



The Probus Letter

Published for the Members of PROBUS CLUBS in CANADA
by: PROBUS CENTRE-CANADA, INC.

JUNE, 2012

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings Probus Clubs and Fellow Probians !



**PETER DOYLE
PRESIDENT**

This is my first opportunity to communicate with you since being elected as President of the Probus Canada Board of Directors at the Board's AGM on April 27th. Also joining me on the Board's Executive are Steve Campbell, Vice President; Maureen Irving, Treasurer; Muriel Dodge, Secretary and Keith Trail as Past President. Complete information on the Board is provided overleaf.

It has been a busy Spring for the chartering of new Probus Clubs. I congratulate the following six new Clubs and their sponsors: **Women's Lindsay, Ont.** (Men's Lindsay); **Salmon Arm, B.C.** (Shuswap); **Copper Island, B.C.** (Shuswap); **Annapolis Valley, N.S.** (Halifax); **Mountain View Collingwood, Ont.** (Collingwood Gateway); and **The Sunshine Women's** (Twin City Women's). Further information on Page 3.

Early in 2012, Clubs were advised of a new liability insurance policy which took effect Dec.31,2011; to summarize:

a) **Catlin** is the new carrier for the third party liability insurance. This is placed through Probus Canada as a group policy, covering all Probus Clubs. The premium is included in the annual dues paid by each Club to Probus Canada (60 cents per individual member). Members hosting Probus events at their homes also receive protection and also Club Members are protected against action by another Member in the event of an unfortunate event.

b) A new initiative by the Board was to provide Clubs with the opportunity to purchase Directors and Officers liability insurance on an individual Club basis. The carrier is **Encon**, and the annual premium is \$300 per Club. So far, more than 50 Clubs have bought the insurance, about 25% of Probus Clubs. For further information, please contact Patrick Bourk, Integro Insurance Brokers (toll free- 1-866-791-0555; email- patrick.bourk@integrogroup.com).

Clubs are also reminded that travel insurance, and health and dental insurance in general, is available to individual Probus members through **Johnson Insurance-Medoc** (contact Lisa Hansen, 1-888-412-8822).

Rendezvous 2011 was held in Vancouver in September 2011. One of the features was Workshops where Clubs shared information and experiences on a wide range of subjects of interest to Clubs. A Summary Report of the Recommendations for Probus Canada, and for Local Probus Clubs, is on Page 4. At this point, there has been no decision on a future Rendezvous, nor have any Clubs offered to sponsor one. In certain parts of the country, some Clubs meet periodically for larger social gatherings; one example is "Spring Fling" in Ontario District 1. In B.C. the Clubs do get together regularly and in workshop format exchange ideas & information ..similarly in other parts of Ontario and at least one event has been held recently in the Atlantic Region.

In 2017, Canada will celebrate its 150th Anniversary. Probus Canada has been invited to participate in an initiative entitled "Canada 150", which is intended to gather personal memories and remembrances. The Probus Board is considering how Probus Canada and individual Clubs might be involved. More information will be provided when available.

My appreciation is extended to Keith Trail, now Past President, for his diligence and wisdom in carrying out some difficult and time-consuming responsibilities as President over the past year, also to Judy Saunders for her dedication as Treasurer and previously Secretary of the Board, and to Gordon Springate for his many years of excellent and committed service to the Board, especially as President and then Past President. I wish all Clubs a rewarding and exciting 2012-2013, and look forward to assisting in any possible way.

My very best regards, Peter



On March 17th this year, the **Probus Club of Cambridge**, Ontario, the **first** Probus Club Chartered in Canada, celebrated their 25th Anniversary. Among the many in attendance was our **Probus Canada President Keith Trail**, seen above presenting a certificate of "Congratulations" to **Cambridge President George Barrie** on behalf of all Clubs across Canada and he complimented George and the Members of the Cambridge Club for their leadership which has led to Probus becoming a household word across our country. **"CONGRATULATIONS CAMBRIDGE"**.

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

The original call for nominations went out in mid-October, and from the Clubs in Ontario District #4 we received one nomination from the Women's Probus Club of Waterloo and **Maureen Irving** was declared "re-elected by acclamation" for a second three year term.

In B.C. District # 1 we had one nomination from the Probus Club of Qualicum Beach and **John Howarth** was declared "elected by acclamation" for a first three year term.

