



Lakeside Buzz



January 2021

HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM THE PRESIDENT (Jim McMinn)

First of all, Happy New Year everyone and I hope you had an excellent Christmas despite the restrictions and not being able to be with friends and family as in past years. Let's hope that, through our united efforts to stop the spread, we will have more to celebrate by December 2021 and that this year will bring us less stress and happier times so we can transition back to the lives we knew.



With that being said, the start of the New Year is the perfect time to thank the management team. I am proud to say that Lakeside has adapted to the virtual reality of these times. We're able to use Zoom to bring you a variety of interesting and exciting activities to keep our club running. I understand that participating via the internet and video conferencing can be daunting and outside your comfort level, but [Peter Green](#), our Webmaster, is always eager to help and you can contact him at any time.

I therefore urge you to sign up for some activities and I'm sure you'll be surprised at how easy it is and how much you'll enjoy reconnecting with your Lakeside friends. It's so important for us to stay connected especially since we have no idea how long it will be before we can resume our normal activities and meet in person again and we're very fortunate to have this technology to do so. In the meantime, the management team will strive to keep our club connected by continuing to offer as many activities and topics of interest as possible, but we do need your input and ideas as we're always open for improvement or suggestions to make our club better.

Technical kudos to us:

Many of the Management team attended two country-wide meetings last month. They were staged by the Technical Committee of PROBUS Canada. Peter Green is now a member of this Committee and actually presented at both meetings. The first meeting was about the Wild Apricot membership software as many other clubs are now expressing interest in this membership tool. The second had 280 PROBUS executives logged in from all corners of the country and provided guidance and instruction on using Zoom. It was very informative and well received and it became obvious to those of us in attendance at both meetings how technically advanced our Lakeside club is compared to most others.

Peter notes that the next job of this Committee is to prepare for 'hybrid meetings'. Using Zoom has many advantages and is likely here to stay. So the committee will be figuring out how we can have both in-room attendance for activities/meetings (hopefully in the not too distant future), in conjunction with Zoom, to maximize opportunities and safety for our members.

This month's featured management team member is James Taylor,

HELLO FROM THE VICE-PRESIDENT (James Taylor)



We joined PROBUS in January 2019 and have enjoyed it immensely. I have worked with many organizations in the past and the present and continue with the hope that somehow, I can make a difference. It has been a mission of mine, to mentor and help others to seek a better future. I look forward to continuing that mission with PROBUS in 2021.

We are very much looking forward to going on trips with all of our new PROBUS friends when this pandemic is defeated. It is a pleasure working with such a fine group of people to help make our PROBUS organization, a warm and happy place for all of us to get together and enjoy life just a little bit more.

Over the past year, it has become increasingly important to check in with those who may need a listening ear, a helping hand or an open heart. After the clock strikes 12, and the lines "Should auld acquaintance be forgot / And days of auld lang syne?" have been sung, I hope you take this time to reach out to your children, grandchildren, family, friends and neighbours.

As we start the New Year, it is a great time for you to share your stories, revisit your favourite memories and cherish those who mean the most to you. I look forward to spending 2021 with you all.



LOOKING BACK

For those who attended our Zoom Christmas party on December 16, you will know what a great time we had as Deirdrey Francois put us in the party spirit with her amazing performance, the diversity of the Christmas glamour, and many of you winning great prizes drawn from the online "Wheel of Names" spun by Peter Green! There was no worry about DUI as we were safe and sound in the comfort of our own homes while still being able to party with our Lakeside friends.

As one member wrote: "When I join a Zoom meeting it is always a journey wondering if I can reach the event. This was my journey on the 16th December Probus Lakeside Christmas Party. I dressed for the party with anticipation and it was a spectacular affair. Munches, and a glass of wine in hand, it opened with a chatty meet and greet. Deidrey Francois was great from the start, her infectious smile and ease with slipping from one song to the next was a marvel. The songs were well prepared and made her performance feel like she was right here in my living room."

Great job Laura Green for coming up with this novel idea and for her leadership in organizing it. Also thanks to James T for getting all the dinner coupon prizes organized and Peter G for the techie stuff.

As if this wasn't enough, the bid-farewell-to-2020 Hogmanay cocktail get-together on December 31 was just as much fun as we rang in the new year together, even if it was before the stroke of midnight in Canada.

We hope you enjoyed the virtual scavenger hunt, a fun game designed by our webmaster and techy guru, Peter Green, to help you navigate and see how much you know about our website, the Buzz and Zoom. Congratulations to the two winners who each won a one year's membership to Lakeside. Be sure to check out the [website](#) for the answers and their names.

