



# \*The Probus Letter\*

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

MARCH, 2015



MAUREEN IRVING  
PRESIDENT

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings Everyone, I trust that you have not given up on Canada, even though the deep freeze of winter has a tight grip on much of our country. It's an opportunity to find new and better ways to stay warm. PROBUS offers a warm welcome to all of its members every month, and the fellowship and learning continues to provide us with fond memories that warm our hearts.

In March, we take the opportunity to enlighten ourselves about our history in PROBUS Canada, and to share that good news with others. Throughout the month and throughout the country, clubs are organizing events and celebrations within their clubs or within their communities, individually or cooperatively with other PROBUS clubs. The growing enthusiasm is wonderful to witness. One positive way to demonstrate our appreciation for PROBUS would be to investigate the formation of a new PROBUS club in our community or

beyond. Another would be to connect with a local Rotary club to express our gratitude to them for their initiative in sponsoring PROBUS clubs as a community service for retired persons.

We need to remember John R. Morris, a Rotarian, who witnessed PROBUS in action while in Australia and New Zealand with Rotary business. He was so inspired that, following his return to Canada, he dedicated much of his time promoting the concept across the country by speaking to any Rotary club that would listen. His wife, Doris, partnered with him in this endeavour and was instrumental in promoting the participation of women. How fortunate we are to benefit from their great efforts! Sincere Best to All !

*Maureen*

## **MARCH IS NATIONAL PROBUS MONTH ACROSS CANADA !! LET'S TELL RETIREES IN CANADA WHO WE ARE AND INVITE THEM TO JOIN WITH US TO SHARE IN THE EXPERIENCE OF BEING A MEMBER AND ENJOYING OUR FELLOWSHIP !**



STEVE CAMPBELL  
PAST PRESIDENT

The initial thinking behind National PROBUS Month (NPM) was to celebrate the PROBUS experience, to get to know PROBUS from within and to enhance its recognition and visibility throughout the country. If ever there was a doubt that the PROBUS experience is something special, the enthusiastic response from clubs all across the country through such a wide range of activities is exciting.

So many clubs wrote to tell of the activities they have in planning for March. Lately, as plans were being realized, reports have come flooding in. As well, there are many clubs that have special activities planned but haven't made a report as yet. The overriding feeling is one of celebration and enthusiasm. National PROBUS Month has indeed caught on! Space permits only a comprehensive listing at this time, but a full report will be available shortly after NPM. The bare listing doesn't begin to suggest the effort that has gone into planning.

For their PROBUS Day, Clubs are: creating new websites, creating a club flag, having their flag or a PROBUS banner flown at their Town/City Hall, having their municipality declare National PROBUS Month (at least 4 at last count), getting special reports on PROBUS in their local media, one is creating a cookbook, most are having special meetings with breakfast, or lunch, or dinner, one club developed a PROBUS information poster for display, others are using the event to recognize their founding members and special members who deserve recognition with awards, and at least one PROBUS song is being written. The beat goes on....

To honour the first PROBUS Club in Canada, Cambridge, Ont., March 1987, the first National PROBUS Month was designated for March last year, and again this year. If this second year was to be a test, NPM is surpassing expectations. Perhaps, knowing PROBUS as we do, we should have known better; the joy of the PROBUS experience is deeply entrenched. Next year should be breathtaking. Please send in a report of your NPM celebrations and their measure of success. As complete a report as possible will be sent out by early summer in plenty of time to begin planning for next year.

Thank you to all PROBUS clubs. *Happy PROBUS Day !*

*Steve*

**WHERE ARE WE NOW !!**

The new MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY OF PROBUS CLUBS IN CANADA has been distributed to all of our clubs for their information and use. Please remember that this publication is for PROBUS use only and the details within should be kept for that purpose.

Although the newest PROBUS Club in Canada is in the Directory, it is still appropriate that we welcome the new Club to the PROBUS family and urge you to take note of the details that follow should you choose to extend the hand of fellowship to them or perhaps visit if you are in their neighbourhood.

