

# **Lindsay Men's Probus Club**



Chapter #185: Charter Date: February 23rd 2007

On October 14th, we held our monthly meeting, with ~50 members attending. Following a 30-minute social time, Club President, Bill Mackasey, opened the meeting at 10:30 a.m. and welcomed everyone. We then rose for O'Canada.

Bill thanked Rob Jardine and the Mackey/Stoddard Funeral Homes for generously providing the coffee, tea, and treats for today's meeting.

There were no guests or new members at this month's meeting.

Our guest speaker was introduced by Ted Abbot: Ian McKechnie, whose talk was titled "The Rev. Dr. J.W. MacMillan: Social Justice Advocate of Early 20th Century Canada".

A summary of lan's talk is provided on page 2 of the newsletter. Ron Wallace thanked lan for his talk, following which he drew the winning 50/50 ticket, that was won by Mert Davis.

There were several business announcements, and these will be covered in more detail later in the newsletter.

Bill closed the regular meeting at 11:30, and the Club's Annual Meeting was called to order.

Bill opened the annual meeting with his President's Report, which is reproduced in full on page 3, and then handed the MC responsibilities over to Max Radiff, the incoming president.

Max took the opportunity to acknowledge and thank club members who devote their time and energy to making the club a success. He also expressed a concern about the future, with falling membership, and outlined the process to review and address this. Max's report is included on page 4.

The annual meeting agenda and supporting materials had been previously sent to all club members, and all the agenda items were completed. All motions were approved by a show of hands and therefore adopted. The annual meeting was adjourned at noon.

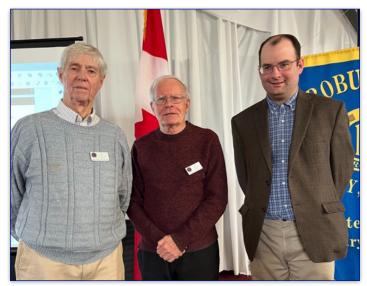
Following the annual meeting, club members enjoyed a lunch prepared by the Kawartha Bakery, complete with bar service.

# Key Points from Ian's talk about the life and legacy of The Rev. Dr. J.W. MacMillan



- Social Responsibility of Business: Dr. MacMillan believed that businesses should prioritize the well-being of people and provide decent living standards before focusing on profits.
- Role of Religious Leaders in Public Affairs: Dr. MacMillan, a Presbyterian minister, advocated for social justice and believed in the responsibility of religious leaders to address societal issues.
- Legacy of Dr. MacMillan's Ideas: Dr. MacMillan's progressive views on social policy remain relevant today.
- Early Life and Career: Born in 1868, studied at Knox College, ordained in 1891, served in Vancouver and Lindsay.
- Community Involvement: Active in hospital and library work in Lindsay, reflecting the public role of clergy in early 20th-century Canada.
- MacMillan's Appointment: Dr. MacMillan was appointed Chair of Christian Sociology at U of T's Victoria College in 1919.
- **MacMillan's Expertise:** He was recognized as a sociologist of high standing, having served as chairman of the Minimum Wage Board for Manitoba and as temporary chairman of the Industrial Disputes Council.
- MacMillan's Concerns: He warned about the state of political discourse in Canada, emphasizing the importance of allowing for unpopular views to be expressed to prevent revolution.
- Later Career: Served congregations in Winnipeg and Halifax, then became a professor at the University of Manitoba.
- **Death and Beliefs:** Reverend Dr. John Walker MacMillan died on April 16th, 1932, believing in a cooperative society anchored by family and the church.
- Legacy at St. Andrew's: MacMillan's portrait hangs at St. Andrew's, overlooking outreach ministries that continue his legacy of serving the community.
- **Inspiration for Modern Advocacy:** MacMillan's advocacy inspires modern advocates for social justice issues like universal basic income and universal healthcare.

# PHOTO'S



Guest Speaker Ian McKechnie [R] was thanked by Ron Wallace[C] and Bill Mackasey.



Wayne Brumwell receives his 15 year from Bob Whitfield and Max Radiff.

