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In this presentation, we'll explore two new roles being introduced to Zone 8 as part of the Regionalisation Pilot.

To begin, it's important to note that if you're a member of a Rotary or Rotaract club in Zone 8, you're eligible to apply for both roles being discussed today. This includes members of District 9620.

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We'll cover the following topics:

- What a Portfolio Committee Member is and the different Portfolios they can join;
- What a Rotary Specialist is, and the Database they'll be included in;
- How the Committee Member and Specialist roles are different from each other;
- How Portfolio Committee Members and Rotary Specialists fit into the support network available to clubs throughout the Pilot;
- And some other Pilot roles you may want to apply for in the future.

To start, we'll explore what exactly a Portfolio Committee Member is.

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Portfolio Committee Members will work in a specific Portfolio on the Regional Council to help develop Zone-wide strategies, initiatives and best practices.

Guided by their Portfolio Lead, they will collaborate with their fellow Committee Members to help their Portfolio achieve its goals throughout the Zone, and thereby help Rotary thrive and grow in our region.

Each Portfolio requires different skills and experience from its Members, with some Portfolios having specific eligibility requirements. Make sure you read the Terms of Reference on the *Creating Tomorrow* website and review the application form carefully to find out if you're a good fit for a specific Portfolio.

Please note you can apply to be a Member of, and be appointed to, more than one Portfolio.

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Members of each Portfolio Committee will report to a Portfolio Lead, who will in turn report to Regional Council Chair Dallas Booth.

Chair-Elect Tony Heyward is responsible for developing and maintaining our Zone Strategic Plan, ensuring the voices of all countries and regions in our Zone are heard, and liaising with incorporated Rotary Entities.

Now we'll have a closer look at the different Portfolios you can become a Member of.

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The Public Image and Partnerships Portfolio will develop and implement a communications strategy across the Zone to increase public awareness of Rotary and the amazing work we do. It will also establish and maintain relationships with key strategic partners, including governments.

The Portfolio is looking for Members with expertise in marketing, government relations, corporate partnerships, and brand and reputation management.

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The Major Fundraising and Grants Portfolio will work with the Zone 8 Regional Rotary Foundation Leadership team to examine how The Rotary Foundation can leverage new opportunities created through the Pilot. This will include exploring ways to engage governments, corporates and philanthropic entities to increase the Foundation's reach and impact.

The Portfolio needs Members who are skilled in grant management, corporate and government fundraising, Rotary fellowships and scholarships, and club fundraising.

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The Membership Portfolio Committee is tasked with developing and implementing strategies to grow memberships numbers in our region.

The Portfolio requires Committee Members who are experienced in starting new clubs, transforming existing clubs to improve their appeal to new and existing members, developing membership best practices, and alumni engagement.

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The Service Projects and Programs Portfolio's goal is to increase the reach, scope and scale and impact of our projects, as well as coordinate and support major global, regional and national programs.

The Portfolio is on the hunt for Members who are experienced in community or club-run projects, youth programs, projects that target specific countries, and vocational award schemes such as the Police Officer of the Year Awards.

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The Rotaract Portfolio will ensure Rotaract perspectives are considered as the Regional Council develops new programs and initiatives. It will also monitor the effectiveness of Rotaract's policies and programs to make sure they are aligned with the Regional Council's vision.

The Rotaract Portfolio has already recruited most of its Committee Members through Rotaract's existing Multi-District Organisations, Rotaract Australia and Rotaract Oceania. Additionally, Rotaract Community Leaders will automatically become a part of the Committee. However, the Portfolio is still looking for someone to fill the Island Nations Representative role.

Please note that Rotaractors who are appointed to other Portfolios on the Regional Council will be approached to act as a liaison between the Rotaract Portfolio and the other Portfolio of which they are a Member.

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The Learning and Development Portfolio will be responsible for developing, promoting and monitoring learning and development opportunities and leadership formation pathways in Zone 8.

The Portfolio needs Committee Members who have expertise in any of the following:

- Leadership strategies;
- Learning and development, both at the club and Zone level;
- And learning and development events such as conferences, seminars, workshops, institutes, assemblies and other learning opportunities of scale.

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The Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Portfolio will endeavour to establish a DEI framework for Zone 8, identify opportunities to work with other organisations that support DEI, and encourage underrepresented cohorts to take on leadership positions in Rotary.

The Portfolio needs Members who are skilled in implementing DEI analysis and evaluation frameworks, and in promoting and supporting DEI initiatives.

Now we've covered each of the Portfolios you can apply to join, we'll go over the Rotary Specialist role.

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Many Rotarians and Rotaractors already offer their talents and time to their clubs, their Districts and the global Rotary community, whether in formal committees or positions, in projects or at events.

The new Rotary Specialist role being introduced as part of the Pilot is another way for you to use your skills to help clubs reach their goals.

Rotary Specialists will act as volunteer consultants, providing expert advice in their area of specialty. When requested to do so, they will direct clubs and members to online resources and other specialists, give guidance, and support clubs with their projects, events and general functioning.

A Specialist can be:

- Someone who has been in Rotary anywhere from a few months or a few decades;
- A Rotaractor;
- Someone who has held multiple leadership positions in Rotary, or none at all;
- Someone who is already or has not yet delivered assistance to clubs and members in their area of expertise;
- Or someone who has relevant formal qualifications or has gained expertise through practical experience

It is not an operational role. If you become a Rotary Specialist, this will not prevent you from becoming involved in other positions in the Regionalisation Pilot operating model.

There may be numerous specialists in the same subject area to cover the geography of Zone 8, and we hope to attract people with expertise in a wide range of fields.

