



2017-2018 Club Visits

Dear Club President,

It is an honour to be in my position to work with a strong group of Club Presidents to Make a Difference in our communities, the district and the world. I'm excited about visiting your club and meeting your board and members.

During my club visit, I'd like to:

1. Present my views of the Rotary International theme "Making a Difference" and describe strategies and resources for supporting our clubs.
2. Review the Rotary Citation and Lighthouse Award – recognition that your club may wish to earn.
3. Promote the District Conference, October 27-29 at White Oaks Resort in Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON.
4. Recognize your club's unsung heroes who benefit your club and your community. **Please share their names, along with a brief outline of their efforts, by August 1, 2017.**

During my meeting with your board, I'd like to:

1. Have a candid discussion about what you see as the most significant challenges/opportunities and how the District could provide helpful support.
2. Share your community service projects and their impact.
3. Interact with the board during the reports and the open discussions.

Your Assistant Governor will introduce me prior to my presentation at your club meeting. Please avoid scheduling other speakers for this day and allow 25-30 minutes for my talk. I will be using PowerPoint slides, bringing my laptop computer and projector. Please arrange for a projection screen for me and **confirm in advance that a screen will be available.**

If you'd like me to participate in special presentations, such as Paul Harris Fellow recognition or inducting a new member, I would be most pleased. **Let me know in advance, so I am prepared.**

To recap, please send the following information **at least two weeks** prior to my club visit:

1. A list of your club's achievement over the past year.
2. The names of club members you'd like me to recognize and the reasons.
3. Whether or not a projector screen is available.
4. Any special presentations you wish me on your behalf.

If you have any questions, please let me know. I'll confirm 10 days prior to my visit whether my wife and aide, Loretta will be attending.

Working together, we can Make a Difference!

Following is the list of District 7090 guidelines for the annual official District Governor visit, which has been developed over the years.

Guidelines for the Official Visit

Part of the rich history of Rotary is the annual Official Visit to each club by its District Governor. This tradition is repeated every year in each of the over 34,000 Rotary clubs worldwide. The District Governor is elected to a one year term of office by representatives of the district. During that one special year in the Governor's life, he or she serves as the one officer of Rotary International in the district and directly represents the President of Rotary International. The guidelines below are offered to assist clubs in preparing for and executing the Official Visit in a professional manner worthy of the Rotary tradition.

Guideline 1 – Pay attention to the visit schedule.

Remember that the Governor has a tight schedule for visiting the 67 clubs in the district plus the other official duties of the office.

Guideline 2 – Stay in touch with your Assistant Governor.

The Assistant Governor is responsible for coordinating the Official Visit details between the Governor and the club. The AG should be consulted if there are any questions by the club. It is better to ask than to guess.

Guideline 3 – Plan for extra time before or after the visit to handle related activities.

Your Governor will meet with the club board immediately before or after the Official Visit. You may wish to take the Governor on a tour of the community to see the club's projects in the community. Be sure to coordinate this with the Governor in advance.

Guideline 4 – Invite partners to the official visit.

Rotary is a family oriented activity and in this district the Governor's partner often accompanies the Governor on the Official Visit. Partners of club members are always welcome at meetings, especially by the Governor's partner. You may wish to confirm whether the Governor's partner will be accompanying him/her.

Guideline 5 – Club members should plan on arriving early for the Official Visit.

All club members, especially the President, should plan on arriving at the meeting at least 15 minutes early on the official visit date. This will give the Governor and his/her partner an opportunity to meet the Rotarians in a relaxed, social setting. The club President should always arrive early enough to welcome the Governor and Assistant Governor.

Guideline 6 – Make sure the Governor, Assistant Governor and their partners have a place to sit.

During the meal, the President, the Governor, the Assistant Governor and their partners should all be seated together and served first. A head table is optional and is not necessary if that is not the club's normal set up.

Guideline 7 – Recognize the nation of the Governor.

This district is fortunate to span two great countries. Make sure that both flags are displayed proudly in the meeting room. The flag of the club's country should be displayed left (as viewed from the

audience) of the flag of the other country If the club traditionally sings its national anthem before the meeting and the visiting Governor is from the other country, sing both anthems. Do the members a favor and have the words to the other country's anthem available.

Guideline 8 – Do the official toast correctly.

If the club wishes to offer a toast before the meeting, here are the official toasts: "A toast to the Queen and Canada"; "A toast to the Office of the President of the United States;" and "A toast to Rotary International". Respectfully offer the toast to the visiting country first (that is, the Governor's country) followed by the home country. If individuals from other countries are present, typically an exchange student, the head of state of that country is often toasted as well. Remember, the toast is optional. If it is going to be done, make sure everyone has a beverage to toast with, even if it is only water.

Guideline 9 – The Governor is the program speaker for the Official Visit.

This seems obvious but surprisingly enough some clubs have been known to schedule another speaker on the day of the official visit. Allow the Governor 25 to 30 minutes to speak. This can be particularly tricky for breakfast and lunch clubs which run on a tight schedule. The President may elect to waive other business on this day.

Guideline 10 – The President introduces the Assistant Governor, the AG introduces the Governor.

The biography of the Governor is available on the district website. Be sure to ask the AG for his/her bio in advance of the meeting.

Guideline 11 – Someone should be appointed to thank the Governor.

The President or other member should thank the Governor following his/her speech. Presentation of a small gift is optional. Our recent governors have asked and suggested a presentation of a commitment or a check to The Rotary Foundation as a much appreciated thank you.

The most important guideline is to treat the Governor, the Assistant Governor and their partners as you would a guest in your own home. Make the Governor feel welcome and show that you respect and appreciate the time he/she gives to the role of Governor.



Reg Madison
District Governor
DG 2017 - 2018

Reg, born and educated in Alberta, moved to Ontario in 1962. After broadcasting for 13 years, he joined Mutual Life of Canada in 1970. After 43 years in the financial services business, he retired in 2012.

Reg joined the Rotary Club of Brantford Sunrise in 2003 and became their Club president in 2009/2010. He has served his district in many capacities:

- Assistant Governor from 2010 to 2013 and District Conference Chair in 2013.
- 2 years as co-chair Assistant Governor Development and a year as co-chair of Club Leadership Training.
- He's a trained facilitator and graduate of the Rotary Leadership Institute.
- Reg is a three-time Paul Harris Fellow and a member of the Paul Harris Society. He and Loretta became members of the Bequest Society in 2009.
- They have attended 8 Rotary International Conventions and have hosted 5 youth exchange students.

Reg and Loretta are the proud parents of three sons, three daughters and have eight grandchildren. He enjoys family, travel, golf, curling, spectator sports, cooking and music. He's been giving back to his community for years now, including:

- 20 years coaching minor baseball and hockey, including winning 5 provincial championships.
- 23 years chairing the Brant Country Organ Donor Bonspiel.
- Past president of the Lung Association, Brantford General Hospital Foundation, and the Brantford Golf and Country Club.
- Currently co-chair of the David Hearn Golf Classic for the benefit of the Alzheimer's Society.
- In 1998 he established a single malt tasting club with 22 members. The chapter now boasts more than 250 members who enjoy gourmet meals paired to fine whisky every two months.