



Message from the President

December 2021



As at the time of writing this, I'm incredibly pleased to report a surge in new memberships in our club. We have had over 20 people join us in the last 2 months and our membership is now well over 300 again. I guess the word is getting out there about the highly successful events we have run lately and that doesn't surprise me as I find it very rewarding to attend a meeting of our Social Committee - so much energy and enthusiasm, so many ideas, such great planning and organizational skills!

A perfect example of this is that we now have over 150 members registered for the Christmas luncheon. That is so much more than we thought possible so it was lucky that we booked it in a facility that can hold that many - unfortunately though it is in Ajax (see below). I'm really looking forward to it and to seeing so many of you again and especially all the new members I haven't had a chance to meet yet.

One of the people I invited to the luncheon was our Mayor, Dave Ryan. He will not be able to attend though but I did end up having a virtual conversation with him. He is a great supporter of PROBUS and reminisced about attending a meeting of around 50 people in somebody's backyard as part of the first Pickering club being formed. He always enjoyed coming to PROBUS meetings and I'm sure we will welcome him to one of ours next year. He also promised me that the Pickering Rec Centre Salons would be available to us soon and lightheartedly hoped that after that we would not have to go to an Ajax facility ever again.

Don't forget we are looking to fill 3 vacancies for next year, a Vice-President and Secretary who will be part of the Management Team and we also need a House

Coordinator for our monthly meetings. We are accepting nominations up to December 15th so contact Judy Scott asap (at judy.scottjacobs@gmail.com or 905-426-5917) if you want to nominate yourself or any other member.

December of course is all about Christmas but did you know that December 21st is the Winter Solstice. So being a curious soul I decided to google this and discovered that in Scandinavia the Solstice is also called St. Lucia Day. It marks the start of the Christmas season featuring processions of young women in white robes and wreaths of candles on their heads (brave young women indeed) to light the way through the darkness of winter. It also includes many pagan celebrations marked by bonfires, gingersnaps, saffron-flavoured buns, and glogg (it's an interesting drink and the name defines it very well, you should google it).

So Season's Greetings and Happy St Lucia Day to you all - but please don't drink too much glogg.

Take care, [Peter](#)

Speakers Report

Instead of our regular meeting with a speaker, we will be celebrating the season with our



annual **Christmas Luncheon** to be held at the Ajax Convention Centre on Wednesday, December 8th. We will be joined by **Mark Kersey**, a name that many of you may recognize. Mark played Mark The Repairman on the Mr. Dress-up show for over 10 years, and has appeared in DOZENS of TV commercials across Canada and the USA. This former Blue Jay organist is great at entertaining young and old alike. This is guaranteed to be a wonderfully entertaining

experience for us all.

[Laura](#)

Membership Report



We want to welcome 15 new members in the past month: Maureen E, Ann E, Ed E, Ann B, Ken B, Trevor S, Ornella S, Lynne H, Karen M, Marilyn R, Lyn C, Robin C, Tino A, Deborah B, and Gary C. Our membership is now at 305 and we are taking new memberships for Pickering residents at this time.

To all our new members please check out our website for upcoming activities and sign up to be part of our Facebook PROBUS Lakeside group. I hope you are getting our emails for new events/activities. On our website Home page there is a blue box called Activities. At the bottom of the blue box is a link to check which type of activity you are interested in receiving news from the club directly to your email. Please check it to see if you want any of the types of activities we have grouped our emails in.

I will be bringing my box of badges to the Christmas event. If you have not received your badge, either because you have just joined our club, or I have not had a connection with you at some of our events/activities please look for me at the Christmas event.

Sharon

The Social Scene

Boy was November ever a busy month. Among other things there were trips to Niagara Falls and St. Jacobs, 2 distillery walks, baking an amazing apple cake, dining out twice, euchre, bowling, a technical hour and even an opportunity to help out with a scientific project. There might not be as much going on with the holiday season this month, but you can bet your bottom dollar that we will keep you busy throughout December!

ACTIVITY GROUPS

BOOK CLUBS

Cover to Cover Book Club - This group will not be meeting in December but will return on **Monday, January 31st** with another interesting selection guaranteed to generate contrasting opinions..

Not a Book Club - For those new to this group - we discuss books and authors that we have enjoyed reading over the past month. At the end of our discussion, a list of shared books will be distributed. On **Tuesday December 14th** at 1pm, we will be talking about our 2021 favourite books.

Mystery Readers - We are looking at starting up a new book club for the mystery readers in our club. If you are interested, please let me know. If there is interest, it would start up in **January 2022**.

GAMES GROUP

Euchre is now being offered in person on the first and third Thursday of the month. Register for **Thursday December 2nd** at 1 pm and for **Thursday December 16th** at 1 pm, both at the Legion. This will be a progressive form of the game.

Bridge is back! We have been invited to join with the Ajax club to set up a Marathon Bridge event for the new year. It will be strictly a "kitchen bridge" so beginners are most welcome. Games will be scheduled starting in the New Year. See the invitation on our website for full details.

FOOD & DRINK

In the Kitchen - Last month's Apple Cake was a resounding success. This popular club will be suspended for the month of December but will return in January with another delicious comfort food recipe.

Meals Out - Definitely eating out has proven to be a major success for our club. And here we go again! **Breakfast at Sabina's** takes place **Wednesday, December 15th** at 9:30. This is almost sold out already!

