



*The **PROBUS** Letter*

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

SEPTEMBER, 2015



**MURIEL DODGE
PRESIDENT**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

In May of this year, we presented the "John R. Morris Award" to Doris Morris for her contribution to the formation of PROBUS in Canada. Sadly Doris passed away during the summer. PROBUS had a good representation at the Memorial Service and Reg Whynott, our Managing Director and a friend of the Morris family, said a few words at the Service. PROBUS Canada also contributed a donation to the Stevenson Memorial Hospital in Alliston in Doris's name.

It's that time of the year when the request for Membership renewal and also Third Party Liability Insurance will be mailed out. Please make sure that these matters are dealt with in a timely manner so that our membership records are up-to-date.

There has been 'talk' and a number of suggestions for changing the name **PROBUS CENTRE-CANADA, INC.** to **PROBUS CANADA**. The Board of Directors gave its approval and the process has begun. As with all requests to Government, the paperwork is time-consuming, but, it is happening. Hopefully we will be announcing the change before too long.

Over this past year PROBUS Clubs in the Interior of B.C. decided to hold a Western Canada Rendezvous. The 'numbers were crunched' and the activities were arranged. This process took quite a few meetings and months to prepare. The Committee working on the project decided that if they could reach 200 participants from Western Canada, the event would 'break even'. However, even though the timeline for notice to the Clubs was adequate, the event had to be canceled for lack of interest. It was extremely disappointing for the Committee. There seems to be a lack of interest by PROBUS members to interact on a wide area of Canada but the smaller events are still viable and provide an excellent opportunity for idea exchange and fellowship.

Sincere best regards to all,

EMERGENCY MEASURES – PROBUS CLUB MEETINGS

Have you ever had an emergency at a PROBUS Club meeting ? Were you prepared and did all go well ?

First we hope you have never had an emergency and we also hope that you never do. However, the question of preparedness has arisen and has led to the following list of questions for your consideration.

If you do have an emergency plan that's great on the other hand, if you don't have one, we urge you to think about the following Does your landlord have a plan and do you know what it is ? (This is an important first step). Is there an individual in your Club who is appointed to be "in charge" at each of your meetings (other than the President) and is she/he familiar with the various entrances and exits from your meeting room and the building ?

Is there knowledge about the location of First Aid Kits and the variety of medical apparatus and how to utilize them if needed ? Does someone know the location of the Fire Alarms and fire fighting apparatus ? If there are people in your club who are qualified in First Aid practices are they on your list of important persons in your Club ? Do you share your knowledge on the above questions with your Members and Guests at the beginning of your Club meetings ?

The above questions are not meant simply to cause you concern but to suggest that there is good reason for knowing and sharing the information referred to. Please give these matters consideration and, more important, ensure that you and your colleagues are aware of the valuable knowledge mentioned and you are prepared in the best interest of all !

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It is with deep sadness that we report on the passing of Ms. Doris Morris, wife of the Founder of PROBUS in Canada, John R. Morris. Doris has been a Member and supporter of PROBUS since our beginnings in 1987 and will long be remembered by her family and many friends across the country.

In April of this year PROBUS Canada, in concert with her Club, recognized Doris at a special dinner where she was presented with the John R. Morris Founders Award for her contribution over the years.

FAREWELL DORIS - THANK YOU SO MUCH !

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 & understand the plan you purchase.

Call **Toll Free—1- 866- 60Medoc** or on line at
www.johnson.ca/medoc

**HAVE YOU CHECKED THE PROBUS
CANADA WEB SITE LATELY ?
THERE IS NEW INFORMATION DAILY
INCLUDING THIS NEWSLETTER IN FULL
COLOR FOR YOUR READING & SHARING !**

www.probus.org/canada.htm

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Periodically PROBUS Canada gets request for ideas on how to invite new persons to join PROBUS and enjoy the benefits of membership in our organization. the following are just a couple of suggestions for your consideration.

From the PROBUS Club of Kincardine: The Executive made it official: another Membership Contest, to be held from now through the end of the year, has been called. Bring a guest to a meeting and get one ticket in a drawing for a free membership; if your guest becomes a member, you get a second ticket in the draw basket. Bring another guest and get another ticket.

Drawing will be held at the Christmas Brunch in December.
So bring that neighbour or friend and win!

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In most, if not all, communities, there are weekly, or even daily newspapers who will provide "not for profit" organizations free coverage of their meetings or special events. Check with your newspaper for a free drop-in of something like the following.
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THE PROBUS CLUB OF ANYWHERE

MEETS MONTHLY ON THE 2ND THURS. AT 9:00 AM
at **THE "ANYWHERE" RECREATION CENTRE**

Are you retired or semi-retired ? Would you like to explore the opportunity to get together on a periodic basis with other women and men in a similar situation to yourself ? We are the **PROBUS CLUB of ANYWHERE** and our Club is one of 236 across Canada with over 32,000 Members and you are welcome to find out more about us.

We meet monthly to hear Guest Speakers or hold discussions on subjects of interest and between meetings we have a number of activities and learning opportunities for a broad cross section of interests. We are not a Service Club, we are a "fellowship" Club and we are not involved in fund raising, and are non-political in nature. To learn more about us please contact:

President Jack - (905) XXX-XXXX
or Secretary Jill - (905) XXX-XXXX

(Or drop in at the Club on the 2nd Thursday
at 9:00 AM --- dress is casual)

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These are just a couple of simple suggestions do you have an idea for Membership promotion which you would like to share with your colleagues across the country if so, let us know and we'll spread the good word for you .Just email to our Managing Director Reg at rwhynott@shaw.ca ...we'd be pleased to hear from you.

