



# \*The **PROBUS** Letter\*

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

JUNE , 2015



**MURIEL DODGE  
PRESIDENT**

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

First, thank you for the privilege to be the President of PROBUS Canada . I would also like to thank our Retiring Director and Board Secretary, Ted Nixon (Ont. District #3) for his contribution to the National Board and welcome our new Directors, Robert Boone (Ont. District #3) and Dennis Souder (Ont. District #4). A special "Welcome Back" to Richard Furlong (Ont. District #2) and John Howarth (B.C. District #1) for their second 3-year term.

It is always gratifying to have Board members who are looking for ways to improve and nourish our organization. This past year has been busy. Our Past President Maureen challenged the Board with the introduction of written Strategic and Action Plans. These documents are being scrutinized and worked on by the Directors.

Director Steve Campbell introduced us to the month of March being PROBUS month as well as the capitalization of PROBUS. Both of these initiatives have been accepted widely by our members. Our support staff consisting of Brian Kirkwood, Webmaster; Gordon Hutton, Financial Manager; and Reg Whynott , Managing Director; keep us all 'on track' and the organization 'humming along smoothly'.

This past year has been a busy one with a number of prestigious awards being presented. The "President Emeritus" Award to Reg Whynott; the "Director Emeritus" Award to Heinz Puersten and the "John R. Morris Award" to Doris Morris. These awards are given to an individual for supreme service in PROBUS. "Congratulations" to all of the recipients !

The idea of a permanent email address for each Club for their listing in the Directory as well as on the website has been introduced. Many of the Clubs have agreed to implement this idea. However, there are still some Clubs who have not. This concept makes it easier for the changing of the Clubs' Management Committees each year, as it gives continuity of information gathering. For more information regarding this idea you can contact our PROBUS Canada Vice -President John Howarth at ..... jchowarth@telus.net .

There are many interactive meetings, rendezvous and get-togethers happening at all times during the year in Canada. One of the advantages of these gatherings is interacting with other PROBUS Club members from other jurisdictions – exchanging ideas for speakers, activities, etc. As each Club is autonomous, many new ideas are spawned by these interactions.

It has been noted that there is no formal policy in place regarding members of one PROBUS Club visiting other Clubs. Members, however, are encouraged to feel free to visit other Clubs during their travels...with the suggestion that they phone either the Club President or Secretary first to ensure that there is a 'visitors welcome' policy in place.

I hope everyone has a pleasant summer.

Very sincerely, *Muriel*

**PROBUS CENTRE-CANADA, INC.  
ELECTIONS TO THE BOARD --2015**

**Report from Past President Steve Campbell  
Nominations –Elections Chair**

In keeping with the Constitution & By-laws Nominations and Elections were held at the national level to establish the Directors of PROBUS Centre-Canada, Inc. for the year ahead.

In Ontario District #2, Maureen Irving was retiring after two three year terms; In Ontario District #2, Richard Furlong had completed his first three year term and was eligible for nomination for a second term; in Ontario District #3, Ted Nixon had completed his first three year term and was eligible for nomination for a second term; In British Columbia District #1, John Howarth had completed his first three year term and was eligible for nomination for a second term. A “Call for Nominations” went out to the affected Clubs in Ontario Districts #2, #3 and #4 and in B.C., District #1.

In three of the four areas only one name in nomination was received in each (Ont. #2 Richard Furlong, Men’s Newmarket; Ont. # 4, Dennis Souder, Cambridge and B.C. #1 John Howarth, Qualicum Beach) and thus no elections were necessary. In Ontario # 3 there were three nominations received in the names of Robert Boone (Mississauga South); Ted Nixon (Oakville North) and Richard Scott (Credit River).

The following were presented as “**elected by acclamation**” at the Annual General Meeting of the Board on April 24, 2015 . In Ontario District #2 ... **Richard Furlong** was presented for a second three year term. In Ontario District #4, **Dennis Souder** replaced retiring Director **Maureen Irving** for his first three year term. In B.C. District #1 **John Howarth** was presented as re-elected for his second three year term.

Following an election process in Ontario District # 3, **Robert (Bob) Boone**, was presented for a first three year term replacing retiring Director Ted Nixon.

Board President Maureen Irving expressed a warm welcome to the new Directors as well as those who were re-elected to a continuation of service. She also expressed a major note of gratitude to Board Secretary **Ted Nixon** who was retiring from the Board after serving so well over the past number of years .

