



Gyro International – District VII

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Governor's Report – District-VII – May, 2021

I only became Governor of District-VII on October 1, 2020 in the middle of our current pandemic. The transition to Governor has been easy in some respects and difficult in other respects. The changing of the bank signatures has proven to be most difficult, because of the boarder closures. Our district maintains banks in both Canada and the United States. But, as we can not currently cross the border, it has proven very difficult to complete the required forms. In fact, as I write this I'm not entirely sure we are fully set-up.

The transfer of the district documents was also difficult, as we were not allowed to travel between provinces nor international borders. To try to reduce this burden in the future and to easy share documents, I have set up a shared Google drive for all District documents, so that they can be easily shared between the district officers. The Goggle drive is divided into two areas;

- 1) public folder (Constitution, Governors newsletter, AGM minutes & Financials, Convention schedule and various other Gyro member public type documents).
- 2) private folder for more sensitive documents like (letterhead, forms, passwords, general ledger, etc.)

The public area is accessible from our District web site. All district officers have full access to both folders in case of a sudden death of an officer. The general membership can only view (not edit) the public documents.

I have also created a Google calendar for the district, so that any club officer or club member can see when a Gyro club is meeting and where. As well as any district video meetings, or interclub events & the convention.

The district has purchased their own video meeting software (zoom) to hold monthly district meetings during the covid pandemic and will continue these well after the pandemic is over, in much the same way that International has monthly meetings. However, our meetings are very informal and more of an informational session on all things Gyro; no real business is conducted. The district business will happen at the AGM.

I have been issuing a District Governor's newsletter each month, with highlights of the International monthly meetings, or at least anything pertinent to the District. This is usually sent out prior to our 4th Wednesday of the month District video meting and after the 2nd Wednesday of the month International meeting.

A call to take the lead on some international projects was asked by Gyro President Pentney, and I took on organizing two surveys using Google forms. Both surveys seem to have worked out and International has a slightly clearer path to follow.

When I was the LT Governor, I was shown a spreadsheet of membership stats by club, district and country. While this was good and has it useful purpose, I saw a need to expand on this spreadsheet to show better

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Minneapolis Metro

Minneapolis North Star
Nor-West of Thunder Bay
ORYG of St. Paul

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trending. And with the help of some of the current Gyro on the board, I was able to go back a number of years in stats to show even more trending. Our downward spiral is still happening, and with extrapolate graphing, the demise of Gyro can almost be predicted, unless we take steps now. I am encouraged by the membership committee who took on the thoughts of myself and several other Governors who suggested that we do not know how to market Gyro and have gone to an outside marketing agency for advice on where and to whom should we be marketing. I just wish this process would move along quicker.

I have continued to attend all the monthly International video meetings on behalf of the District member club and their members. I have brought forward all concerns from the member clubs and have been pushing for cost reductions where possible, as many members clubs in the district have voiced over the years. While I did support a small dues increase to cover planned upgrades to the Gyro server and software, I will continue to hold fast on any other further increases until all reductions possible have taken place. Membership and revenue have been dropping over the years and we need to reduce expenses accordingly.

Please feel free to contact myself at anytime if you have any questions or concerns.

Respectfully submitted

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "L. Hay", is written over the printed name.

Governor District-VII