# **Annual Meeting Report from Outgoing President, Bill Mackasey**

It's been a pleasure working with the Management Committee over the last 12 months. They have been great guys to work with, and I thank them. I would also like to thank all club members for their participation, especially the engagement displayed with our guest speakers. I also want to take my hat off to the members who worked behind the scenes to keep our club running. There's lots of talent in the club.

We had several events during the year. I was able to visit the new Canoe Museum in Peterborough and the Sharon Temple National Historic Site near Newmarket. Both were learning experiences. I recently heard about an ancient Greek ruler by the name of 'Solon' who lived in Athens around 594 BC. His favourite saying was, and I quote, "Every day grow older and every day learn something new." I think he would have liked to join Probus.

Finally, I want to thank Max Radiff for stepping up to the plate to serve as our next President.

# **Annual Meeting Report from Incoming President, Max Radiff**

Before I share my message, I'd like to thank some of your fellow club members for their contributions this year.

Bill Mackasey, our President, took on the challenging role and led the club to a successful year.

Paul McPherson, our Treasurer, is now the permanent treasurer thanks to the constitutional amendment we passed.

Ron Wallace, Harry Newton, and John Sale, who each served as Secretary, brought their skills and dedication to the position.

Bob Whitfield, our Registrar and Membership Director, maintained accurate member lists and ensured dues were collected.

Ted Abbot and his team, including Bob Barkwell, Wayne Brumwell, Bruce Cameron, and Pat O'Reilly, arranged our monthly speakers, giving us a reason to meet and exist.

John Saunders, our excellent communicator, kept us informed about the club's activities.

Bruce Cameron also took care of our Health and Welfare and operated the monthly 50/50.

To Bill Legere, our technical services person, and to everyone who helped make the recent meetings enjoyable,

Having reviewed the statistics from the survey and your suggestions for the future. Many of you, like the MC members, may have been surprised by the potential for operating the Club in the future.

However, the incoming MC is committed to maintaining business as usual for the Men's Probus Club of Lindsay in the 2025-26 year. We have sufficient cash reserves to operate throughout the year if membership declines. We're looking forward to another year of interesting speakers provided by Ted and his Committee.

A decline in membership will indicate waning interest in the Club and force us to overhaul our operations. A drop in revenue means a drop in our budget, which is based on 75 paid-up members. As of yesterday, we had just 48 paid-up members...thanks for the reserves!

Starting immediately, the Management Committee will begin working to find a solution. We offer no guarantees, but we're determined to try. We'll keep you informed of our progress, and our report with recommendations will be on the Agenda at the next AGM in October 2026.

The MC needs your input to do its work, so please respond to requests for your opinion on aspects of Probus or facts about you and your connection to the Club.

# **Christmas Lunch - Tuesday December 9th 2025**

Ted Abbot created this information board for this years Christmas Lunch.

There are only 96 spaces available based on the room capacity, members are encouraged to sign up, as soon as possible, to reserve their place. A sign up sheet is attached to the email containing this Newsletter, which provides complete instructions on how to sign up and pay for the Lunch.



# **CLUB NOTICES**

Next Club Meeting is on Tuesday November 4th
Speaker: Malcolm Kelly
"RCAF & American Volunteers WW II"

#### **Future Meeting Notices**

- The November meeting will be on the 4th of November; the 1st Tuesday of the month, to avoid any conflicts with Remembrance Day on the 11th of November.
- The Christmas Lunch will be on December 9th at Celebrations and catered by "Heaven on Seven".

# We need more members...

### Be a friend, bring a friend to a PROBUS meeting!

Please consider inviting guests to attend a Club meeting to allow them the opportunity to share the experience and advantages of joining our Club.

#### **Health & Welfare**

If you know of any member who is experiencing health issues at this time, please contact Bruce Cameron ~ cam48retired@gmail.com

#### **OUR ADVERTISERS**

THE BUSINESSES LISTED BELOW SUPPORT OUR CLUB, AND WE HOPE THAT MEMBERS WILL CONSIDER THEM, IF THE SERVICES THEY SUPPLY ARE NEEDED.

Mark V. Wilson P.Eng. President

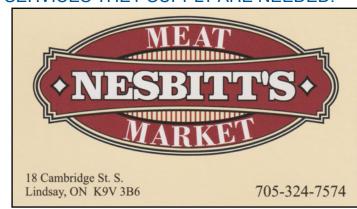


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