**THE PROBUS CLUB OF TORONTO, ONT.** (Comb.) #244  
4 Earl Street, Toronto, Ont. M4Y 1M3

Email: probus.toronto@gmail.com Fax: none  
49 Members (Sponsor Men's PROBUS Club of Newmarket)  
Charter Members 49 1/20/15

TORONTO MEET Holy Rosary Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> Wed., 10:00 AM

President John Agnew (416) 580-3568

Secretary Bev Mahler (416) 920-8627

Please remember .... if you have a long "waiting list" or, for whatever reason, need information on how to start a new PROBUS Club in your area you have much support available to you when thinking about the process. Look to the list of Officers and Directors on this page and do not hesitate to contact your specific Director or the PROBUS Canada Managing Director and assistance will be available immediately.



Unfortunately there are occasions when we have to share sad news with our PROBUS Colleagues across Canada and recently we lost a most dedicated Member from our ranks. Stone Avery was a Founding Member of the PROBUS Club of Cobourg and District who filled a variety of volunteer positions in his Club through to, and including, President. He went on to serve on the Board of Directors of PROBUS Canada, once again making his usual willing and valuable talents and time available. He was recognized by his own Club as an **Honorary Life Member** and by PROBUS Canada as a recipient of the **John R. Morris Founders Award** for his contribution at the national level. Stone was a true example of a quality PROBUS Member making a major contribution.

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

- President** ..... **Maureen Irving**, Kitchener, Ont. (Ont. #4)  
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*If your Club is in need of assistance 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. Much information on PROBUS in Canada, and elsewhere, can be found on the PROBUS Canada website ..... [www.probus.org/canada.htm](http://www.probus.org/canada.htm) .*



The PROBUS Club of Cowichan Valley, B.C. got an early start on PROBUS MONTH by recognizing a number of their Charter Members of the Club who have been with them for almost 19 years. "Founding Members" are very special in any Club and at their 225 monthly meeting the Club recognized the following Active Members: (sitting l-r) Dorothy Gordon, Dorothy Madden, Pat Guest, Dorothy Wood..... (standing l-r) Horst Nowrath, Bob King, Russ Barber, John Berikoff, Tom Walker, Jack Abercrombie, Jo Bodard. We compliment this Club and the many others who will be conducting similar types of events in March and, as usual, throughout the months and years ahead.

**HEALTH & TRAVEL INSURANCE**

A number of our Members have enrolled in their choice of programs available through our working partners, Johnson Inc. Check out their special web site which can be found at [www.johnson.ca/probus](http://www.johnson.ca/probus) or call toll free to their office at **1-888-412-8822** and identify yourself as a PROBUS Member and give the name of your PROBUS Club as well. Let them know of your needs and they will provide the information to you.

**EDITOR'S PONDERING !**

**When I read the purpose of "PROBUS" I can't help but think that it's one of the best possible facilities I know of to assist in the process of aging !  
Just a thought for consideration !**

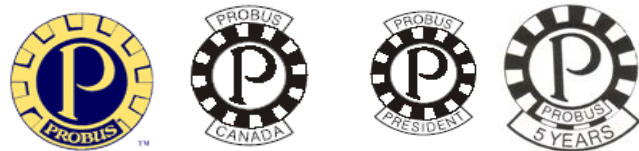
**Have you visited the PROBUS website lately ?? It's easy to do and there is so much valuable information there for your perusal. You will find details on Clubs in Canada as well as around the world if that's your desire. For the overall web site go to [www.probus.org](http://www.probus.org) and if you are especially interested in PROBUS in Canada go to [www.probus.org/canada.htm](http://www.probus.org/canada.htm) .**

**Probus Pins & Other Supplies**

**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, 20 and 25 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](mailto: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](http://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 .

