



PROBUS CANADA CONNECTIONS



Published for the Members of PROBUS CLUBS in CANADA by **PROBUS CANADA**

SEPTEMBER, 2022



As I write this document for the Newsletter, there is already a feel of autumn in the night air. Hopefully you have all had a wonderful break from the norm and are ready to get back to meetings and activities. It has been a hot and humid summer and the cooler temperatures will be a relief.

President, BRENDA ANDREWS

Clubs seemed to be getting off to a slow start before summer interrupted our regular meetings. I have heard from several Presidents that the fall will be the beginning of a steadier process of re-opening following the COVID crisis. Please refer to the suggested guidelines for re-opening PROBUS Clubs as listed in our June newsletter. We must still be vigilant and respect our fellow members.

Since June, I have been asked to attend club picnics as well as speak about PROBUS activities to several Clubs. I also helped present twenty-year pins to the Men's

PROBUS Club of Burlington Lakeshore. My highlight of the summer was being able to finally, after two and a half years, present the PROBUS Club of Bobcaygeon Area with their long-awaited Charter. Congratulations to them and may they reap the benefits from belonging to PROBUS!

Your National Board and I are enthused about the year to come. Among other things, we are working on a new Strategic Plan, as well as finishing the contents of the newly written By-Laws and Constitution. Our main concern will be helping our clubs re-organize and grow the National membership. All Clubs are encouraged to attend Regional Meetings as well as celebrate October as PROBUS Month.

I enjoy hearing from PROBUS Members about their experiences and their ideas on how to make PROBUS CANADA even better for all of us. I welcome anyone to contact me, and I will be happy to advise you on all things PROBUS.

**Remember to Get Connected – Stay Connected -
Be a Friend – Bring a Friend**

Brenda Andrews, President, PROBUS CANADA



WHAT'S NEW?

It is with somber thoughts and immense gratitude that we announce the retirement of our beloved Managing Director, **REG WHYNOTT**. This can certainly be classified as the end of an era.

Reg was Managing Director for PROBUS Centre-Canada from 1997 to 2001. After the name was changed to PROBUS CANADA Reg continued as Managing Director until the present. We heartily commend him on his twenty-five years of devoted service to this organization.

With dignity, grace, and as a gentleman personified, Reg has been known to all as **Mister PROBUS**. He has always had the answers to our questions, and over the years has definitely been the epitome of PROBUS knowledge for Directors and Members.

In 2010 Reg received the most coveted **John R Morris** award, and in 2014, he was granted the title of **President Emeritus** by the Board of Directors of PROBUS CANADA.

We all join in to wish Reg the best in his retirement from **PROBUS CANADA** and we know without a doubt that he will be greatly missed. Thank you, Reg, for all the time and effort you have given to this organization and for keeping “the train on the track”.



REG WHYNOTT

WHAT'S NEWER?



PROBUS Canada General Manager
LORI McDOWELL

The Board of Directors of **PROBUS CANADA**, with the retirement of Reg Whynott as our Managing Director, is delighted to announce the hiring of **LORI McDOWELL** as our General Manager. This position will replace the Managing Director position.

Lori lives in Callander, ON. She has had an impressive career specializing in communication, marketing, and planning. After 38 years with Magna, she retired and moved to the North Bay area and has been a member of the Blue Sky PROBUS Club in North Bay, Ontario since her retirement in 2021. She is currently the Vice-President of that club.

Lori's hobbies/interests include reading, writing, piano, violin, outdoor activities (hiking, snowshoeing, skiing, kayaking, etc.), furniture refinishing, and travel.

We welcome Lori and look forward to working with her in the years ahead. You can contact Lori at probuslorim@gmail.com



CELEBRATIONS ACROSS THE COUNTRY

PROBUS Canada President **BRENDA ANDREWS** presents the 15-year PROBUS Certificate to **LINDSAY MEN'S PROBUS CLUB** President Ron Wallace. The photo below includes charter members Jim Buchanan, Ron Morgan, past Presidents Mike Catling, Ted Abbot, John Sale, and Sal Polito, and club President Ron Wallace.



