Club Visit Reports Submitted as of Sept 10, 2025
 - Division Directors
 - Review Area Success Plans
 - Complete Division Success Plans
 - Review Area Success Plans
 - Complete Division Success Plans
 - Plan and conduct Speech Contests
 - Trio - Division Success Plans & Division Council Meetings

 - Area Directors
 - Follow-up Club Success Plan submissions
 - Official Club Visit Reports
 - Area Council Meeting
 - Speech Contests

 - District 86 ACE of the Year Award – Community and Corporate

Immediate Past District Director Report – IPDD Anne Dockeray, DTM – Presented by District Director Bhushan Rele, DTM

- **District 86 Of The Year Awards 2024-2025 Report**
 - Member Making a Difference (MMAD) Award

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Spirit of District 86 ➤ Area Director of the Year Award ➤ Division Director of the Year Award ➤ Publicist of the Year Award ➤ Zoom Master of the Year Award ➤ Cindy Tate Toastmaster of the Year Award ➤ Club Coach of the Year Award ➤ Peter Crabtree President of the Year Award ➤ Tony Bratschitsch Club of the Year Award <p>toastmasters86.org/nominations-2024-2025-of-the-year-awards/</p>
8:58 p.m.	<p>New Business – District Director Bhushan Rele, DTM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2026 Spring Conference Details: 2026 Spring Conference Co-Chair, Anja Gangur <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Tentative Dates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Virtual Meeting – Reports - April 28, 2026 Virtual Meeting – Elections - April 30, 2026 ➤ In Person Dates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> May 2 & 3, 2026 Four Points Sheraton, 1150 Wellington Rd., London, ON
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • District Council April 2026 Business Meeting Date Evening of Tuesday, April 28, 2026 - (Business Reporting) and Evening of Thursday, April 30, 2026 - (District Election) • Motion made by IPDD Anne Dockeray, DTM and seconded by Area L51 Director Mary Helwig-Hall, DTM, to hold the District Council Annual Meeting the evening of Tuesday, April 28, 2026 (Reporting) and Thursday, April 30, 2026 (Election). By a show of hands, 64 in favour, 0 opposed. Carried.
	<p>Additional New Business – District Director Bhushan Rele, DTM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Regional Realignment 2026-2027 Additional Districts were amalgamated into Region 5 effective 2026-2027 • 2025-2026 Elected Board of Directors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ International President: Aletta Rochat, DTM ➤ International President-Elect: Stefano McGhee, DTM ➤ First Vice President: Gauri Seshadri, DTM ➤ Second Vice President: Jean Gamester, DTM ➤ Immediate Past International President: Radhi Spear, DTM ➤ International Directors: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Region 1: Michael Bown, DTM • Region 5: Chris Raneri, DTM • Region 5: Andrew Horberry, DTM • Region 7: Ramona Baylor, DTM • Region 9: Hani Nur Zaihanirah Zaini, DTM • Region 11: Patrick Oluyide, DTM • Region 13: Suganthi Periasamy, DTM • 2026 Toastmasters International Convention <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Vancouver, Canada – August 19-22
9:06 p.m.	<p>Announcements – District Director, Bhushan Rele, DTM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Club Success Plan – All clubs must submit their Club Success Plan in Club Central by

	<p>September 30 to be eligible for Distinguished status.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Membership Renewals – Club Officers, please ensure membership term renewals for October–March are submitted in Club Central or by Invoice that reaches Toastmasters International before September 30. • Important Events <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 1-Day Live Event - November 29 – Humorous Speech Finals, Of The Year Awards and Keynote Speech - Conestoga Banquet Hall – 617 King St N, Waterloo ➤ District 86 Spring Conference – April 28 to May 3 – International Speech and Table Topics District Finals, Keynotes, Workshops, Food and Fun – In-person May 2-3, 2026 at Four Points Sheraton, 1150 Wellington Rd., London, ON
9:10 p.m.	<p>Adjournment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Motion made by Division E Director Joshua Quilatan to adjourn the DCM meeting • Meeting adjourned at 12:10 pm
	<p>Next DCM Meeting: April 28 and 30, 2026</p>

DRAFT