Not doing anything on **New Year's Eve**? Why don't you come out to lunch at Amici's **Friday December 31st** at noon.

MOVIE CLUB

Movie Club - Did you know that you don't need to have Netflix or Prime in order to see the movies we select? They are all chosen from free online apps like Hoopla, Kanopy and Youtube. Join us on **Monday, December 13th** as we discuss the movie 'Noel'. Perfect for the holiday season, this movie features an array of stars including Penelope Cruz, Susan Sarandon, Alan Arkin, Robin Williams to name a few. This charming movie covers the lives of five New Yorkers who come together on Christmas Eve, seeking a miracle. Our January movie scheduled for **Monday, January 10th** will be My Old Lady starring Kevin Klein.

ONLINE CHAT

Ladies Let's Talk - Do you have some really old Christmas decorations? Why don't you share them with us on **Thursday December 9th** at 11. Why don't you throw on your favourite Christmas sweater too! We may as well see who has the best one!

PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES

Lakeside Weekly Walking - Lynda Borg and friends go out for an hour walk along the various nature trails in Durham. This is currently a weekly activity but as the weather turns cold, it could be altered. Check it out on our website.

SOCIAL EVENTS



And don't forget our **Holly Jolly Christmas Luncheon** being held at the Ajax Convention Centre, 550 Beck Crescent, Ajax on **Wednesday, December 8th** at 11:30 am. We will once again enjoy the in-person company of our fellow PROBUS Pickering Lakeside members as we partake of a delicious luncheon while being entertained by the amazing Mark Kersey. Lots of prizes to be won!

Tickets are sold out, but you can join the waiting list in case we have last minute cancellations.

Famous People Players - Come on out for a 3 course lunch and a performance of Jingle Around the Clock on **Tuesday, December 14th**. The bus leaves from the back of the Chestnut Hill Community Centre at 10:30 am. Don't be late!

Keep up-to-date - continue to check us out on our website at [PROBUS Pickering Lakeside - Home](#) and on our Facebook page [PROBUS Pickering Lakeside | Facebook](#).

[Lynne](#)

Upcoming Events

Euchre

Thursday, 2 Dec 2021 1:00 PM Royal Canadian Legion - 1555 Bayly St

Christmas Luncheon

Wednesday, 8 Dec 2021 11:30 AM Ajax Convention Center

Lakeside Ladies Let's Talk

Thursday, 9 Dec 2021 11:00 AM Zoom

Movies

Monday, 13 Dec 2021 2:00 PM Online Zoom meeting

Famous People Players

Tuesday, 14 Dec 2021 10:30 AM Bus departure from Chestnut Hill Rec Centre

Not a Book Club

Tuesday, 14 Dec 2021 1:00 PM Online Zoom meeting

Breakfast at Sabina's

Wednesday, 15 Dec 2021 9:30 AM 1755 Pickering Parkway #20

New Year's Eve luncheon

Friday, 31 Dec 2021 12:00 PM 1305 Pickering Parkway

Our Members Say

As we start to get back to more in-person activities and events, we have been pleased with the many comments coming in from our membership, so we decided that we will start to post some of them in our monthly newsletter. This month our comments came as a result of our trip to Niagara Falls, lunch at the Black Dog and our In the Kitchen cooking session. We strongly encourage our members to let us know how you enjoy the many activities and events that your Social Committee makes happen. Post your comments on our Facebook page or send to pplc.webmaster@gmail.com and we will publish it in the next newsletter.

"It is always great seeing how many members come out for our activities. I have met so many people in the past few months." Lynne Stewart

"Great session and the cake smells and looks so good! Thanks to Kathy Allen. Had a fun chat with all and a great time with my friend 'sous-chef' for the afternoon Anne Cairns"
Nicole Spencer

"The Niagara Falls trip was yesterday and was my first day trip. Val and Candice, you rocked the day! Thank you so much for putting this together. I can hardly wait to participate in your next event!" Lynne Stewart

[Elaine](#)

Paraprosdokians (a sentence or statement with an unexpected ending)

1. We never really grow up; we only learn how to act in public.
2. How is it that one careless match can start a forest fire, but it takes a whole box of matches to start a campfire?
3. Dolphins are so smart that within a few weeks of captivity, they can train people to stand on the very edge of the pool and throw them fish.
4. Why does someone believe you when you say there are four billion stars but checks when you say the paint is wet?
5. You don't need a parachute to skydive. You only need a parachute to skydive twice.
6. The voices in my head may not be real, but they have some good ideas?
7. Always borrow money from a pessimist. He won't expect it back.
8. Money doesn't buy happiness, but it sure makes misery easier to live with.
9. When tempted to fight fire with fire, remember that the fire department usually uses water.
10. You are never too old to learn something stupid.
11. Some people hear voices. Some see invisible people. Others have no imagination whatsoever.
12. If you are supposed to learn from your mistakes, why do some people have more than one child?
13. Hospitality: making your guests feel like they're at home, even if you wish they were.
14. Some cause happiness wherever they go. Others whenever they go.

Your Management Team:

President (Acting)	Peter Green	pjgreen01@gmail.com
Past President	Jim McMinn	jimmcminn51@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Peter Davidson	pplc.treasurer@gmail.com
Membership Coord	Sharon McMinn	mcminnsharon67@gmail.com
Activities Coord	Lynne Stewart	912lynne@gmail.com
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