**Ms. Jane Murphy, PROBUS Centenarian, Women's PROBUS Club of South-East New Brunswick.**

Marlene Pearce, President, proudly introduces one of their truly outstanding active Members, Ms. Jane Murphy. Jane joined the Club in 2003 and is a regular attendee and active participant. She enjoys the thought stimulating programs and speakers although at age 97 she did surrender her driving license. Much of her summers is spent at the cottage in the Shediac area often with her family which includes ten (10) grandchildren and five (5) great- grandchildren. Recently she displayed her art at the 83<sup>RD</sup> Art Exhibition and Display in Moncton and to honor her 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday her Club presented her with a beautiful basket of roses.

A Centenarian...yes; a PROBUS Member.... yes ; a friendly person ... yes , and as she says .... "I am not a publicity person".



**HAPPY 100<sup>TH</sup> JANE !!**

### **Affordable Directors' & Officers' Liability Insurance is Available for PROBUS Clubs!**

PROBUS Centre – Canada is aware of the interest that many of our local Clubs have in obtaining insurance to protect their Board of Directors, Officers, Committee Members and Volunteers. We are pleased to advise that a solution has now been secured. Through Integro Insurance Brokers, PROBUS CENTRE – Canada is pleased to make available to each local PROBUS Club, Directors' & Officers' Liability Insurance Coverage that is comprehensive and affordable.

#### ***What is Directors' & Officers' Insurance designed to do ?***

The Board of Directors / Management Committee of each local PROBUS Club carries a responsibility to make sure that the operations of the local Club are managed appropriately. In the event that a PROBUS member or outside third party believes that the management team has exercised its management authority inappropriately, the PROBUS Club's Board of Directors, Officers, Committee Members and/or Volunteers could be held liable for the resulting damage. A bus trip organized by a PROBUS Club that results in an accident for which the management team is held responsible (e.g. it was poorly organized and the choice of bus charter was inappropriate/dangerous) could well result in a lawsuit for which coverage under a Directors' & Officers' Liability insurance policy could be triggered.

#### ***Where can additional information, regarding the insurance program, be obtained?***

**Please contact Patrick Bourk at Integro Insurance Brokers for more details:**

Email: patrick.bourk@integrogroupp.com Tel. (416) 619-8097 Toll Free 1-866-791-0055 Fax: (416) 619-8098



How cool was it in Ottawa .... does it really matter ... these hearty Members of the **PROBUS Club of Western Ottawa** were not to be deterred from their regular weekly exercise trek just because of a little snow. If it was warm enough for dog Maggie it was also OK for L-R .... Carolyn O'Malley , Marianne Gibson, Martha Maslen and Judy Makin !



Not to be outdone by their PROBUS Colleagues in Western Ottawa these 13 hearty souls from the **Applewood (Mississauga) PROBUS Club** attended at their weekly hike despite the -10C temperature and found warmth and comfort in the fellowship being shared among their group ..... good health is indeed essential !

We have all said it, or heard it said, that **PROBUS** is a place for ongoing learning as well as fellowship. At the **PROBUS Club of Saugeen Shores, Ont.**, the Club paid special recognition to Member **HARRY SCHILDROTH** who at the age of 84 years, has demonstrated his commitment to "life long learning" by becoming the oldest student to receive the **GED – a high school equivalency certificate**. Harry was also recognized in various media outlets for his accomplishment. We at PROBUS CANADA echo the words of his PROBUS Club.... **"Nice Going Harry, you've done us all proud"**.

#### **From Around the Clubs .....**

\*\*\* **PROBUS Club of Saint John, N.B.** ..... two detectives were assigned to a mugging case in an alley in mid-town. "You were mugged", said the first Officer .... "Yes" the turtle said, "By a gang of snails." "Tell us what happened" .. said the second Officer. "I don't know" said the turtle .... "It all happened so fast". Corny perhaps.... but clean !

\*\*\* **PROBUS Club of Leeds & Grenville , Ont.** .... what a great idea for a new interest group .... "How to Use My Ipad" ..... how many of us have received one as a gift or have purchased one and do not fully realize its' capabilities ? What a way to learn ... Members of the Club meet for an hour in advance of their monthly meeting and pool their knowledge or have more experienced persons heading up their deliberations. Another fine example of ongoing learning and getting the most from what we have available to us each and every day.