



The Probus Letter

Published for the Members of PROBUS CLUBS in CANADA

by: PROBUS CENTRE-CANADA, INC.

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December, 2008



Arthur Buck
President

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It's hard to believe that we're at the end of another year--and boy what a year it has been. Our efforts across this Country have brought us to 200 Clubs, the "long sought after" number and now we can set our sights on a new target ... perhaps 250. My thanks to all who helped to make this growth happen and may it continue !

And "**Rendezvous 2008---Catch the Wave**"---held in Saint John N.B. in late September, which turned out to be a "super" success. The ---food--- fellowship--- entertainment---tours---and not to forget the discussions & the comments from the workshops---left us with much pride about the benefits of belonging to such a great group called "**PROBUS**". I personally met so many from across Canada who commented on their pleasure at being involved with our organization. Our Board will be discussing many of the recommendations brought up during the workshops, particularly

those dealing with improved communications, and sharing more information between Clubs.

A very sincere "**Congratulations**" to the **Saint John Clubs**, their non Club volunteers---and to all our members who were there to enjoy their efforts.

There still remains with "yours truly" my wish to see our Clubs increasing our efforts to obtain more "media" coverage of our meetings and the messages from our speakers. I still find that in many of our communities, the name Probus, and "what is it" or "who are they", is still a commonly asked question.

Another item we would like to challenge you with, is to make a continued effort to keep our Managing Director up to date with a "current" E-mail address for your Club. Your Board will be concentrating on finding a method whereby we can better communicate and share ideas...information...even newsletters... with our total membership. However, for a successful venture we really need current electronic addresses.

On a not so happy note----2008 saw us loose one of our earlier formed Clubs. The **Probus Club of Tillonsburg, (#11)** served us notice that they wished to surrender their Charter earlier this month. A real effort was put forth by those involved to avoid this event but to no avail, and we thank everyone for all that they have done for the Community over the years. At the same time, on a happier note, the **Probus Club of Saskatoon** has had their Charter (# 10) re-instated after a number of years of inactivity and we welcome them back to a relationship with all of the Clubs across Canada.

December 31st is the deadline for Clubs to renew their membership and insurance premiums with Probus Canada. As of the date of this message 139 of our Clubs have sent in their renewal documents so I ask you to share this newsletter with ALL your "executive", and help us get our registrations up to date by the 31st.

And, speaking of the year end, may I, on behalf of all your Board Members and appointees, extend a very **warm---healthy...safe... and Happy Festive Holiday.**

Remember, a good "resolution" for 2009 is to offer a smile... a warm greeting... and an open mind to everyone we meet.

All the best, Art

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From around the Clubs... Jerry Burns from the Probus Club of White Rock/South Surrey suggest that if you have a member leaving your Club to move to another community, you should either provide that Member with a contact name from your Probus Canada Membership Directory or perhaps even notify the Probus Club in the new community that a Probus Member is relocating to their area .

PROBUS CANADA ELECTIONS – 2009

It's that time of the year when Probus Canada looks to the Clubs across the country to solicit nominations for positions for the Board of Directors of Probus Centre-Canada, Inc.

Because we are divided into Districts or Regions, there are not always requests for all Clubs to participate but only those who may have vacancies occurring in any particular year. However, for information purposes, all Clubs will receive a copy of the Call for Nominations.

This year, there will be vacancies in Ontario in Districts # 2, # 3 and # 4 and in B.C. in District # 1. In some cases there will be Directors who are eligible to stand for re-election and in others a new Director may be sought.

By now your Club should have received the necessary forms and for Clubs in those areas mentioned above we urge you to give serious attention to this item. All required information will be on the form including the Duties of Directors and the details for nominations.

Remember, those on the national Board are Probus Members nominated and elected by you to represent your Club, Clubs in your specific district or region, and also to represent Probus across Canada. They are the ones who promote and are available to be directly involved in the development of new Probus Clubs and provide the guidelines and support for those already established so your input is important and appreciated.



Recently we were honoured by a visit to Canada by Chris Norwood, Chairman of Probus South Pacific (center) shown with Probus Canada Treasurer Keith Trail (left) and Managing Director Reg Whynott (Right). Probus South Pacific includes Australia, New Zealand & Fiji and they have over 2000 Clubs with 190,000 + individual members. Chris was in Canada on holiday and also to visit with his brother and family in Ontario.

“A HAPPY GROUP INDEED”

This happy group to the right are Members of the Organizing Committee of the Probus “Rendezvous 2008” held in Saint John, N.B. this past September. Having just received “Certificates of Appreciation” from Probus Canada President Art Buck (3rd from left) they have a right to smile at the success of a tremendous event. Just under 300 attendees took advantage of Saint John hospitality to enjoy three days of fun, fellowship and idea exchange in Canada’s “Loyalist City”. Survey returns are already in and, with few exceptions, they express feelings of great satisfaction and enjoyment with lots of opportunity for business as well as sight seeing and just plain good times.

Thank You Saint John !!



The John R. Morris Founder’s Award

Probus Canada President Art Buck (far left) is very pleased to be presenting the “John R. Morris Founder’s Award” to a long time Probus Member who has definitely made his mark in “outstanding support for the growth and development of Probus across Canada” over the past 15 years as a member.

Bill Brydges is a Charter Member and a Past President of the Probus Club of Saint John, N.B. He has also served on the Board of Directors of Probus Centre-Canada, Inc. doing so with dedication and commitment. He has also been involved in the development of new Probus Clubs in his area and most recently, without hesitation, successfully served as Co-Chair of the Probus Canada Rendezvous 2008 held in his community.

Congratulations Bill !!

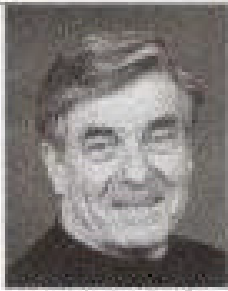


IMPORTANT REMINDER !!

A few weeks ago all Clubs should have received a “Request for Renewal” of Membership and Insurance Premiums for the calendar year 2009. Many of the Clubs have responded and we appreciate that very much. However, a number of Clubs are still outstanding and we would respectfully ask that you give this matter your serious attention. The deadline for receipt of your renewal is Dec. 31st to ensure that your Club is listed in the new Membership Directory of Probus Clubs in Canada and to ensure that you receive the Liability Insurance coverage for the year ahead. If for any reason you have not received your copy of the mailing please advise the Managing Director, Reg Whynott immediately and a copy can be sent to you. (See contact information below).

Once again we urge you to give this very important matter your immediate attention !

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The President and all Members of the Board of Directors wish to express their sincere appreciation to all Probos Clubs and their Members for the excellent support and co-operation over this past year and, in fact, over the past several years. It is only with a positive attitude toward our organization that we are able to continue to grow and develop and provide opportunities for our Members to enjoy the fellowship and sharing that Probos provides.

We collectively wish for you and yours a Safe and Happy Holiday Season and may 2009 bring you much joy and happiness !

* Non Voting