Please note you can be a Specialist in more than one area of expertise.

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To be a Rotary Specialist, you may have gained your skills and experience from *any* of the following means.

- You may have relevant educational or professional qualifications, such as a university degree or diploma. However, this is *not* compulsory for all areas of specialty. There are certain fields of expertise that *will* require relevant qualifications, such as legal, but this does not apply to all Specialist areas.
- You may have relevant experience from your career or professional life, but this is also not compulsory for all Specialists.
- You may have relevant experience as a volunteer, whether gained within or outside of Rotary. For instance, you may have cultivated your expertise by holding a leadership role within Rotary, through your involvement in a specific Rotary project or program, or through work with another charity or volunteer organisation.
- And lastly, you may have other types of practical experience. Perhaps you've become an expert in a specific area by pursuing it as a hobby over the years.

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While the Specialist application form lists a few key areas that you may be an expert in, these are by no means intended to limit you.

Perhaps you're a social media marketing expert, a talented event organiser, great with club compliance, or have a knack for resolving conflict. Maybe you can draw on your experience as a District Membership Chair to help clubs attract new members, or are a seasoned organiser of Rotary Youth Leadership Awards in your District.

You might be a skilled website developer, or could be great at helping clubs conduct DEI assessments. You could even be an audiologist looking to help clubs develop projects that assist people with a hearing impairment.

All these areas of expertise – and so many more – are perfect for the Rotary Specialist role.

If your field of specialty is relevant to clubs, then you could be a Rotary Specialist.

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If you become a Rotary Specialist, you'll be listed in the Rotary Specialist Database.

This will be an online database clubs and members throughout Zone 8 can use to easily search for people who are experts in a field they need assistance with.

Members will be able to request assistance from a specific Specialist through a contact form.

Creating this Database is a way of doing a “stock take” of the kinds of skills and experience we have amongst our Zone 8 membership, and making it available in one easy to access place.

That's why you should consider being a Specialist even if you're already helping clubs in your area of expertise.

Being in the database will not only allow clubs to find you more easily. You'll also be able to find other experts in your area of specialty who you can exchange knowledge and expertise with, and collaborate with on projects and initiatives.

Now we'll look at the key differences between the Specialist and Portfolio Committee Member roles.

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Portfolio Committee Members are big picture thinkers and strategists who will work with their Committee team to develop Zone-wide initiatives, tactics and best practices to guide Rotary in our region. They will not assist clubs directly with their day-to-day operations. Instead, they will focus on the bigger picture of how Rotary and Rotaract can achieve their goals across the Zone. However, Committee Members will work with clubs in certain circumstances, such as in relation to Zone-wide projects.

In contrast, Rotary Specialists are subject matter experts who, when called upon, will work directly with clubs to provide guidance in their specific area of expertise.

You'll notice there's another key role featured on this slide, called the Rotary Community Leader. Last year, clubs throughout the Zone were asked to submit their preferences on how they'd like to be grouped with other clubs into Rotary Community Groups, a new way of fostering collaboration between clubs.

Each group of clubs will elect their own Community Leader, a facilitator who will help them thrive and grow. This is quite different from the Committee Member and Specialist roles, as Community Leaders will focus only on supporting their specific Community Group.

Please note you can be a Portfolio Committee Member *and* a Rotary Specialist at the same time, so feel free to apply for both roles. Holding either or both roles will not prevent you from becoming a Rotary Community Leader when elections are held in the next few months.

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To give you a sense of where these roles fit into the Pilot operating model, here's a diagram outlining the network of support clubs will be able to access throughout the Pilot.

You'll see that Portfolio Committees are part of the Regional Council, the body that will lead and represent our Zone.

You'll also see that while Rotary Specialists are not part of the Regional Council, they'll work closely with the Portfolios when required.

For instance, Specialists will be guided by the strategies, initiatives and best practices developed by relevant Regional Council Portfolios. And in turn, Specialists will inform relevant Portfolios about club trends, what is and isn't working on the ground, and if clubs need additional resources.

Specialists will also work closely with Rotary Community Leaders to help Rotary Community Groups achieve their goals.

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Keep in mind that in the coming months, applications for other Pilot roles will open that you may also want to apply for.

This includes the Country Representative role on the Multi-National Advisory Committee, the IT Lead on the Regional Council's Corporate and Administration Team, and the Representative for Rotary Community Leaders on the Regional Council.

We'll also be looking for members of additional Committees on the Regional Council, such as a Zone Insurance and Protection Committee.

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Here's a timeline of the application and appointment process.

Applications for both the Rotary Specialist and Committee Member role close at 5pm on Friday 29 February. Please note this is in Australian Eastern Daylight Time, so make sure to get your applications in on time.

Throughout February and into March, Portfolio Leads will interview people who have applied to become a Committee Member and select their teams.

In March, a dedicated Vetting Team will assess the Specialist applications. Applicants will receive an email in April confirming if they've been accepted as a Specialist.

Then finally, on 1 July, the Pilot operating model will launch. From this date, Rotary Specialists will begin supporting clubs and the Specialist database will begin operating.

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For more information on the Specialist and Portfolio Committee roles, make sure you visit the *Creating Tomorrow* website. On the website you can access the Position Description for the Rotary Specialist role, links to the Terms of Reference for each Portfolio Committee, and links to the Specialist and Portfolio Committee application forms.

If you have any further questions about either of these roles, please email

RotaryRegionalPilot@gmail.com.

And most importantly, don't forget to submit your applications by 5pm AEDT on Friday 29 February.