



Hello Rotarians.

This is a joint District 9500/9520 communiqué providing an update into the progress on the formation of District 9510.

As you may be aware, our two Districts will come together to be one on 1 July 2020, some seven months away.

The combined Governor Train (G-train) assumed the responsibility of overseeing the task of forming a new district (for those of you unfamiliar with the term, a G-train is comprised of the Immediate Past District Governor (IPDG), the District Governor (DG), District Governor Elect (DGE) and District Governor Nominee (DGN)).

A steering committee was formed, who conducted a wide spread consultation process across both Districts to gather input from Clubs and individuals.

It was seen by both the G-train and the steering committee that this was an opportunity to create a new District governance structure, being that there would now be only one DG for twice as many Clubs and members. The fundamentals of Rotary were to remain the same and some processes and requirements set by Rotary International (RI) had to remain unchanged.

As a result of the consultation process, we have reformed structures and processes. The governing structure has been widely circulated at President Elect Training Seminars (PETS) and District Assemblies this year. A significant change is the formation of two Deputy Governor Positions – Resources and Areas and also the process by which persons are appointed to management roles and tenures.

Much work was done by a team of knowledgeable and dedicated Rotarians in preparing a draft Constitution and Bylaws that reflect our new structures and processes. It is a requirement of Rotary that these documents are reviewed by RI for comment and approval. This step has been recently completed.

The next step is for the Constitution and Bylaws to be accepted by the Clubs. To this end, these documents will soon be forwarded to all Rotarians and it is anticipated that a special General Meeting will be held early in the new year to ratify these documents.

Once this process is complete, the constitution and Bylaws will be formally lodged with SA Government Authorities for registration. Then we can get to the nitty gritty matters like opening bank accounts etc and to re-enter into agreements with government authorities for

matters such as Youth Exchange, child protection and Disaster responses, as the new D9510 entity.

The first two District Governors for 9510 have been selected (DGE David Jones and DGN Jeff Neale). The process for selecting the following DG has commenced and all eligible members are highly encouraged to consider applying. Applications close on 27 January 2020 with interviews to take place soon after.

DGE David has been busy preparing his team and representatives for the 2020/21 year. In January 2020 he and his wife Lyn will travel to San Diego for a week long training session along with some 500 other Governor Elects from around the world. It is at this event that the annual Rotary theme is announced and beneficial bonds are created with peers.

The two Districts will be having their final conferences in March and April next year. D9500 in Whyalla and D9520 in Mildura. These conferences will mark the end of an era for each district and we are certain will be memorable and emotional events.

District 9510 will be having its conference in April 2021, at a venue to be advised.

Finally, and in summary, a considerable amount of behind the scenes work has been done by many dedicated people in consulting, communicating and formulating. Our thanks go out to these special people.

The reforms made are significant and are expected to enhance the "District experience" for Clubs and members. Some might feel that we have not been progressive enough and others too progressive. It is important to recognize that we move forward in small steps, there will be a review process in place after a few years once the dust has settled. The **Regional Pilot Project** which is reviewing governance, leadership and cultural aspects, including membership models for the future, may inform us of further changes. There is always the ability to revisit structures and processes to refine practices in the future.

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