

HELLO FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to April and I'm now settling in as the new President of PROBUS Pickering Lakeside. After all the merriment of the AGM and first year anniversary in February, then PROBUS Month in March, I really thought those would be tough acts to follow but, unfortunately, we are instead dealing with a very serious global situation that has rocked our world. However, as long as we all abide by the guidelines, keep our distance from others, stay isolated and help out anyone who is sick or unable to get out, this will hopefully curb the incidence of the COVD-19 and our lives can return to some sort of normalcy in the very

near future. Otherwise, April will bring us April Fool's Day, Easter, Earth Day, spring flowers and hopefully the start of warmer weather.

As you all know by now, Lakeside has cancelled all activities, day trips and meetings during this time in accordance with the government's mandate but, with today's technology, we are still able to keep in touch via text, phone, email, the Lakeside website, Facebook, social media, etc., so there is no need for any of us to feel completely alone or isolated. I believe this experience will make our future activities and excursions even more meaningful and make us grateful for the freedom we have to do these things.

To look on the bright side, being in isolation or staying home can bring many benefits such as tackling overdue projects around the house, pursuing a hobby or taking up a new one, reading more books, cleaning out drawers and closets, spring cleaning, writing your memoirs, scanning or putting loose photos in albums, making phone calls, or whatever else you've had on your "wish/to-do list" but never got around to. Just value this isolation as the opportunity to do something positive for yourself and your family that you otherwise never had time for.

Also, in order to stay safe, you can use this link for store pick-up or delivery to your door <u>www.instacart.ca</u> or call the COVID-19 Response Phone Line for all of Durham Region at 1-888-573-0982, a local volunteer support group who will get supplies for those 65+ in self-quarantine, with compromised immune systems, or otherwise at risk.

To all the snowbirds who have returned home sooner than expected, I want to wish you good health, stay isolated for now and I will look forward to seeing you at the next general meeting, whenever that may be. To each and everyone of you I say, be safe, keep well, do your part to combat this pandemic and do your best to stay positive and keep your spirits up.

Jim McMinn, President, PROBUS Pickering Lakeside

NEXT MEETING

The next general meeting scheduled for April 15 and all future meetings have been cancelled until further notice. All updates will be posted on our <u>website</u>.

DID YOU KNOW?

- North Korea and Cuba are the only places you can't buy Coca Cola.
- The entire world's population could fit inside Los Angeles.
- There are now more twins than ever before

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- The hottest chili pepper in the world is so hot it could kill you.
- More people visit France than any other country.
- When Shakespeare was quarantined because of the plague, he wrote "King Lear"!

SOCIAL EVENTS



Unfortunately, we had to cancel the Irish Kitchen Party and Toyota and Butterfly Sanctuary trips, and now "Chicago" has been cancelled, but a full refund will be issued to all those who registered. Please contact Lorna Ware if you have any questions. We are still hoping to go ahead with the Kajama <u>Tall Ship Harbourfront Cruise</u> on July 14 but it will depend on the COVID-19 situation closer to the time. Monthly trips will return once the pandemic is over, and a 4-day trip to Frankenmuth and Mackinac Island is still in the works for October.

FUN AND GAMES

The "Mind Reader" book club, headed up by Dorothy Edmonds, is currently reading "**A House in the Sky**" by Amanda Lindhout. Their last meeting was March 5th when they discussed Major Pettigrew's "**Last Stand**". They usually meet the first Thursday of the month at Chartwell Pickering City Centre and, even though all libraries are presently closed, books and movies are available online for download with your library card to your PC or tablet, and some phones.

On a positive note when things return to normal, Jim McMinn and James Taylor will head up the new Men's Lakeside Breakfast Club so this is a great opportunity for all the men to get together once a month and talk about sports, cars, or anything else that might not interest your wives or partners! Lynne Stewart is working on a men's book club, book exchange and bid Euchre, and several pop-up's, including bowling, wine and cheese pairing and vinyl night. If anyone is interested in heading up any one of these new activities, please contact Lynne Stewart. We will also be providing links on our <u>Discussion Board</u> to various activities that can be utilized while we're in isolation, so make good use of them to ease your boredom and challenge your mind.

