



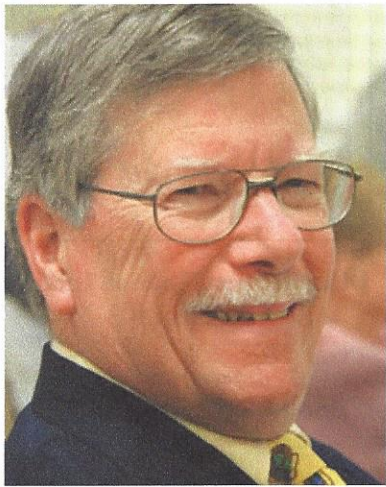
PROBUS CANADA

"NEWSLETTER"

Published for the Members of PROBUS Clubs in Canada by PROBUS CANADA

May, 2020

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



**PRESIDENT
JAMIE DOOLITTLE**

I am honoured and privileged for the confidence your Board of Directors has placed in me and also delighted to be your President for the next 12 months. During the last four years while serving as one of thirteen Directors, at various times I have pondered why I became a Director. The answer is easy. The thirteen of us who are Directors are there because we care. Our goal is to have all retired and semi-retired individuals in Canada and Maine enjoy the benefits of the fun and fellowship we have had and continue to have in PROBUS. I have learned an enormous amount in the past year from Past President Marlene Pearce. I plan to continue with many of the excellent practices she demonstrated to the Board of Directors and Clubs in PROBUS CANADA. Both Jim DeZorzi and Fred Duck are retiring from the Board of Directors. I thank these gentlemen for their service to PROBUS CANADA including starting new Clubs in their districts and conducting energetic district conferences.

The current COVID-19 pandemic has turned our lives upside down and created days unseen since WWII. The self isolation and distancing is very difficult for all of us. PROBUS members thrive on getting together at meetings and the social events we all enjoy. In the interim before we resume our regular meetings, please keep in touch with your fellow members by telephone, e-mails, skype, zoom, and any other means you are comfortable with using. Communication and caring are synonymous with PROBUS.

We have a great team of members going forward to help PROBUS continue to be a benefit in the year ahead. Lorna Eadie Hocking from the **PROBUS Club of HANOVER AREA** has joined the Board representing Ontario District #5 and Inga Thomson Hilton from the **PROBUS Club of THOMPSON RIVERS** has joined us representing B.C. District #3. The executive are changing as you will note on the next page. Thanks to Past, Past President Bob Boone who enters his final year as the Director of Ontario District #3 and has been our liaison with our ever evolving web team. Marlene Pearce as Past President is now our liaison with the web team. Bob MacNair after two years as our Secretary becomes Vice President, Brenda Andrews continues as our Treasurer, and welcome to Keith McGregor as our Secretary. The remaining six Directors who are listed inside continue to devote themselves to the betterment of PROBUS and I thank all the aforementioned for their dedication. Speaking of dedication, our association is extremely well served by our support staff. Mr Gordon Hutton continues to serve as our Financial Manager and we are grateful for his service. Mr Reg Whynott is our Managing Director and President Emeritus. This gentleman dedicates about 50-60 hours weekly assisting our members and Board of Directors and keeping PROBUS on the rails. Enormous thanks to both of you.

Our growth of Clubs in the past two years approximates a new Club every other month. Presently we have 256 active Clubs in Canada and we are approaching membership totalling 40,000. The pandemic has curtailed our visits and planned opening of new Clubs. However, I am confident that when the shackles of isolationism are released that we will see a continued explosion of new Clubs across Canada. When chatting with your neighbours, friends, and relatives please remind them to keep in touch with you regarding the re-opening of our Clubs.

