



The Probus Letter

Published for the Members of PROBUS CLUBS in CANADA

by: PROBUS CENTRE-CANADA, INC.

MARCH, 2013



**PETER DOYLE
PRESIDENT**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings Probus Clubs and Fellow Probians !

We know we are in Canada in winter when one of the most frequent topics of conversation is the weather. From reports I see across Canada, the extremes result in too frigid, too much snow, too windy, but hardly any complaints about too warm, unless the snow and ice melt and the season ends too early for avid skaters and skiers . There has even been snow in parts of the U.S. South, as golfers in Arizona experienced recently.

The last few months have been busy for our Probus Canada volunteer staff and the Probus Board of Directors.

I am pleased to report that all Probus Clubs have paid their Annual Dues and renewed their membership for 2013. We now have 218 active Clubs, and new Clubs continue to be established. I congratulate the newest Club – **Huntsville Lakes, Ont.** and their sponsors, the **Probus Club of Muskoka North**. The Membership Directory of Probus Clubs of Canada has been updated and mailed to all Clubs in early February. If there are changes in your Club's senior executives during the year, Probus Canada would appreciate being informed.

In the November Issue of The Probus Letter, we advised that Probus Canada's Constitution and By-laws were being reviewed by the Probus Board of Directors, as required by the new "Canada Not- for- Profit Corporations Act", passed in 2011. The review has been completed, and the proposed new Constitution and Bylaws were mailed to all Clubs on January 23, 2013 for review and hopefully approval. Replies are requested by March 26. A final decision will be made by the Board of Directors at its AGM on April 30. So far, responses from Clubs have been positive and we hope to hear from all Clubs before the deadline .

On the subject of insurance, the annual renewal certificate for the General Liability Insurance has been mailed to all Clubs, along with the Membership Directory. Both of these are valuable items for your Club operation and should be kept in a readily accessible location in your files.

The Directors and Officers Insurance was first available to individual Clubs in 2012. Close to 100 Clubs have subscribed to this insurance, and Encon has renewed all policies for 2013. Detailed information was included in the November 2012 " Probus Letter". To apply for coverage, Clubs should contact Patrick Bourk, Integro Insurance Brokers: patrick.bourk@integrogroupp.com or Toll Free at 1-866-791-0055. The renewal process was somewhat cumbersome on this first occasion, and will be reviewed with Mr. Bourk during this year.

For travel / health insurance, individual Probus Members may contact Lisa Hansen, Johnson Insurance-Medoc, at 1-888-412-8822. Also look for further information on this item with this newsletter. The Nomination and Election process for new Probus District Directors has been completed , and information on this item is also included within.

There is a saying that " time passes quickly when you're having fun". I must be enjoying my year as President, as I find it hard to believe that there are less than two months remaining in my term. I have greatly appreciated my contacts with individual Probus Clubs and members, as well as with my colleagues on the Board of Directors and the invaluable support of the Probus Centre Staff. Probus is a healthy and growing organization, and I wish it and all of us continuing success. My very best regards,

Peter



Probus Adventurers 40 members of the Probus Club of Orillia, took part in a 22 day excursion to China. Space does not allow the full details but we are told they had a great time....truly luxurious hotels ... with a view from the shower or tub....a cruise on the Yangzi River climbed the Great Wall had some interesting meals and truly enjoyed each other's company. **Well done Orillia !!**



Another way to enjoy Probus fellowship. Members of the Probus Club of Gravenhurst used their talents to build a parade float and were winners of first prize for their entry !!

(We apologize that we could not show this photo in color It's much better than our limited black and white.)

WHERE ARE WE NOW !!

There has been one new Probus Club Chartered since the 2013 Directory of Probus Clubs was mailed. Please note the following information on this newest member of our family. The new Club is in Ontario, District #2.

THE HUNTSVILLE LAKES PROBUS CLUB, ONT.

(Combined) # 225

76 West Street South, Huntsville, Ont. P1H 1P9

Email: andrew.macleod@bell.net Fax: none

81 Members (Sponsor Probus Club of Muskoka North)

Charter Members 81 2/11/13

Huntsville Lakes Meet - Trinity United Church, 4th Thurs., 10:00 AM

President Andrew MacLeod (705) 636-7877

Secretary Ron Greven (705) 784-0427

PROBUS CLUB NEWSLETTERS

More and more Probus Clubs are interested in sharing their newsletters with other Clubs across the country but are also aware of increasing postal cost. There is a very good alternative available to you ... the Probus Canada web site and there is no cost at all. If you want to know how to put your Club newsletter on the website go to **www.probus.org/newspub.htm** and follow the instructions. If all else fails, go to our friendly website Publisher at..... **brian.kirkwood@sympatico.ca**.