In late July, President **BRENDA** was at the **WOMEN'S PROBUS CLUB OF LINDSAY** in Ontario to celebrate their 10-year anniversary with a certificate. There was lunch for all members. In the photo below, the lady on the left with the corsage is the first President, and the other 3 are past presidents. The lady standing beside Brenda is the current president, Susan Bianconi

President **BRENDA ANDREWS** was at the **PROBUS BURLINGTON LAKESHORE MEN'S CLUB** in Ontario in August along with District Director Bill Willson to help celebrate by giving members their 20 year pins. In attendance were the first President and 5 charter members of the club, established in 1993.



PROBUS CLUB OF SHEDIAC SHORES (PHOTOS: JOCELYNE ROSS; BOB CAMERON)

Some 50 intrepid members of this little town's club set sail on a "three-hour cruise" of Shedia Bay one sunny, windy day. Gilligan and the Skipper were AWOL but there was a piratey-looking guy & his similarly outfitted lady at the ready to greet all who boarded. After songs & antics & delicious lobster rolls, it was suggested that this become a yearly activity. A loud & hearty **AYE MATEY** greeted this suggestion.



Stopped by a roadside stand that said lobster tails \$2. I paid my \$2. and he says, once upon a time there was this lobster....



In June, District Director **MARY CAMPBELL** travelled to Halifax, NS to attend the **COBEQUID PROBUS CLUB**'s monthly meeting to present them with their 5-year Anniversary Certificate as well as individual 5-year pins to charter members. She was also treated to a very tasty light homemade lunch with the group. Shown below, President Rich Rhodes receives the Certificate; the charter members with their pins.



WOMEN'S PROBUS CLUB OF SOUTH EAST NEW BRUNSWICK

This large club celebrated its 20-year Anniversary in April. Marlene Pearce, District Director at the time, presented the certificate to President Sandra Wallace to recognize the occasion.

Nine of the past presidents are shown below holding composites of all presidents to date.



These are but a few of the 150+ charter members who got the ball rolling, so to speak in April, 2002. Without them, there would be no 'us'.

Pictured left are: Standing (L-R) Geraldine Charters, Kaye Lothian, Fay Germon, Leona Bossé, Sandra Elderkin, Judy Laventure, Etta Reid, Lillian MacMellon, Trudy Richards, Roberta Bunker

Seated (L-R) Karen Campbell, Gail Nickerson, Sheila Horsman, Sheila Owen, Doreen Sartain, Dr. Joan Donald (founding president)



LIFETIME MEMBER

In May, the Moncton club was proud to present **Marlene Pearce** with an Honourary Lifetime membership in the club, as she completed her 2nd 3-year term with PROBUS Canada. Marlene has done so much for our PROBUS organization and is most deserving of this honour.

I thought a thought.
But the thought I thought
wasn't the thought I
thought I thought.
If the thought I thought I
thought had been the
thought I thought, I
wouldn't have thought so
much.

THE SAINT JOHN MEN'S PROBUS CLUB

Enjoying an outing in June as ten members ventured to the **HUNTSMAN MARINE SCIENCE CENTRE** in St. Andrews NB.



LEFT: Ed Creaser, Chip Lawton, David Flewelling, John Doyle, Brian Mitchell, and Ron Pearce under the **Orca Whale**.

ABOVE: JAWS was just hanging around

THOUGHTS & CHUCKLES

SMALL KINDNESSES

I've been thinking about the way, when you walk down a crowded aisle, people pull in their legs to let you by. Or how strangers still say "bless you" when someone sneezes, a leftover from the Bubonic plague. "Don't die," we are saying. And sometimes, when you spill lemons from your grocery bag, someone else will help you pick them up. Mostly, we don't want to harm each other. We want to be handed our cup of coffee hot, and to say thank you to the person handing it. To smile at them and for them to smile back. For the waitress to call us honey when she sets down the bowl of clam chowder, and for the driver in the red pick-up truck to let us pass. We have so little of each other, now. So far from tribe and fire. Only these brief moments of exchange. What if they are the true dwelling of the holy, these fleeting temples we make together when we say, "Here, have my seat," "Go ahead—you first," "I like your hat."

