



# District Leader

## Biographical Information

Candidate's Name: **Rebekah Atkinson**

Candidate's Office: **Division Director** District Number: **100**

Toastmasters member since: **2019**

### Education:

**BA/History (Nyack College, NY) MA/Anthropology (Biola University, LA)**

### Toastmasters offices held and terms of service:

**VPM ('19, '22) VPE ('21, '23-24) Secretary ('22) President ('21, '22)  
Area Director 2021-2022, 2022-2023, 2023-2024**

### Toastmasters honors and recognition:

**International Speech Competition District Contest 2nd place, 2020. ISC Division winner  
2021. Transformational Interactie Experience Award D100 2021-2022. Quarterly Leader of the Pack /  
AD award Spring '22.**

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

**Designed / implemented curriculum as well as training programs, event and conference planning.**

### What experience do you have in strategic planning?

**Love to work in collaborative groups with problems solvers. Synergy goes well with a variety of  
experience and insight, while navigating a balance between things that are traditional/tried and true  
and new ideas. Should always be a somewhat fluid and malleable process, complete with clear  
communication to get everyone in sync.**

### What experience do you have in the area of finance?

**Some accounting, not my favorite area of focus, but will do what needs to be done in that  
department.**

What experience do you have in developing procedures?

I do not have any formal experience with developing procedures, but I will work toward anything that will make things easier to understand, implement, and execute for members and clubs, especially if this makes the Toastmaster experience easier, smoother, and beneficial to the growth of the individual member.

What lessons did you learn from previous leadership positions?

There is wisdom in experience, so surrounding oneself with those who have experience from both success and failures is extremely important. Listening to the ideas of others and finding middle ground is important for unity, and clear and consistent communication gels everything together.

Why do you want to serve as a District leader?

Although I have found it challenging to serve in a volunteer-based non-profit, it really has helped me learn new leadership skills as well as (hopefully) make a difference in the lives of our members and positively impact their toastmaster experience. I want to continue to learn how to be a more effective leader and be a part of making our district distinguished.

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

I believe in supporting our clubs in achieving excellence. Club meetings are impacted by the leadership of the club and members who are invested in growing and utilizing Pathways. Finding effective mentors/coaches and bringing hands-on training to our clubs can achieve this along with building and mentoring new clubs, ensuring we continue and succeed as a District.

Additional information about yourself:

My leadership style tends to approach most things from a very light-hearted stance with the belief that what we do should be fun on some level. Our time is measured in moments, and therefore curating memorable moments for ourselves and others creates impact and memories! I make this intentional in my own life as well as with those I am leading, so anything fun falls into my expertise :-)