

# [Ksummit-discuss] [MAINTAINER TOPIC] Succession Planning: Is It time to Throw Linus Under a Bus?

Linus Torvalds [torvalds@linux-foundation.org](mailto:torvalds@linux-foundation.org)

Thu Sep 6 21:41:04 UTC 2018

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On Thu, Sep 6, 2018 at 2:13 PM James Bottomley  
<[James.Bottomley@hansenpartnership.com](mailto:James.Bottomley@hansenpartnership.com)> wrote:

>  
> However, I really think for an orderly succession plan, you need to be  
> part of it rather than having a palace coup which could end up being  
> really messy and divisive. I suspect people treated your proposal last  
> year as more of a joke last year because they didn't think you were  
> serious. If you're really serious about doing this, let's try to come  
> up with the succession process in Edinburgh in October and see if we  
> can run a Maintainer Summit with the new Leadership in Vancouver in  
> November.

So I do want to make it clear that it's not like I am all that serious about it, because I'm perfectly happy to continue to do what I've been doing for the past almost three decades.

It's not like *\*I\** care about the bus scenario, pretty much by definition.

Honestly, I think the real issue is when *\*others\** have serious and practical proposals.

In many ways I think that is the real issue: people who feel like there would be advantages to new models.

The advantages could range from just the "I'd really prefer to work with somebody else" to more of a "look, Linus isn't getting any younger, so to make for a smooth transition we should start moving towards xyz, because then in <N> years we'll be ready".

Regardless, I don't think *\_my\_* opinions matter all that much on this, and I honestly think some people might be more willing to speak their mind without me in the room.

And guys, it's not like my ego is all that fragile. I think people do know that. So the only thing I *\*do\** want to be serious about is that if people actually come up with something that they honestly agree is better, you don't need to worry about me throwing some hissy-fit, and "take my ball and go home".

That said, I think we all might have some very real doubts about how

practical it's going to be, and getting people to actually agree on anything.

What I do *\*not\** want to see is some random flailing discussion while we're all in the same room. Because I can think of more productive things to do in Edinburgh, and most of them involve drinking.

So I think people should have some real suggestions before-hand, not some "let's leave it to an open discussion for the summit itself".

Linus

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