

Good morning District 3!!

I said GOOD MORNING!!

Not very often does anyone ever say they cannot hear me, so that was much better.

It's the end of October already and snow has hit much of our great province. Four months of the Kin year has vanished in another fast-paced incredible journey. I am extremely overjoyed to be here, to be standing before you all and see so many familiar faces. The new faces in this room, thank you for joining this amazing group. It is my hope you will feel the same sense of pride that myself, and many others before you have felt in the community of Kin.

Districts in June passed along the torch for me to light the way, with July beginning my official transition and start to my Governor year. First off, it felt easy. Thinking if this is it, I got this! WRONG!! It started off slow and then ramped up to wide open throttle. Off to the races was my new strategy.

August had me on a road trip with my entire Kinette club as we headed to National Convention...what an opportunity to reconnect with Kin from all over this nation. The Association has many people from every corner that I have not seen in a very long time. Leduc, Alberta hosted Nationals and they did a fantastic job. Five days of Kin filled my heart, but emptied my wallet!! The moment I was home I started prepping for Pre-terms that was held in mid-September in Saskatoon...but really....I started planning on the way home from Nationals.

September is always crazy for any household with school aged children as they ready themselves for another year. No kids left in my house, but I too felt this pressure as I prepped for the Pre-term meeting. The first opportunity for the entire team to connect and run under my guidance... nerve racking!! Changes to the format were so different than what they were in the past as education and teachings were laid out much differently than what was encompassed in the past during my years learning many of the roles of the District Executive. This year's team has such a great mixture of knowledge, seasoned members and new members that brought balance to the conversations and updated outlooks on many topics that we covered. One of the biggest accomplishments from the preterm meeting was we got a grumpy old man to smile once again, and he shared his knowledge and passion for the Association. However, I will not mention his name!!

Now I have a side note, I have to make a public apology to a certain member of the team. You see after the pre-term meeting on the Saturday we were getting ready to leave the foundation office and head to supper. I had called out and asked if anyone was left in the building. Hearing no response and not hearing Raelynn stating that someone was in the bathroom. Therefore, I shut the lights off turned on the alarm and locked the door. We jumped on the bus and started off for the restaurant. Suddenly, I hear someone yell where is Melissa??!! My face dropped when I realized that we left Melissa locked in the office!! She saw us drive away and was tearing up! Now you would think tearing up might be a bit much however this was not the first time I had left Melissa behind, I also left her at the hotel in Macklin when we were there for the Polar Dip.

Melissa I am very sorry for leaving you behind the second time!!

Many, if not all, Governors in the past indicated they had a great team. I am telling you – District 3 – that I have an exceptional team of rockstars!! I can just stand up here and look pretty!! Call it luck, call it commitment on each member's part, or call it the integrity of Kin – whatever it is, this team is truly amazing.

If you look around, we also have one new face to the team who did not jump up and down indicating they wanted a shot at a position on the team during Districts in Lloydminster. Shortly after Districts, Lori Cosh reached out inquiring into the role of the Vice Governor position. She absorbed as much information as possible and kept reaching out to me for more. I put out 2 more calls out to the general membership and had no one step up or reach out, so late June I called Lori back and she graciously filled the position of Vice governor. She is a member of the Macklin Kinettes and has had many different positions on the club, district and foundation level. She also had a big role in feeding us at a few Telemiracles, and who doesn't like to eat at TM??!! Thus, thank you for completing the whole team. I am extremely proud of the team that is here for all members of our district.

Right after preterm meeting in mid-September, and true to form in the world of Kin, we all started working on our Fall Leadership Conference and Kin Kollege for this weekend. Each member of the team working on their individual part to make this weekend a success. By day's end, I hope you see the differences from FLC's in the past and realize the efforts made by this team. We will be taking a different approach to the educational portion of the weekend. We feel that this will be a great way to teach things you might not know or help remember things you may have forgotten.

Melissa and Steve Kirwan facilitated a Kin Kollege yesterday here in Watrous. I am happy to report that it went very well and was well attended. I would like to thank them for all of their hard work to put together such a great day. If you missed your opportunity to attend, do not worry. We will be holding a combined Kin Kollege and Kin Masters in January of 2024 in Saskatoon. More details to follow via email and Facebook.

This will be the same weekend that the district team will have their Mid-term Meeting, where we will prepare for upcoming Spring Zone meetings. This year we will be starting them a little sooner than we have in the past. With the changes brought forward from Nationals it is important to have these done and new team members in place for May. Lori as incoming Governor needs time to prep her team. The first requirement for her is due Mid-May. This timeline assists us working together and hold a potential joint team meeting with the new executive, creating a much smoother transition for the incoming team for 2024/2025.

I would like to acknowledge the Host Committees for the great job they have done to make this weekend one to remember. I am looking forward to tonight's events and talking to as many members as I can.

The last thing I would like to mention to everyone in attendance here today,

Explore the Past – by learning from veteran members.

Nourish the Present – as we work and learn together today.

Inspire the Future – with the new members and their ideas moving forward.

Let's make this another great Kin year.

Thank you everyone!