At the Annual General Meeting the Members of the Board of Directors elected the following to serve as Officers for the term 2015-16. President **Muriel Dodge**; Vice-President **John Howarth**; Treasurer **Linda Clark**; Secretary **Richard Furlong** and Past President (non-voting) **Maureen Irving**.

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

**President** ..... **Muriel Dodge**, Salmon Arm, B.C. (B.C.#3)  
Tel: (250) 832-4144  
Email: muriel.l.dodge@gmail.com

**Vice-President..** **John Howarth**, Qualicum Beach,B.C. (B.C. #1)  
Tel: (250) 752-6658  
Email: jchowarth@telus.net

**Treasurer ...** **Linda Clark**.....Regina, Sask. (Mb.,Sask.)  
Tel: (306) 545-7839  
Email: clarklc@sasktel.net

**Secretary** ..... **Richard Furlong** . Newmarket, Ont.(Ont. #2)  
Tel: (905) 853-4625  
Email: furlongrj@rogers.com

**Past-President ..** **Maureen Irving**, Kitchener, Ont.(non-voting)  
Tel: (519) 744-6727  
Email: cdnmaureen@gmail.com

**DIRECTORS**

**R. (Bob) Boone** ..... Mississauga, Ont. (Ont. Dist. # 3)  
Tel: (905) 823-7669  
Email: bob.boone@sympatico.ca

**Steve Campbell** ..... Moncton, N.B. (Atlantic)  
Tel: (506) 532-5541  
Email: skcampbl@nb.sympatico.ca

**Jim De Zorzi** ..... Grand Bend, Ont. (Ont. Dist. # 5)  
Tel: (519) 243-1683  
Email: dezojim1@execulink.com

**Nancy Kedzierski** ..... Brantford, Ont. ( Ont. Dist. # 6)  
Tel: (226) 400-4953  
Email: nancy.j.k@rogers.com

**Margaret McKenzie** ... Edmonton, Alberta (Alberta)  
Tel: (780) 438-8235  
Email: marg.mckenzie@shaw.ca

**Harold Miller** ..... Lansdowne, Ont. (Ont. Dist. #1)  
Tel: (613) 659-3565  
Email:haroldmiller@1000island.net

**W.R. (Bill) Sexsmith** ... Vancouver, B.C. (B.C. Dist. #2)  
Tel: (604) 261-8293  
Email: bpsexsmith@shaw.ca

**Dennis Souder** ..... Cambridge, Ont. ( Ont. Dist. #4)  
Tel: (519) 620-2388  
Email: probus.ont4dir1@email.com

**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**,Courtenay, B.C.  
Tel: (250) 898-3492  
Email: huttonvi@telus.net

**Managing Director**..... **Reg Whynott**, Qualicum Beach,B.C.  
Tel: (250)757-8026 Fax:(250)757-8036  
Email: rwhynott@shaw.ca

**HAVE YOU CHECKED THE PROBUS  
CANADA WEB SITE LATELY ?  
THERE IS NEW INFORMATION DAILY ....  
[www.probus.org/canada.htm](http://www.probus.org/canada.htm)**



At a very special dinner hosted by the PROBUS Clubs in Alliston, Ont. on April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2015 **Mrs. Doris Morris** was honored by PROBUS Canada as the recipient of the **JOHN R. MORRIS FOUNDERS AWARD** for her many years of support and dedication to the development of PROBUS in Canada. As the wife, and always willing aide to her husband John, she gave many, many hours as the host of meetings in their home and often served as recording secretary for the many structural meetings taking place as our organization developed. Many guests, both from PROBUS as well as a wide variety of local and national groups testified to the dedication of DORIS and they spoke eloquently of John's often mentioned support which he always received from his dedicated partner.



The JOHN R . MORRIS AWARD was presented to Doris by PROBUS Canada President Maureen Irving (left) under the watchful eyes of two close friends, Past PROBUS Canada President Maureen Huismans (2<sup>nd</sup> from left) and current President of the Maple leaf PROBUS Club of Newmarket, Sabine Sonnemann (right). In her remarks during the ceremony President Maureen Irving commented that the Award is presented only to those who have made a major contribution to PROBUS in Canada far above and beyond the norm and Doris was most certainly one who has qualified by what could only be classed as an "absolutely outstanding contribution".