Probus Pins

Regular Probus lapel pins are \$5.50 each in orders of less than 25 but only \$4.50 each in orders of 25 or more.

The 5, 10, 15 and 20 year pins are \$5.50 each regardless of number ordered and the President pin, the Past President pin and the Probus Canada pin are \$8.00 each regardless of the number ordered. The price includes taxes and shipping cost. Pins are shipped with an invoice and return envelope.

To order your pins, or for more information, please contact our Managing Director Reg Whynott by regular mail at 2855 Olympic Road, Qualicum Beach, B.C V9K 2L8 or by email at rwhynott@shaw.ca or by phone at (250) 757-8026.



To access the various suppliers and to view the products available go to the website **www.probus.org/canada.htm** and on the bottom left side of the Canada page see the block entitled "Probus Merchandise" and click on the supplier of choice depending on your particular requirements. You will also find instructions for ordering .

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS - PROBUS CENTRE-CANADA, INC.

In the last week of January, after several weeks of study and concentration, the Board of Directors of Probus Centre-Canada, Inc. authorized the distribution of a revised set of Constitution and By-laws which would be in keeping with the new Government of Canada rules for the operation of Not-for-Profit organizations in our country. A memo accompanied this mailing explaining the reason for the changes and asked for the support of local Probus Clubs for this effort. To this date many of the Clubs have responded but there are still a number of Clubs to be heard from. If, for some reason, you have not received your mailing, please contact the Managing Director for assistance.... rwhynott@shaw.ca . If you still have to mail your return ballot the deadline for posting is March 26, 2013 which is rapidly approaching May we hear from you soon please and thanks for your interest.

Elections to the Board of Directors of Probus Centre-Canada, Inc.

The original call for nominations went out in mid-October, 2012 and from the Clubs in Atlantic Canada we received one nomination from the Probus Club of Greater Moncton and **Steven Campbell** was declared "re-elected by acclamation" for a second three year term.

In Ontario, District # 1 we had one nomination from the Probus Club of Gananoque and **Harold Miller** was declared "elected by acclamation" for a first three year term.

In the District encompassing Northwest Ontario, Manitoba and Saskatchewan we received two nominations in the persons of **Linda Clark**, Probus Club of Regina and **Terry Hercus**, Probus Club of Winnipeg. Ballots were distributed to the Clubs in the District and as a result of the election process **Linda Clark** was elected for a first three year term.

In British Columbia, District #2 we received two nominations in the persons of **Charles David Shargool**, Probus Club of White Rock – South Surrey and **Bill Sexsmith**, Probus Club of Vancouver. Ballots were distributed to all Clubs in the District and as a result of the election process **Bill Sexsmith** was elected for a first three year term.

We extend a very warm welcome to these Directors who will serve as noted and we thank those who also offered their names in nomination for the various areas. Elections to the Probus Centre-Canada Board is a serious matter and in addition to those who offer themselves for the available positions we also thank the various Probus Clubs for their interest and participation in the process.

The newly elected Members of the Board will commence their terms effective April 30th and a new listing of all Officers and Directors will be on the Probus web site shortly thereafter and in the next Probus Letter to all Clubs.

DOES YOUR CLUB HAVE A WAITING LIST ?

How long should a person have to be on a waiting list before becoming a part of Probus and having the privilege of the fellowship that you are able to enjoy ? Do you have a list with names that have been on it for more than a year ? Does your list have more than 20 names on it ? If you said "yes" to either of these last 2 questions may we strongly suggest that you contact your District / Region Director (list right) and ask about the formation of a new Probus Club It's not that difficult !!

CURRENT OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS OF PROBUS CENTRE – CANADA, INC.

- President** **Peter Doyle**, Kanata, Ont. (Ont. #1)
Tel: (613) 592-5253
Email: doylepd@rogers.com
- Vice-President** **Steve Campbell**, Moncton, N.B.(Atlantic)
Tel: (506) 532-5541
Email: skcampbl@nb.sympatico.ca
- Treasurer** **Maureen Irving**, Kitchener, Ont. (Ont. #4)
Tel: (519) 744-6727
Email: mirving6727@rogers.com
- Secretary** **Muriel Dodge**, Salmon Arm, B.C. (B.C.#3)
Tel: (250) 832-4144
Email: muriel.l.dodge@gmail.com
- Past-President*** **Keith Trail**, Nanaimo, B.C.
Tel: (250) 751-1055
Email: ektvrt@telus.net
* (Appointed – Non-Voting)

