

Hello fellow District 18 members,

There's no easy way to say this, but on August 3rd, 2023, I informed our District Director AnnMarie Givans, DTM of my intention to resign from the Program Quality Director leadership role.

When I first applied to run for Club Growth Director in January 2022, I was employed in a junior level role in my professional career. Striving to climb the corporate ladder, I saw a life changing opportunity to run for a trio leadership position hoping to obtain a bird's eye view of how to lead at the executive level. In April 2022, I was honored to be voted in as our district Club Growth Director for the 2022-2023 program year. This role challenged me to think about the bigger picture, how to grow the district by adding new clubs, how to retain existing clubs and more importantly, how to lead with empathy. Without question, the experiences I obtained as Club Growth Director led me to be promoted in February 2023 in my professional career. I owe both toastmasters and the amazing people who I've interacted and worked closely with in our district to this career milestone.

With all promotions comes more responsibilities. I now find myself in a position where I can no longer give 100% effort to both my professional career and to the Program Quality Director role. I only believe in placing 100% effort into every task I am responsible for. Therefore, I made one of the hardest decisions in my life to step away from the trio.

Our district is great hands with Saurabh Tiwari, DTM. He has a true passion for toastmasters and empowering people to reach their maximum potential. Without question, I know he will make an excellent Program Quality Director and my hope is for him to be officially voted in during our Fall Business Meeting. Please pour all your support towards Saurabh as he begins his trio leadership journey.

I'll still be around in the district. Feel free to reach out me via the following communication channels and it's been a true honor to be graced the opportunity to serve as your 2022-2023 Club Growth Director and 2023 Program Quality Director.

**Sincerely,
Wesley Gibbs**

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/wesley-gibbs-b565b2b6/>