DANUSA LAMÉRIS

Getting Older in a Nutshell

1. "Who cares if it looks good? I'm comfortable"
2. "Has anyone seen my phone?"
3. "The scale... that cannot be right!"
4. "Did I already take my vitamins?"
5. "Huh, I wonder how I got this bruise..."
6. "Why is the print on these instructions so tiny?"
7. "\$5 for a box of cereal? They raised the price and shrunk the box... such a racket!"
8. "Software update again? I don't like updates."
9. "Who in the world is calling me at 9:30pm?"
10. "Sorry, I forgot what I was going to say."
11. "Wait! What did I come in here for?"
12. "I could've sworn that was my password!"

 Positivity WBE
WBECanada.org

Things that used to hurt my back:

Jumping off garages
Crashing my bike
Falling out of trees
Diving into the shallow end
Contact sports

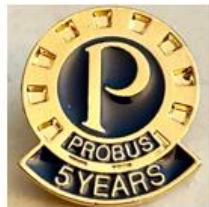
Things that hurt my back now:

Sneezing
Mopping the floor
Washing the dishes
Cooking huge meals
Brushing my teeth
Tying my shoes
Rolling over in bed

HOW TO RECRUIT MEMBERS

- ✓ Your local newspaper will usually put your ad in for free.
 - ✓ Make up flyers for your local stores such as Grocery, Drug, library, and places that seniors frequent.
 - ✓ Flyers can be sent through the mail.
 - ✓ If you have a local TV or radio station, ask if they would be willing to interview you.
 - ✓ Podcasts are also a good source.
 - ✓ Develop a Facebook page to inform people and keep them updated.
 - ✓ A booth at a country market, have book marks made up to give to potential members.
 - ✓ Let other clubs in proximity to your club that have a waiting list know there is room for members.
 - ✓ Word of mouth.
 - ✓ Contest: A member who can bring in the most new members wins a prize.
 - ✓ Be a friend bring a friend.
-

PROBUS PINS



Regular PROBUS lapel pins (not shown) are \$5.50 each in orders of less than 25; \$4.50 each in orders of 25 or more.

The 5, 10, 15, 20, 25 and 30 year pins are \$5.50 each regardless of number ordered.

President (not shown) and/or Past President pins are \$8.00 each regardless of the number ordered.

The prices include taxes and shipping cost. Pins are shipped with an invoice and return envelope.

To order your pins, or for more information, **please contact LORI via email at:** probuslorim@gmail.com

www.probus.org



Martin Capper

By a slim margin, France topped Spain and Italy in a taste-off of the old world wines at the Cappers' al fresco wine tasting in July. With a white and red from each country, participants were asked to state (guess!) country and price to the nearest 50¢! (Prices ranged from \$13.95 – \$16.95) With less than a point on the Tschirhart scoring system between each wine both wines from France came out tops in their colour and overall!

The overall winner was impressive getting 4 prices exactly right.

Participants were asked to dress in the national colours of one or even all of the three countries and the fashionistas of the night award goes to the Millichamps, who even hummed The Marseillaise as we greeted them!

Good friends, good fun, good weather and wine showed us what we had been missing over the last couple of years!

SPEAKER'S CORNER submitted by Jamie Dolittle



During my time as a member of our great PROBUS association, I have had the opportunity and privilege to listen to some dynamic and interesting guest speakers. My appreciation for the wonderful presentation some of these individuals make to us was once again heightened earlier this summer.

Mr. Thanh Campbell spoke to us for about 55 minutes. He had us spellbound and listening to his every word while also showing us slides and clips pertaining to his presentation.

His true story of immigrating to Canada from Vietnam 47 years ago was fascinating and heart-wrenching. Normally some of our members leave our venue early, but not this time.

Mr. Campbell was given a spontaneous standing ovation at the end of his talk. Rarely does this ever happen at our Club.

Therefore, if you want to join the more than 80 PROBUS Clubs who have heard Mr. Campbell's outstanding presentation, I suggest you contact him at:

Thanh Campbell Email: thanhjames32@gmail.com

This Newsletter was created for PROBUS Canada by Mary Campbell, Atlantic Canada & Maine District Director