

# WELCOME TO DECEMBER



The last lap of 2019 is almost here and we're rapidly approaching another decade as we head into 2020 and 20 years since the start of this century. We're now full swing into another Christmas season, commonly known as the most wonderful time of the year, although sadly for some it can be the most lonely and nostalgic. It's a magical time that holds fond memories and family traditions, tis the season of goodwill toward men (and women!), and where people

travel from far and wide to spend time with their family and loved ones. December is also full of bazaars, concerts and parties to prepare us for gift-giving and the spirit of Christmas. Even though it felt like winter briefly came in November, we only officially greet its arrival on December 21, so some lucky folk will be ready to migrate to warmer climates for a few weeks or months, while for winter lovers and the rest of us, it's the time to put on the skis, take a hike through the snow, curl up in front of the fire with a good book, or just binge watch all those great series on Netflix.



## HELLO FROM THE PRESIDENT



They say that time flies when you're having fun so I hope the activities and excitement of PROBUS Pickering Lakeside has a lot to do with that, and we've only just begun! It seems impossible that it was a year ago the preliminary committee was formed to get Lakeside off the ground and already membership is well over 80% of the way to the cut-off point, a phenomenal feat for a second Pickering club. I've almost served my tenure as President and will be stepping down to let Jim McMinn, Vice-President, take the reigns of President as of January 2020 although

I will continue in my new role as Past President and remain active on the Management Team. I'm very excited to see what next year will bring and am especially looking forward to working with the new VP and Activities Coordinator who will officially be announced at our AGM on January 15. This is the last Buzz of the year so, on behalf of the Management Team, I wish you all a joyous festive season, a merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year as we look forward to another successful PROBUS Lakeside year in 2020. To all the snowbirds I say goodbye for now and look forward to your return in the spring.

I would like to say a big welcome to our newest members, which brings the total to 278: Joye G, John W, Merilyn W, Rona S, Sylvia T, Alda S, Dan S, Karen M, Vera P, Barb F, Steve B, Ellen B, Dave T, Margaret T, Eleanor F, Linda B, Paula M, Ann P, Roy P, Ginette C, Beverley B, Gail W, Doug W, Jane D, Kathy W, Judy G, Ron G, Susan L, John R, Paul M, Patti F, Linda E, Deborah H, Geraldine A.

#### NEXT MEETING

There will be no meeting this month but instead we will be enjoying the joint Christmas lunch with PROBUS Pickering at Deer Creek Golf Club on Wednesday, December 11, starting with non-alcoholic punch at 11:30 a.m. This is a lunch not to be missed as it promises to be a very fun time with great food and PROBUS friends, and is the perfect way to kick off the festive season. We will welcome you back to our regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, January 15, which is also our AGM, and there promises to be more fun stuff going on to celebrate our one-year anniversary. Further details to follow.

## DID YOU KNOW?

- Canada is the World's Most Educated Country: over half its residents have college degrees.
- Canada's lowest recorded temperature was -81.4 degrees Fahrenheit (-63C) in 1947.
- Canada has more lakes than the rest of the world's lakes combined.
- Residents of Churchill, Canada, leave their cars unlocked to offer an escape for pedestrians who might encounter Polar Bears.
- Canada has the largest coastline in the world.
- Canada consumes more macaroni and cheese than any other nation in the world.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Happy Birthday to club members whose birthday is in the month of December:



Your birth flower is the **Narcissus**, symbolizing good wishes, faithfulness and respect.

Your birthstones are **Zircon**, **Tanzanite and Turquoise** all famous for their various shades of blue. December's birthstones impart calm and optimism to those who wear them.

#### **VOLUNTEERS**

Our club has now reached over 275 members, so our goal for 2020 is to offer opportunities for more independent Lakeside activities, which include our own billiards and golf clubs. If you're a keen golfer or pool player, please consider heading up either one of these clubs so that we can begin the new year with all our own activities. We're also still looking for volunteers to host "Discover



Toronto" and the wine tasting clubs and both these events can be held every other month or even quarterly, so please <u>contact Gail Perks</u> if you're interested in heading up any one of these, or if you would like to start a new activity group as all ideas are welcome.

To all the volunteers who have worked diligently to head up the existing activity groups and run the monthly meetings this year, we say a heartfelt thanks to keep up the good work as you're the folk who make this club exciting and successful. Volunteering is also a great way to get to know people and make new friends with similar interests so don't be shy; jump on board and get involved to make PROBUS Pickering Lakeside the best PROBUS club in the region!