On a personal note, since leaving Toronto in 2004 to move to Cobourg, Ontario my wife, Carol, and I have benefitted enormously from PROBUS. We knew one other couple in Cobourg 16 years ago. After joining PROBUS in 2008 and being President of a local Club for two years, we can now say that we have hundreds of friends in town and across the country. Thank you PROBUS !! For those of you who have heard me speak, you may recall that I always use the phrase:

B-A-F B-A-F

Be a great member of PROBUS and if you see or hear of an individual who is retired or semi-retired and not having the enjoyment you have in PROBUS then**BE A FRIEND -- BRING A FRIEND !**

GET CONNECTED -- STAY CONNECTED

CURRENT OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS OF PROBUS CANADA

- President** **Jamie Doolittle** Cobourg, Ont.
(Ont. Dist. #1)
Tel: (905) 372-6465
Email: probus1@cogeco.ca
- Vice-President** **Robert MacNair** ...Collingwood, Ont.
(Ont. Dist. #7)
Tel; (705) 444-9161
Email: bdmacnair@sympatico.ca
- Treasurer** **Brenda Andrews**..... Bradford, Ont.
(Ont. Dist. #2)
Tel: (905) 778-1992
Email: dbandrews2004@gmail.com
- Secretary** **D. Keith McGregor** ...Lantzville, B. C.
(B. C. # 1)
Tel: (250) 704-6122
Email: dkeithmcgregor@hotmail.com
- Past-President** **Marlene Pearce**Moncton, N.B.
Atlantic
Tel. (506) 386-3492
Email: marlene.pearce38@gmail.com

DIRECTORS

- Robert (Bob) Boone** Mississauga, Ont. (Ont. Dist. #3)
Tel. (905) 823-7669
Email: bob.boone@sympatico.ca
- Martin Capper** Milton, Ont. (Ont. Dist. #4)
Tel: (905) 693-0354
Email: martin@martincapper.com
- Inga Thomson Hilton** Kamloops, B.C. (B.C. Dist. #3)
Tel. (250) 319-2454
Email: ithomson@tru.ca
- Lorna Eadie Hocking** Hanover, Ont, . (Ont. Dist. # 5)
Tel: (519) 477-3770
Email: lorna.eadie2@gmail.com
- Ineke Knight** Saskatoon, Sask. (N.W. Ont., Mb., Sask.)
Tel; (306) 374-7904
Email: in.knight@shaw.ca
- Dennis Pommen** Sherwood Park, Ab. (Alberta)
Tel. (780) 497-8877
Email: Dennis.personal@yahoo.ca
- David Ricketts** Dundas, Ont. (Ont. Dist, # 6)
Tel: (905) 628-3687
Email: dricketts@cogeco.ca
- David Scott** Vancouver, B.C. (B. C. # 2)
Tel: (604) 408-9021
Email; david@scott.ca

NON-VOTING VOLUNTEER STAFF

- Financial Manager** **Gordon Hutton**, Courtenay, B.C.
Tel: (250) 898-3492
Email: huttonvi@telus.net
- Managing Director** **Reg Whynott**, Courtenay, B.C.
Tel: (250) 871-7088
Email: rwhynott@shaw.ca



Director Lorna Eadie Hocking
Ontario District # 5.

Director Inga Thomson Hilton
B.C. District # 3

..... **A Report on Elections to the Board of Directors of PROBUS CANADA by Mr. Robert Boone, Chairman of Nominations & Elections – 2020 !**

Members of PROBUS CANADA ... It is my pleasure to report that in Ontario District #7, Mr. **Robert MacNair** was Re-elected by Acclamation for a second three year term commencing May 7, 2020.

In the Alberta region I am pleased to report that Mr. **Dennis Pommen** was Re-elected by Acclamation for his second term (3 years) effective May 7, 2020.

In B.C. District # 3 Mr. **Fred Duck** has chosen not to serve for a second term and we received three Nominations in the persons of Ms. **Inga Thomson Hilton**, a Past President of the PROBUS Club of Thompson Rivers B.C. ; Mr. **Simon Brown**, a Past President of the PROBUS Club of Copper Island, B.C. ; and Mr. **Paul Burrows**, a Past President of the PROBUS Club of Shuswap. B.C.