Arts and Crafts - Linda Black Billiards - Don Voorhees (PROBUS Pickering) Book Club 1 - "Cover to Cover" - Susan Woodward Book Club 2 - "Mind Readers" - Dorothy Edmonds Bridge - Peter Green Cribbage and Rummoli - Susan Maste Euchre - Nancy Agostino Genealogy - Gail Perks Golf - Jim Hare (PROBUS Pickering) Guitar - Roy Robinson Hiking - Eileen Higdon and Lynda Borg Lakeside Ladies Lunch (formerly RODEO) - Cynthia Falla Men's Lakeside Breakfast Club - Jim <u>McMinn/James Taylor</u> Movies - Volunteer needed Scrabble - Marilyn McLaughlin Tastes of the World - Sharon Fenn and Sharon Marshall Trivia - Vicki Samson

TIP OF THE MONTH



Hang a pants hanger over a kitchen cupboard door handle as an inexpensive cookbook holder.



IN THE NEWS

Although most staff are working from home, Pickering City Hall and the Operations Centre remain active, but not accessible to the public. The public should be assured that service levels with respect to roads, infrastructure, and winter operations will be maintained and Customer Care Representatives will be available by telephone or email to answer queries. For a full list of closures go to <u>pickering.ca/covid19</u>.

"While our doors remain closed, we want to assure our community that we are still diligently working behind the scenes to ensure the continuity of critical operations," said Deputy Mayor, Kevin Ashe. "Every single Member of Council is here working with senior management, and coordinating efforts with our government partners and the greater community to ensure that we are prepared to respond as the situation evolves."

BUZZ WORD

This month's Buzz word is "**Kuebiko**", which aptly means an exhausted feeling - both physically and mentally. It happens after acts of violence/disruption take place - like your mind and body just can't handle all the negativity. You can feel this way even if you're not closely linked to the violence/disruption (like seeing things on the news or online).

MEMBERS' CORNER



We have now officially reached our original limit, with 80% membership residing in Pickering, and have decided to increase the number as we don't want to prevent people from joining Lakeside at this time and missing out on all the fun. As a result, those who were on the waitlist from outside Pickering who can now join our club as well.

Our last meeting on March 11 represented PROBUS Month and we had another huge turnout to see Dr. Mark Daley perform and talk about the late, great Leonard Cohen. James Taylor, VP Lakeside, read the

Proclamation instead of Mayor Ryan as, unfortunately, both he and Cathy Mackrell were unable to attend to receive their honorary memberships. Both will be invited to a future meeting to be recognized for their huge contributions and support of PROBUS Pickering Lakeside.

If you get a renewal notice during this suspension of club activities, you can still pay online or contact <u>Sharon McMinn</u> if you have questions or want to pay by cheque. We would like to welcome our new members, which brings the total to 338: **Deborah H**, **Jane C**, **Catherine G**, **Andrew L**, **Gwendolyn L**, **Lorraine M**, **Brent B**, **Corrine B**, **Kathy F**, **Erica B**.

Please don't feel isolated if you have to stay home as our website is a great tool to get updates and connect with other members. You can also connect with other members from around the world at https://probusglobal.org/ or join or start a new discussion on our Discussion Board in the middle of the Home Page. This way, you can make good use of your alone time by connecting with other PROBUS members, both locally or world-wide, who are all in the same boat. Unfortunately, this will be the last full version of the BUZZ until things settle down and we're up and running again, but the website will continue to be updated regularly.

QUIPS & QUOTES

"You're braver than you believe, stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think."

"Beauty is when you can appreciate yourself. When you love yourself, that's when you're most beautiful. The most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched, they must be felt with the heart."

"Yesterday is not ours to recover, but tomorrow is ours to win or lose."

"If life were predictable it would cease to be life, and be without flavour".

CALENDAR

Since we don't know when regular activities will be resumed, please visit our online <u>calendar</u> for future updates.

LAST LAUGHS

Not to make light of this very serious situation, but right now we all need some extra laughs.



Commemorative jewellery to always remember 2020



Back in my day the only time we started panic buying was when the bartender yelled "last call" 😜

Happy Pi Day!



To go to the grocery store , they said a mask and gloves were enough....they lied.....everybody else had clothes on!



Christmas shopping done. Presents

wrapped.

MY CAT JUST CAME HOME WITH 24 BAGS OF KITTY LITTER.

Time to stop this nonsense.