# FUN AND GAMES

The day trip to Buffalo on November 12 was a shopper's delight despite the bad weather. There was plenty of time to shop south of the border at various locations, and the reception at customs was warm and friendly with no one being charged duty on their purchases. Kudos again to Lorna Ware for also organizing an exciting and diverse trip to the Festival of Lights in Niagara and Niagara-on-the-Lake on November 26 where a coach full of happy members and guests enjoyed a very busy and fun-packed sunny November day. Here are the other upcoming events we have planned, and you can find all the details and sign up on <u>our website</u>:

Wednesday, December 11 - joint <u>Christmas lunch at Deer Creek</u> - Cost \$35 members/\$46 non-members - **Registration closed**Wednesday, January 16 - <u>Famous People Players</u> - Cost \$90
Thursday, January 23- <u>ROM & Bata Shoe Museum</u> - Cost \$121 (PROBUS Pickering)
Sunday, February 9 - <u>Herongate Theatre</u> - Cost \$64 (PROBUS Pickering)
Thursday, February 13 - <u>Valentine's Lunch at the Briars Inn</u> - Cost \$124

8 enthusiastic word buffs attended Marilyn McLaughlin's first Scrabble club held in her home on Friday, November 25, and the second book club of 12 avid bookworms now has the official name "Mind Readers". Details on upcoming activities, and contact info for all the interest/activity groups, can be found on our <u>website</u>:

Arts and Crafts - Linda Black

Billiards - Don Voorhees (PROBUS Pickering) - volunteer needed

Book Club 1 - "Cover to Cover" - Susan Woodward

Book Club 2 - "Mind Readers" - Dorothy Edmonds

Bridge - Peter Green

Cribbage - <u>Susan Maste</u>

Discover Toronto - Volunteer needed

Euchre - <u>Nancy Agostino</u> Genealogy - <u>Gail Perks</u>

Golf - Jim Hare (PROBUS Pickering) - volunteer needed

Hiking - Eileen Higdon and Lynda Borg

Movies - Fran Sancroft

RODEO (Retired Old Dames Eating Out) - Cynthia Falla

Scrabble - Marilyn McLaughlin

Tastes of the World - Sharon Fenn and Sharon Marshall

Trivia - Vicki Samson

Wine Tasting - Hosted on a rotating basis - volunteer needed

# TECHY STUFF

Don't forget to keep your profiles updated as to what groups you are interested in, especially as new activities are being added.

To do this, click on "Betty Blue" in the Members Log-In area in the top right of the site. Then select "View Profile", click the "Edit Profile" button, and scroll down to put check marks against whatever interests you. This will eliminate excess emails so that you only get notified about the activities you want to get involved in.



✓ Euchre
Garden
Geneology
Golf
✓ Hiking
Movies
R.O.D.E.O

## TIP OF THE MONTH





Never quite cracked the perfect turkey? Many chefs have a secret weapon: "butter muslin", available cheaply from kitchen shops. Soak the material in a bowl of melted butter, then drape it over the turkey before popping it in the oven. Moist meat and crunchy skin will be your reward.

# IN THE NEWS

In accordance with the <u>Ice and Snow Clearing By-law 6650/06</u>, as amended, property owners are required to clear snow and ice from their sidewalks within 24 hours after a snowfall but, when clearing snow, pile it on your property - do not throw it back onto the sidewalk or street.



# **BUZZ** WORD

The December Buzz word is "**Deleterious**" meaning harmful to living things, as in the effect ticks have on humans, causing Lyme Disease..

#### MEMBERS' CORNER



Nominations have now been officially received for the Vice-President and Activities Coordinator positions for the Management Team and the names will be announced at our AGM on January 15. As we enter a new decade, it's a perfect time to reflect on our accomplishments over the past 10 years and what we hope to achieve in the next 10 of our golden years, as hopefully you joined PPL to stay active, make new friends and enhance your quality of life. Please let <u>Vicki Samson</u> know if you have any ideas or suggestions on how to make our club better or if you want to contribute to the "Members' Corner" of the monthly Buzz as we are always looking for new ideas. Don't forget that you can also keep in touch with PROBUS members from around the world at <u>probusglobal.org</u>.

#### LAST LAUGHS

This little guy told his Dad that he wanted to learn how to train his dog and his Dad said there were lots of dog training videos on YouTube.

So here he is, showing them to the dog!





Wife texts husband on a cold winter morning:
"Windows frozen, won't open."
Husband texts back: "Gently pour some lukewarm water over it and then gently tap edges with hammer."
Wife texts back 10 minutes later: "Computer really messed up now."