Based on ballots returned from the Clubs in B.C. District # 3, Ms. **Inga Thomson Hilton** was elected for her first three year term effective May 7, 2020 .

In Ontario District # 5 Mr. **Jim DeZorzi** was retiring on May 7, 2020 after serving on the Board for two three year terms and we received two Nominations in the persons of Mr. **John Gates**, a Past President of the PROBUS Club of Kincardine, Ont. and Ms. **Lorna Eadie Hocking**, a Past President of the PROBUS Club of Hanover, Ont. Based on the ballots received from the Clubs in Ontario, District #5 , Ms. **Lorna Eadie Hocking** was elected for her first three year term.

It is my pleasure to Welcome both of these new Directors and to say thank you for your willingness to serve PROBUS CANADA as Members of the Board and at the same time may I express a huge "Thank You" to Jim and to Fred for their years of dedication and volunteer service to our great organization ! As mentioned, we did hold elections in Ont. #5 and in B.C. #3 and we would be remiss if we didn't say "**Thanks**" to those who offered their names to serve if elected. Your support and willingness to serve is truly appreciated !



A "THANK YOU" MESSAGE FROM OUR RETIRING PRESIDENT

It has been a privilege, a pleasure and a rewarding experience to serve as President of PROBUS CANADA for 2019-2020. This couldn't happen without the support of my fellow Directors and the Staff of Reg Whynott our Managing Director and Gordon Hutton our Financial Manager. Thank you for your consistent support. Special thanks to my wonderful Executive who were always there for me. Under the capable guidance of Directors Bob Boone, Brenda Andrews, Dennis Pommen, Jim DeZorzi and Bob MacNair, seven new Clubs were added during my term. They were: Durham Central, North York, Blue Sky (North Bay), Richmond Hill, Leduc Region (Alberta), Port Stanley and Bobcaygeon. Thank you for all the time and effort you put in to add to the growth of PROBUS in Canada. I am proud to report that we now have 256 active clubs with nearly 40,000 members.

The Covid-19 pandemic certainly put a damper on PROBUS meetings and activities. Some Clubs adjusted by arranging Video meetings or telephone conferences. PROBUS Month also suffered as a result of Covid-19. I personally had to cancel eleven planned speaking engagements in March and April. David Ricketts, Brenda Anderson and Martin Capper worked together with me to review the Constitution and the By Laws. Four proposed changes in the By Laws were sent to all Clubs, resulting in the majority voting in favour of the proposed changes.

The web site continued to grow, with members across Canada using it more frequently. Special thanks to the Volunteer Team for all their endeavours. We did remove Global Probus from our site and we wish them well as their organization continues to grow.

Under the direction of Jamie Doolittle, the 'License Frame' project was a great success, selling 2,500 frames. Thanks to Jamie and the Directors who put forth the effort to make this a meaningful accomplishment. Directors continued to submit quarterly reports. I feel this is a worthwhile process that helps establish the sharing of activities as well as comparing Club events across Canada.

All Clubs were covered, at no additional cost, with Directors and Officers Insurance. This increased coverage from only five thousand dollars to an amount of one million.

At our Annual General meeting we will be saying Goodbye to Directors Fred Duck and Jim DeZorzi. Many thanks to both of you for your continued efforts to direct and improve the Clubs in your Districts. We wish you the best as you leave our Board. In your place, I am pleased to welcome two new Directors, Inga Thomson Hilton for B.C. District #3 and Lorna Eadie Hocking for Ont. District # 5.

The most rewarding experience in my role as President was visiting with fifty-five Clubs across the country. Two of these visits were Regional meetings which involved thirty-eight Clubs. I was also delighted to present **Lorraine Veroba**, in Oshawa, with the **John R Morris Award**. Lorraine is a true Probian and most worthy of this prestigious award.