DIRECTORS

- Barry Ashton** Calgary, Alberta
Tel: (403) 698-5789
Email: bw.ashton@shaw.ca
- James Bracken** Winnipeg, Manitoba
Tel: (204) 269-6484
Email: jbracken@mts.net
- John Flood** Wasaga Beach, Ont. (Ont. Dist. # 5)
Tel: (705) 429-4935
Email: wasaga.floods@gmail.com
- Richard Furlong** Newmarket, Ont. (Ont. Dist.#2)
Tel: (905) 853-4625
Email: furlongrj@rogers.com
- John Howarth** Qualicum Beach, B.C. (B.C. Dist. #1)
Tel: (250) 752-6658
Email: chrisandjohn@shaw.ca
- Nancy Kedzierski** Brantford, Ont. (Ont. Dist. # 6)
Tel: (519) 756-2864
Email: nancy.j.k@rogers.com
- John Leonard** Vancouver, B.C. (B.C. Dist. #2)
Tel: (604) 924-9286
Email: jhleonard@shaw.ca
- E.G.(Ted) Nixon**..... Oakville, Ontario (Ont. Dist. #3)
Tel: (905) 847-0871
Email: mtnixon@cogeco.ca

Non-Voting Appointees

- Web Page Publisher**..... **Brian Kirkwood**, Wasaga Beach, Ont.
Tel: (705) 429-2406 Fax: (705) 429-5499
Email: brian.kirkwood@sympatico.ca
- Financial Manager**..... **Gordon Hutton**, Qualicum Beach, B.C.
Tel: (250) 752-4805
Email: vanislegord@shaw.ca
- Managing Director**..... **Reg Whynott**, Qualicum Beach, B.C.
Tel: (250) 757-8026 Fax: (250) 757-8036
Email: rwhynott@shaw.ca

If your Club is in need of assistance or guidance with any Probus related item please do not hesitate to contact any of the Officers or Directors listed above. For administrative items or ordering of Probus pins please contact the Managing Director.



JOHN REYNOLDS MORRIS
FOUNDER & PRESIDENT EMERITUS
PROBUS CENTRE-CANADA, INC.
MAY 21, 1918 – DECEMBER 1, 2012

On December 1, 2012 Probus Centre-Canada, Inc. and Probus Clubs and Members across Canada lost a great friend and inspiration to all. John R. Morris left us to make another journey, perhaps to start a Probus Club in a totally new location, and he will be sadly missed by all. Probus Canada Director for Ontario District #2, Richard Furlong, represented Probus Canada at the service for John, accompanied by a large number of former Members of the Board as well as members of Probus Clubs across Canada. The following is part of the words used by Richard in addressing those in attendance about John and his over 25 years of active, in-depth, involvement with Probus:

“As of December, 2012, more than 30,000 Probus members in 217 active Canadian Clubs can thank John Reynolds Morris for introducing Probus Clubs to Canada. John was the founder of Probus in Canada, the first President of Probus Centre - Canada and most recently Founder and President Emeritus. As President Emeritus, his wisdom and sage advice was an invaluable asset to the Directors of Probus Centre-Canada, Inc.

A Rotarian since 1946, and Past District Governor of Rotary International 1976-1977 in an area covering Southwest Ontario and New York State, John was made a Paul Harris Fellow of Rotary in 1976 and Rotary International Benefactor and was the personal representative of the President of Rotary International at five District Conferences. During a trip to Australia and New Zealand in 1981, John saw at first hand the enjoyment people were experiencing through Probus membership. He felt that retired people in Canada could share the benefits of Probus and was determined to introduce it to Canada. He credits Probus South Pacific as playing an important role in the formation of Probus in Canada. His acquaintances from Australia supplied him with documents and booklets including instructions on 'How to Form a Probus Club' which he rewrote modifying it into a document that would apply to the Canadian Clubs. He scheduled several speaking engagements to Rotary Clubs. This was the impetus needed to organize the formation of Probus Clubs locally and eventually across Canada. During this period, he visited forty-three Rotary Clubs requesting their assistance in the formation of Probus with five visits to the west coast and four to the east coast.

As time went on, after many years as Administrator and one of the leaders of the organization, John decided it was time to pass the reins to others and was directly involved in the process of finding someone to serve as Managing Director of Probus Centre-Canada and he announced that he would soon retire from the Board. However, when that time came his Colleagues chose otherwise and appointed him "Founder and President Emeritus" in 2002 with a permanent seat on the Board of Directors and he has served in that position with dedication and distinction since that time. It should be said that John has been fortunate to have his wife Doris, herself a distinguished "Pioneer" of Probus in Canada, at his side giving him 100% of her support over the many early years of development of the organization.

We at Probus Canada will miss John very much as we go along but it is certain that, although he will be missed he will not soon be forgotten. On behalf of the Officers and Directors of Probus Centre-Canada, Inc and Probus Members across our country we express our very sincere condolences to his family and friends.”

NOTE : As a tribute to John, Probus Centre-Canada has made a donation to the Stevenson Hospital in Alliston, Ont.

Our sincere appreciation to all who attended at the service for John ... he would have appreciated it !