In Ontario District #2 we had four candidates nominated in the persons of Lucille Birchall, Maple Leaf Women's Probus Club; Bob Coryell, Probus Club of Midland-Huron; Richard Furlong, Men's Probus Club of Newmarket and Robert James Hookey, Probus Club of Alliston. Ballots were distributed to all Clubs in the District and as a result of the election process **Richard Furlong** was elected for a first three year term.

In Ontario District #3 we had two candidates nominated in the persons of E.G. (Ted) Nixon, Probus Club of North Oakville and David Trueman, Probus Club of Burlington. Ballots were distributed to all Clubs in the District and as a result of the election process **E.G. (Ted) Nixon** was elected for a first three year term.

Following the elections the new Board of Directors met and elected Officers for the year 2012-13 as listed on the column on the right side of this page. Again we express our sincere appreciation for their interest & dedication.

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: flashflood@rogers.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

- President-Emeritus**..... **John R. Morris**, Alliston, Ont.
Tel: (705) 435-3963 Fax: (705)435-6487
Email: jdgbmorris@sympatico.ca
- 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.

WHERE ARE WE NOW

The following new Clubs have been chartered since the last distribution of the Directory and we welcome them into the Probus family. Please add them to your Directory in the space provide at the end of your listings.

THE WOMEN'S PROBUS CLUB OF LINDSAY, ONT. (Women) #218

P. O. Box 241, Lindsay, Ont. K9V 4S1
 Email: truax@sympatico.ca Fax: (705) 324-7409
 75 Members (Sponsor – Men's Probus Club of Lindsay)
 Charter Members 75 3/21/12
 WOMEN'S LINDSAY MEET Masonic Hall, 4th Tues., 10:00 AM
 President Barbara Truax (705) 324-6257
 Secretary Wanda Percival (705) 324-0253

THE PROBUS CLUB OF SALMON ARM, B.C. (Combined) # 219

1241 - 23 Avenue S.W., Salmon Arm, B.C. V1E 0A9
 Email: msberger@shaw.ca Fax: none
 14 Members (Sponsor Probus Club of Shuswap)
 Charter Members 14 5/18/12
 SALMON ARM MEET The Downtown Activity Centre, 1st Tues., 10:00 AM
 President Jack Armfelt (250) 833-0638
 Secretary Sande Berger (250) 804-0977

THE PROBUS CLUB OF COPPER ISLAND, B.C. (Combined) # 220

c/o Mr. D. Brown, 2380 Forest Drive, Blind Bay, B.C. V0E 1H2
 Email: smpbrown@shaw.ca Fax: none
 18 Members (Sponsor Probus Club of Shuswap)
 Charter Members 18 5/18/12
 COPPER ISLAND MEET Toby's Restaurant, Sorrento, 2nd Thurs., 10:00 AM
 President Simon M.P. Brown (250) 675-2140
 Secretary Douglas Brown (250) 675-4745

THE PROBUS CLUB OF ANNAPOLIS VALLEY, N.S. (Combined) #221

4092 Hwy. #14, R.R. #3, Windsor, N.S. B0N 2T0
 Email: wjj@xcountry.tv Fax: none
 16 Members (Sponsor Probus Club of Halifax)
 Charter Members 16 5/18/12
 ANNAPOLIS VALLEY meet Kings Riverside Crt Kentville Last Thurs., 10:00 AM
 President Wally Jarvis (902) 679-3419
 Secretary Moira Ducharme (902) 792-1757

THE PROBUS CLUB OF MOUNTAIN VIEW COLLINGWOOD, ONT. (Combined) # 222

c/o Schiefer, 147 Ontario Street, Collingwood, Ont. L9Y 4M4
 Email: Paul_tranquada@sympatico.ca Fax: none
 38 Members (Sponsor Probus Club of Collingwood Gateway)
 Charter Members 38 5/24/12
 MOUNTAIN VIEW MEET Craigleith Community Ctr., 3rd. Tues., 10:00 AM
 President Paul Tranquada (416) 258-9184
 Secretary Doug Wilson (705) 444-2538

THE SUNSHINE WOMEN'S PROBUS CLUB, ONT. (Women) # 223

131 Patricia Avenue, Kitchener, Ont. N2M 1J5
 Email: rosebez@rogers.com Fax: none
 175 Members (Sponsor Twin City Women's Probus Club)
 Charter Members 175 6/18/12
 SUNSHINE WOMEN'S MEET Sunshine Ctr., Waterloo, 2nd Thurs, 9:30 AM
 President Rose Bezruki (519) 576-6913
 Secretary Deb Gemell (519) 886-0684

We welcome these new Clubs and we thank their sponsors for working to develop them and get them started. Please add their information to your Directory and perhaps even visit them in the weeks ahead. Probus Canada has now chartered 223 Clubs with over 30,000 individual Members, an accomplishment of which we can all be proud.