NEXT MEETING



This month our Zoom general meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 20 at 10 a.m. and is definitely one you won't want to miss. The guest speaker, Thanh Campbell, was born in Vietnam and came to Canada as part of the last flight out of Saigon in 1975 with 56 other orphan children. Be sure to register now as his story is heartwarming, poignant and inspiring, so, to quote Laura Green, our Speakers' Coordinator, "have your hankies ready".

We won't be holding our regular AGM at this time but we will present the 2020 year-to-date financial statement, the slate of management team members, and recognize that this is our 2nd year anniversary. As we received no response to our request for new members to serve on the management team, the existing members have agreed to continue for another year. Although we can't throw an anniversary celebration, we plan to hold a "welcome back" party if and when restrictions are lifted and life is somewhat back to normal!

ACTIVITIES (from Lynne Stewart)



Due to the lockdowns, keeping busy continues to be a challenge. I think I have come up with a couple of activities to keep you going.

Unfortunately the weekly hiking group led by Eileen Higdon has been suspended until further notice, however if you are looking for an alternative, go to the PROBUS Pickering Lakeside website, select Home, then select Things to Do. If you scroll down you will see Exercise (Body and Mind) on the left side. You can select "Happy Walk" for an indoor experience. If you are looking for more, try the "20 Minute Workout, Zumba or Tai Chi." The Things to do page offers many other activities - try "Learn a Language," watch "The Carol Burnett Show" or visit "Machu Pichu."

Your PROBUS Pickering Lakeside group is offering various activities -

Trivia with Alan Tibbles is a popular choice. There is lots of laughing and some surprise answers like - did you know the favourite toy is still the cardboard box?

Lakeside Ladies Let's Talk is a chance to chat. We might not be able to go out for lunch but that shouldn't stop you from sitting down for an hour with us. It will be offered on a new day starting Thursday Jan 7th at 11.

Not a book club will appear for the first time. You probably already received your invitation. This group has been created for those of us who love to read. You can present an author or book that you really enjoyed so that we too can take advantage of a new or old read. This will be more of a drop in group. Participation every month will not be necessary but you will never know what you have missed if you don't come out. I have managed to read almost all of the books from my favourite authors so I really need this! Try it out, what can it hurt?

Stir Fry with Elaine Phipps will be featuring a cashew chicken recipe. Cook along with Elaine or just observe and make it later. The recipe will be shared with you upon registration.

The Cocktail Hour is another successful venture. Come and enjoy a beer, wine or just a glass of water with us once a month.

Indoor Gardening will start out with how to care for your indoor plants based on your observations and mine. There will be a draw at the end of this segment. My plants have been propagating me out of space!

Protect your Money presented by The Security Exchange Commission will do a session on common types of fraud including new attempts to take advantage of you during COVID.

Euchre is still on the agenda. Hopefully a date and time will be available shortly.

In February or maybe late January, I am hoping to introduce "**Sports Talk.**" This will be a chance for anyone interested to discuss various sporting news.

At PROBUS Pickering Lakeside we are always looking for new ideas. This week I received a suggestion for a **men's book club**. If there is enough interest, there will be a new club starting as soon as possible. Just [let me know](#) what you would like to do. If we don't offer it, I will try and point you in the right direction.



For more information or to sign-up for any of the above, click on the link in the calendar below and be sure to [check the website](#) throughout the month for any updates.

CALENDAR - JANUARY 2021

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
				1
4 3:30 PM On-line Trivia	5	6	7 11:00 AM Lakeside Ladies Le...	8
11	12 1:00 PM Not a Book Club	13	14 3:30 PM Stir Fry with Elaine	15
18 3:30 PM On-line Trivia	19	20 10:00 AM January Monthly M...	21 11:00 AM Indoor Gardening	22
25	26	27 1:00 PM Protect Your Money	28	29 5:00 PM Lakeside Cocktail ...

LAST LAUGHS

PEOPLE ARE EXCITED ABOUT THE NEW IPHONE BUT NO ONE HAS CAUGHT UP WITH THE AWESOME TECHNOLOGY OF USING YOUR BLINKER WHEN YOU DRIVE.



My grandma talking to my mom about her new hearing aid, "it's the most expensive one you can buy, it cost me \$4,000"
My mom: "What kind is it"
My grandma: "it's 4:15pm"