Meeting with different Clubs in various parts of the country has given me a better understanding of the diversity and commitment within our membership. Thank you for the opportunity to experience so many new adventures as well as make new friends across the country. It was a memorable year which I will cherish in my "Fishpond of Memories" Thanks again and my very best wishes to all. **Marlene Pearce, President 2019 - 20**

MEDOC Travel Insurance Plan

MEDOC is designed to combine all of the travel insurance needs of PROBUS Members in one convenient package, with plan options to suit the coverage you require as well as your budget. MEDOC balances the needs of travelers regardless of age or health status. It is important that you carry the coverage that gives you peace of mind while traveling. Know & understand the plan you purchase.

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At a ceremony on board the Republic of Korea Navy Destroyer, "Munmu the Great" on December 19th, 2019, while on a visit to CFB Esquimalt, **Reg Whynott**, our Managing Director, was presented with the Korean Ambassador for Peace Medal by the Korean Consul - General to Vancouver - **Byung-won Chung**.

The **Korean Ambassador for Peace Medal** is a token of Appreciation presented by the Government of the Republic of Korea to Canadian Men and Women who served in the Korean War. Other presentations were made by **ROK Admiral Min-soo Yang**, Commander of the Korean Cruise Training Task Group, and by Commander Kim of the Destroyer "Munmu the Great" **"CONGRATULATIONS REG"**



WHEN THE APPLEBY WOMENS PROBUS CLUB OF BURLINGTON CELEBRATE PROBUS MONTH THEY MAKE IT AS ENJOYABLE AS THEY CAN . WHEN THEY ARE JOINED FOR THEIR CELEBRATION BY THE PRESIDENT OF PROBUS CANADA . (3rd FROM THE RIGHT IN THE BROWN HAT) IT'S EVEN MORE FUN !

MEMBERS OF PROBUS CLUBS IN CANADA following, for your information is a copy of the "letter of sympathy" which was forwarded by our President, Marlene Pearce, to the PROBUS Clubs in Nova Scotia to express our sorrow and giving encouragement following the tragic event which led to the loss of the lives of more than twenty individuals and caused such sorrow among our friends, relatives and neighbours. There is so little we can do in such circumstances except show our caring to those who are suffering their losses and share our sympathies and our best wishes with them.

"TO ALL PRESIDENTS, MANAGEMENT TEAMS AND MEMBERS OF PROBUS IN NOVA SCOTIA !"

" On behalf of the PROBUS CANADA Board of Directors, I would like to extend our profound sympathies in connection with the senseless tragedies which took place in Nova Scotia recently. All 39,000 plus PROBUS Members across Canada are with you in your sorrow. I'm certain that many of you knew or were associated in some way with some of the victims. Please be aware that our prayers are with them and their families. I am especially thinking of those of you in the Colchester area, which was the epicentre of the tragic event. Stay strong !

God willing, may we all be back soon, sharing friendship and learning with our special PROBUS family and friends !

Sincerely, Marlene Pearce

Atlantic Director and President, PROBUS CANADA.



The **JOHN R. MORRIS AWARD** was presented recently to Ms. Lorraine Veroba, a Member of the PROBUS Clubs of Oshawa and Whitby / Brooklin and a member very worthy of the Award. She joined PROBUS originally in 1998 as a member of the Ajax Club and went on to serve in the position of President during which time she was involved in the formation of the PROBUS Club of Oshawa. Lorraine has initiated the formation of Steering Committees to promote the formation of additional PROBUS Clubs in Whitby/Brooklin; Port Perry; Uxbridge; Clarington and most recently Durham Central. She is a dynamic individual with exceptional leadership qualities and thankfully one of her loves is PROBUS.