**CONGRATULATIONS DORIS – WELL DESERVED !**

**PROBUS Pins & Other Supplies**

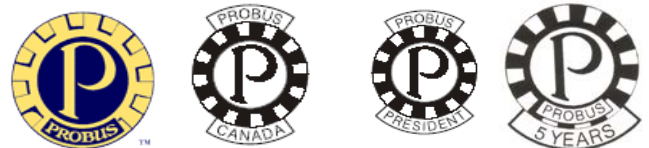
*Regular PROBUS lapel pins are \$5.50 each in orders of less than 25 but only \$4.50 each in orders of 25 or more.*

*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 .... or by phone at (250) 757-8026.*



Another outstanding contributor to PROBUS in Canada, E.G. (Ted) Nixon, a Past President of the PROBUS Club of North Oakville, was recognized as he stepped down from the position of Director and Secretary to the Board of Directors at the recent Annual General Meeting. As President Maureen Irving (right), supported by Vice-President Muriel Dodge (left), presented Ted with a token of appreciation she also recognized his participation and support on the national Board and cited him as an example of the kind of dedication and contribution that helps PROBUS grow and develop.



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 .

## MEDOC Travel Insurance Plan

**MEDOC** is designed to combine all of the travel insurance needs of **PROBUS** Members in one convenient package, with plan options to suit the coverage you require as well as your budget. **MEDOC** balances the needs of travelers regardless of age or health status. It is important that you carry the coverage that gives you peace of mind while traveling. Know and understand the plan you purchase.

Did you know .....coverage under the majority of group Extended Health Plans may not provide adequate coverage for medical emergencies you may incur while traveling out of province/territory of residence. It is cheaper for most travelers to buy a Multi-Trip Annual plan rather than insurance for each trip.

Purchasing Trip Cancellation Insurance separately can sometimes add as much as \$50 to \$400 to the cost of each trip. Important things to consider when shopping for Travel insurance:

### Your Situation:

Have you had a serious illness?

Have you made pre-paid arrangements for a trip?

Are there age restrictions on the policy?

Do you have a lifetime limit on your retiree Extended Health Insurance coverage?

Are you taking your vehicle or driving your RV?

Worried about lost baggage?

### What to Look for:

Pre-existing medical conditions, exclusions and limitations in the policy.

Trip Cancellation, Interruption & Delay included in your coverage.

Age limitations in the policy

Protection of lifetime Extended Health Benefits (in the event of a claim)

Vehicle Return Coverage

Baggage & Personal Effects Benefits

For more information see the **PROBUS** web site: [www.probus.org/canada.htm](http://www.probus.org/canada.htm)

## QUESTIONS?

Call Toll Free 1-866-60-MEDOC or visit us online @ [www.johnson.ca/medoc](http://www.johnson.ca/medoc)

**From around the Clubs** ..... The **PROBUS Club of Annapolis Valley**, Nova Scotia had a most interesting speaker on a subject of importance to all and we share a part of their report from their March Newsletter.

### **Be Aware of Fraud !!**

With his extensive background of Computer Crime Enforcement with the RCMP and as Head of National Security and Fraud Control with Roger's Cantel, Craig MacMullen's depth of knowledge regarding telecommunication scams and fraud was certainly evident in his talk. Questions from Club members allowed Craig to expand on a number of specific areas that might affect how we respond to telephone calls and emails. Here are a few highlights from Craig's talk:

1. **BE AWARE**, you never know who is on the other end of that telephone call or email !!!!
2. A scam gives you something of lesser value than what you expected; fraud is outright theft, either way you will lose your money.
3. The main areas of Fraud and Scams are Credit cards fraud, Identity theft, Romance fraud, Pyramid or Ponzi schemes.
4. When using your Credit or Debit Card check for any abnormalities or attached devices to the scanners before using.
5. Romance fraud – the areas of concern are online dating sites, phone calls or emails from friend or relative in trouble and asking for money. In 2012 alone \$17 million (known) theft was attributed to Romance Fraud. However, this number is probably higher as people are too embarrassed to acknowledge that they have been the victim of a fraud. It takes on average only 4 emails or 48 hours before the fraudster has you hooked!! **NOTE** Fraudsters will only talk about you and give little information about themselves and will usually refuse to meet in person.
6. **DO NOT** respond to **900** or **976** phone numbers as they will incur a very high charge to your telephone bill.
7. **IF IN DOUBT- CHECK IT OUT.** Contact any institute (bank, Credit Card Company, etc) or other family members before acting!!!