SPEAKERS CORNER !!

Has your Club had a speaker lately that you think would be of interest to other Probus Clubs across the country? Are you looking for speakers of interest that you would like to invite to your Club ? Are you aware that the Probus Canada website has a special location entitled "**Speaker's Corner**" and it is available for your use and sharing with other Clubs. Check us out at www.probus.org/spkrcmr.htm .

PROBUS CLUB NEWSLETTERS

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 the 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.



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 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 .

HEALTH & TRAVEL INSURANCE

Interested in more information on this program. See the updated website created by the carrier, Johnson Inc. Check their website at www.johnson.ca/probus or call Lisa at 1-888-412-8822 or Gary at 1-800-661-1973.

PROBUS CENTRE-CANADA, INC.

REPORTS & RECOMMENDATIONS FROM RENDEZVOUS 2011

A summary with recommendations has been received from the Organizing Committee of Rendezvous 2011 held last fall in Vancouver, B.C. The report was submitted on April 25, 2012 and was reviewed at the recent Annual General Meeting of Probus Centre Canada and summarized as follows. Probus Canada will take their recommendations under serious consideration and will take whatever action is deemed necessary in the weeks and months ahead. We urge all Clubs, whether they were participants at Rendezvous or not, to consider the recommendations related to them and discuss their value to their own Club. We thank the R2011 Organizing Committee for their report and hope there is value in their recommendations for your particular Club.

Recommendations for Probus Canada

- More publicity on the role of Probus Canada, services available – website, insurance, Probus pins & products.
- More encouragement to Clubs for inter-Club activity, idea exchange, visitations.
- Establish one or more vehicles to share good ideas of Clubs – good speakers, successful outings and activities.
- Promote more ways to generate “fellowship” among Members across the country.
- Encourage more “regional” events, both of an educational and social nature.(Provincially/ by Districts)
- Establish contact/collaboration with Rotary and with C.A.R.P.
- Provide more communications and newsletters.
- Need for a clear statement of mission purpose.
- More promotion of the use of the Probus Canada website --- sharing Club Newsletters, contact points with other Clubs locally, nationally and internationally.
- Review Rendezvous and establish better guidelines if the idea is to continue and become successful.

Recommendations for the Local Probus Clubs

- Avoid long “waiting lists” ... consider establishing a new Probus Club contact your Regional Director or Probus Canada office for guidance.
- Occasionally generate local publicity to promote new members to your Club (Media, Poster Boards, etc.)
- Give special attention to attracting younger retirees (55-65 years) by providing physical activities such as golf, bike trips, hiking, bowling, overnight trips.
- For all Members, in addition to the above and to speakers at General Meetings, plan special lunch outings, book club, bridge, computer education, investment clubs, walking/hiking, current affairs discussion group.
- Form a “CARE” group to provide fellowship and contact with members who are in distress of a personal nature illness, bereavement, shut-in, etc.
- Post your Club newsletter on the Probus Canada website for all to see and find new ideas. Share your newsletter with the other Clubs in your Region/District.
- Have regular Member Profiles at Club meetings – 10 minute “Who Am I” or short bio in the Club news.
- Plan ahead for successors to all Management Committee positions. Have a “back-up” person for each position with the idea they will inherit the job one day. Let the “back-up” person have the opportunity to serve in the capacity they are supporting for experience and confidence building.
- Get to know your Regional/District Director from Probus Canada as they can be a good source of information and guidance. Invite them to your Club for a meeting and provide a few minutes for an update of national events and activities and services available.
- Give careful consideration to your annual budget and ensure that you will have adequate funds to cover your annual expenses with a small contingency to cover any unexpected needs. (sound system repair, etc.) Do not work to generate a large surplus of funds a reasonable amount to have in reserve is one year of expenses.
- Consider developing a brochure about your Club which could be available for delivery to new retirees moving into your neighborhood.