Supporting PROBUS is second nature to Lorraine. She attends PROBUS events at all levels including "Spring Fling" District meetings and conferences. She encourages partnerships between the Durham Clubs for various outings such as theatre, bus tours and cruises. As well she is an advisor to the Durham Region PROBUS Club Committee. In celebration of PROBUS Month she has contributed articles on the historical perspective of our organization to local newspapers in the oshawa area.

Reinforcing the fact that PROBUS is always in her thoughts, Lorraine displays and orders PROBUS clothing for Club Members. She may be seen wearing her PROBUS clothes on her travels around the world. Lorraine's ability to inspire those around her to embrace new challenges and venture is well documented in this submission. She is always at the centre of the organizational aspects involved in running the Clubs, and we would be remiss in not adding that all of her endeavours in the PROBUS Clubs are without the imposition of her views, but are accomplished by her welcoming manner to all Members, new and experienced. In the community, Lorraine has been an active participant in the "Meals on Wheels" program, volunteering her time to deliver meals to those in need. In addition, she has taken leadership roles in the Canadian Federation of University Women of Oshawa and District, the Retired Teachers of Ontario, the Elementary Teachers of Ontario and major fund raising events for a local church. In the photo above she is accompanied by PROBUS CANADA President Marlene Pearce on her left and the Treasurer of PROBUS CANADA Brenda Andrews on her right, no doubt discussing PROBUS events or happenings and how to better them to please more Members.

CONGRATULATIONS LORRAINE & THANKS !

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

WHERE ARE WE NOW

Our number of active PROBUS Clubs is now standing at 256 with approximately 39,000 + individual Members, a number which changes daily. Since the last report to you by way of this Newsletter we have added two new Clubs to our roster, Please see information below.

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THE PROBUS CLUB OF PORT

STANLEY & AREA, ONT.(Comb.) # 271

204 Adelaide Street, Port Stanley, Ont. N5L 1A1

Email:portstanleyprobus@gmail.com

Fax:none 32 Members

(Sponsor -- (PROBUS Club of South London)

Charter Members 32 2/3/ 2020

PORT STANLEY MEET Masonic Ctr.St.Thomas
3rd Wed., 10:00 AM

President June Ayrhart (226) 658-0508

Secretary Ross Ayrhart (226) 658-0508

.....

THE PROBUS CLUB OF

BOBCAYGEON, ONT. (Comb.) # 272

P.O.BOX 327, Bobcaygeon, Ont. K0M 1A0

Email: n/a Fax – none 150 Members

(Sponsor PROBUS Club of Fenelon Falls.Ont.)

Charter Members 150 3/15/20 AGM March

BOBCAYGEON MEET Cdn Legion ,1st Wed.a/m

President Ms. Terry Achison (416) 809-0522

Secretary n/a

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We appreciate the effort of the Organizing Committees of the PROBUS Club of South London & the Fenelon Falls Club for their support and if you would like to consider a new Club in your community, or in a neighboring community, please contact your Director from the list of Officers / Directors on Page 2 of this newsletter .



Bonnie Barber, President of the Ottawa Alta-Vista PROBUS Club seems very pleased as she accepts a congratulatory certificate from then Vice-President Jamie Doolittle as the Club celebrates the **20 Year Anniversary** of their Charter date.

AN IMPORANT MESSAGE FROM “MARK COSTALES” FOR YOUR FAMILY RE THE JOHNSON INSURANCE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM ! I’m happy to announce that the 2020 Johnson Scholarship Program opens tomorrow, April 22nd Johnson is proud to offer 50 scholarships, valued at \$1,000 each, to eligible students completing high school in 2020 and starting post-secondary education in the fall of 2020. Johnson has awarded over 1,500 scholarships valued at more than \$1 million to support young Canadians across Canada in pursuit of their post-secondary education.The Johnson Scholarship Program is open to children and grandchildren of all PROBUS members (even if they are not Johnson policyholders).To learn more, visit Johnson.ca/scholarship ,

ALL THE BEST, Mark Costales