HAVE YOU CHECKED THE WEBSITE LATELY ?

THERE IS ROOM FOR YOUR CLUB ON THERE !

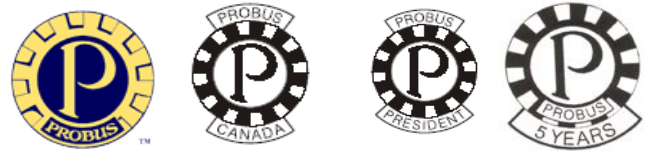
PROBUS CANADA ----- www.probus.org/canada.htm

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 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 .

TICO

Travel Industry Council of Ontario

Lately there have been a number of enquiries about TICO, mainly from Clubs in the Province of Ontario where they have an active role in the travel industry.

Richard Furlong, **PROBUS Canada** Director for Ontario, District #2 , having reviewed the various enquiries, presents the following comments for the information of our PROBUS Clubs across Canada.

The Travel Industry Council of Ontario (TICO) is a self-managed, not-for-profit corporation, responsible for administering and enforcing the Ontario *Travel Industry Act, 2002* and Ontario Regulation 26/05 on behalf of the Ontario government. The legislation governs all of the approximately 2,500 travel retailers and travel wholesalers registered in Ontario. TICO also administers an industry-financed Travel Compensation Fund.

Recently we have received a number of inquires re the impact of TICO on PROBUS clubs arranging travel for club members. TICO covers clubs that arrange travel through registered Ontario travel agents but we would strongly advise Clubs that make national or international travel arrangements and do not use a registered agent to be aware of the insurance and other liabilities associated with arranging travel.

FROM THE PROBUS CLUB OF GRAVENHURST, ONTARIO --- FIRST PROBUS FOCUS !

On Tuesday, May 19, 2015, the PROBUS Club of Gravenhurst celebrated the Club's first "FOCUS PROBUS" event at the Gravenhurst Opera House. Fred Hurd, our Club's President, welcomed special guests to the meeting. They were Maureen Irving, PROBUS National Past President; Heinz Puersten, Director Emeritus, PROBUS Canada and Richard Furlong, PROBUS Regional 2 Director. PROBUS Management took this opportunity to recognize the founders of the Gravenhurst Club with the Prestigious Founders Award. These three Rotarians, who founded our Club in Gravenhurst in 2003 were and are exceptional people. They are Jack Young, Barb McCabe and Gary Taylor. They were awarded "The PROBUS Gravenhurst Founders Award" recognizing their outstanding personal commitment in the formation of this club. Richard Furlong presented them with their awards. (See below) We paid tribute, as well, to two PROBUS members who have demonstrated the true spirit of PROBUS over many years. Marv McCabe was awarded the "PROBUS Award of Excellence" for his outstanding leadership in the Club's advancement. Barrie Brown was given the "PROBUS Outstanding Achievement Award" for his excellent achievement in the ongoing success of our Club. Each of these people has brought positive recognition to PROBUS within our Club and the community at large. The awards given were a token of the Club's thanks. Maureen Irving presented Barrie Brown's award to him and Fred Hurd gave Marv McCabe's award to him. As well, Heinz Puersten read a letter from Steve Campbell, Past President of PROBUS Canada congratulating both gentlemen. A luncheon attended by ninety-seven members and invited guests was held at the Muskoka Bay Golf Club to celebrate award winners and the Club's overall success.

The purpose of the PROBUS organization is to provide its members with opportunities to connect, expand their interests and to enjoy the fellowship of new friends. All of this was achieved at the Gravenhurst PROBUS Club's first "FOCUS PROBUS"!



NATIONAL PROBUS MONTH Memo To: All NPM Coordinators; all Clubs -- P.P. Steve Campbell

A few months have passed since National PROBUS Month 2015 celebrations. So much has happened, so many good things, most of all a renewed interest in understanding what PROBUS is all about and a renewed satisfaction that we are part of something special, *the PROBUS Experience*. AND we're making ourselves and our communities aware of it.

The document, *The PROBUS Experience*, is still being prepared to be an introduction of PROBUS Canada to the world in any efforts to associate with clubs internationally, and it has been used in parts for NPM. It continues to grow and is far from complete, and most of the actual facts are found on our website. I do intend with your help to continue working on the paper throughout the Fall. You've all received parts of it to use for news releases or as a support document in dealing with those outside PROBUS. As well, many use it within their clubs as a background document to refresh our understanding of PROBUS.

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. More than an education program its intent is to give us a chance to express ourselves, even reinvent ourselves. 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.

The overriding feeling is one of celebration and enthusiasm. National PROBUS Month has indeed caught on! The enthusiasm is infectious!. *The month is still March since most seem to have gotten along well with it, though a couple of clubs would prefer another month. But the "birthday" month seems appropriate for the time being.* Again, though, the time has come to plan for next year.. In preparation, and to help me keep better records (I was more caught up in the activities than in planning a statistical report.) I would ask you to do a couple of things **which require you to respond directly to me:**

1. Name a chairperson for NPM activities (with email address). **2.** Please state the name of your club (So many helped with the name and email address but not the location of the club, a point I hadn't thought of) **3.** If possible, a brief note on possible activities for NPM 2016. I look forward to the day (very soon) when NPM will be an "automatic" event like a birthday or anniversary. This third NPM promises so much....

Thank you, Thank you, to all PROBUS clubs and their creative coordinators! Cheers! **Steve** (skcampbl@nb.sympatico.ca)