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PAC Director - Candidacy Statement

Dear Esteemed Members of the National Model Railroad Association (NMRA),

With immense enthusiasm and a deep sense of dedication, I am honored to announce my candidacy for the pivotal role of Pacific District Director within the NMRA. Over the past decade, my journey in this esteemed association has been marked by active engagement and leadership in various capacities, including serving as the Vice President and Secretary of my local 100% club. Additionally, I have played instrumental roles at the regional and national levels, contributing significantly to the redevelopment of the AR website as a key member of the IT team and holding a leadership position within the NMRAX team, where I contributed to the development of the Interchange platform. Throughout this journey, my unwavering commitment to member retention, engaging the younger generation, and providing meaningful member benefits has been the compass guiding my vision for the future of our beloved hobby.

On a personal note, my journey into the world of model railroading was ignited by the influence of my father when I was just a young child. Introduced to the hobby through the intricate layouts and detailed craftsmanship that adorned our family space, I discovered the magic of miniature trains traversing meticulously designed landscapes. My father's passion became an enduring flame that sparked my own love for model railroading, instilling in me a profound appreciation for the craftsmanship, creativity, and camaraderie that defines our cherished hobby.

Bringing over two decades of hands-on experience within business management, my professional background underscores a commitment to continual learning and problem-solving. With refined customer service and solution-oriented skills, I have successfully managed staff, conducted monthly P&L reviews, overseen project scheduling, and formulated sales budgets in my current roles as Sales and Product Manager for CNC machines and tooling in Australia and New Zealand. This comprehensive skill set aligns seamlessly with the multifaceted demands of the Pacific District Director role.

As I aspire to take on the responsibilities of the Pacific District Director, I am steadfast in my commitment to representing the NMRA AR and the broader model railroading community in the Australasian Region. My primary goal is to develop and implement robust strategies focused on member retention and the proactive onboarding of the younger generation. This vision encompasses providing relevant member benefits and establishing a dynamic online presence, acknowledging the evolving nature of communication and community-building in our digital age.

In addition to these core objectives, I am particularly enthusiastic about fostering a culture of education and continuous learning within the NMRA, recognizing the transformative power of modern social platforms. Our shared passion for model railroading is not confined to physical spaces but extends to the virtual realm, offering unprecedented opportunities for global connection. To this end, I envision creating a vibrant platform where members can seamlessly share their expertise, experiences, and insights, transcending geographical boundaries.

In the era of modern social platforms, we have the ability to harness technology to connect model railroaders worldwide. Platforms like social media groups, forums, and virtual meet-ups provide avenues for enthusiasts to exchange ideas, seek advice, and share their latest projects in real-time. As Pacific District Director, I am committed to leveraging these platforms to enhance the sense of community within the NMRA, fostering connections that transcend regional limitations.

Furthermore, I would like to explore the establishment of online classes and learning resources tailored to the diverse interests and skill levels of our members. Utilizing modern platforms, we can host live workshops, webinars, and interactive sessions conducted by experienced model railroaders, allowing members to engage in real-time learning from the comfort of their homes. This approach not only embraces the convenience of digital connectivity but also ensures inclusivity, catering to the varied schedules and commitments of our diverse membership.

Recognizing the significant advantages of fostering a stronger connection between the NMRA AR and the North American NMRA, I am committed to leveraging the established benefits and resources of the larger NMRA organization. This collaboration could lead to joint events, shared educational initiatives, and enhanced member benefits that draw on the strengths of both entities. A united NMRA community, bridging North America and Australasia, will undoubtedly contribute to the enrichment and growth of the model railroading hobby on a global scale.

In conclusion, my vision for education and learning within the NMRA is rooted in embracing modern social platforms to create a vibrant and inclusive global community. By leveraging technology, we can break down geographical barriers, ensuring that members from diverse regions can connect, learn, and grow together. Your support in this endeavor is not just a vote for me but a shared commitment to the growth and prosperity of our beloved hobby in the digital age.

I am sincerely honored to be considered for the position of Pacific District Director, and I express my gratitude for your time and consideration. I eagerly anticipate the opportunity to contribute to the NMRA's enduring success and the enrichment of the experiences of model railroaders across the Australasian Region.

With heartfelt appreciation and respect,

Brad Anderson