



April 2022

Message from the President



First off I am bursting to share some incredible news with you. Over the last few weeks I have had several conversations with Mayor Dave Ryan and other City of Pickering officials and I finally got confirmation yesterday. The City has set aside a grant of up to \$100,000 for us that we can use to subsidize our activities and events. They feel that seniors have suffered more than most these last 2 years and want to help us get back doing stuff.

More about that later but meanwhile March is 'done and dusted' and we are now into April. The snow is gone and our calendar is full - including gearing up to having our General Meetings back in the salons of the Rec Centre. Yes, on April 20th we will have our first in-person general meeting in over 2 years. I for one, am really looking forward to that and especially to meeting some of our newer members in person.

On the subject of in-person meetings I want to point out a couple of things and ask for your support. We recently had to cancel our Damn Yankees excursion as we did not have enough registrations. It is important for everybody to understand that we run these types of trips through tour companies who need to make commitments to theatres, restaurants, bus companies etc. well in advance - which in turn means they need commitments from us even more in advance. **So if you are interested in excursions like the Damn Yankees one then please commit early so that we can work with the tour company in a timely manner.**

Another type of in-person event is with lunches and such where we do not make you pay in advance but we do have to make commitments to the facility. These types of events are also usually restricted in terms of total numbers, meaning we often have members go on waiting lists. **So, if you are registered for one of these such events and then discover, even at the last minute, you can't make it for whatever reason, then please cancel your registration.**

I would like to welcome our newest team members. Gail Gobeil has joined our Management Team as a Member-at-Large and Nancy Agostino is our new House Coordinator. Our Team just keeps getting better and better! Nancy will be looking for helpers for our general meetings so if you are willing to help out [please let her know](#).

This month will see a lot of you getting back on the golf course and the baseball season starting up again - Let's Go Blue Jays! But being a curious soul, I decided to google April to find out what else it is all about. I discovered that a number of very famous people were born in the month of April including William Shakespeare, Leonardo da Vinci, and the English poet William Wordsworth. One of his best-known poems is perfect for an April day in Canada: Here's a little snippet.

I wandered lonely as a cloud
That floats on high o'er vales and hills,
When all at once I saw a crowd,
A host, of golden daffodils;

Some important dates in April (apart from all our Club activities) include Easter on April 17th and Earth Day on April 22nd. I think that through Climate Change the relevance of Earth day grows more important each year and there are many things we can all do to support our planet. Does anybody want to volunteer to set up some Earth Day activities for our club?

Finally, today is also April Fools day and according to Wikipedia the custom of setting aside a day for playing harmless pranks upon one's neighbour has been relatively common throughout history. For example, you would never think the stiff upper lips of the BBC's news department would stoop to pulling one over on the British public but on April 1, 1957 the respected news program "Panorama" broadcast an unusual agriculture story: Footage of Swiss farm workers pulling strands of pasta off trees illustrated a report about the elimination of the "spaghetti weevil," allowing for a booming pasta harvest. That started a tradition of fake news carried by the Beeb on April Fools' Days, including stories about advances in the technology of "smellovision"; the face of Big Ben being replaced with a digital clock; and an astronomer's contention that a planetary alignment would weaken Earth's gravitation pull, allowing people to jump really high.

Oh and by the way, there is no \$100,000 grant.



April Fool's!!!

Take care [Peter](#)

Speakers Report



Our Speaker for April is Tom McKay. Tom has an international reputation for his crime prevention and CPTED (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design) expertise having served 32 years with Peel Regional Police including 25 years as a Crime Prevention specialist.

Tom is Chair of CPTED Ontario which he founded in 2001. He was appointed to the International Association of the Chiefs of Police Crime Prevention Committee in May of 2018 and was elected President of the International Society of Crime Prevention Practitioners (ISCPP) in Sept. of that year.

Tom has led and instructed numerous Crime Prevention courses throughout North America, Bermuda and Dubai and is a recipient of many awards including the prestigious ISCPP George B. Sunderland Lifetime Achievement Award and the Herman Goldstein Excellence in Problem Solving Award. He has repeatedly been identified as a Crime Prevention Expert.

His presentation to us is entitled Constable Tom's Ten Top Tips for a Crime Free Day and as we emerge from our 2-year hiatus and get back out in the world, we are sure these tips will be most helpful.

[Laura](#)

Membership Report

PPL wants to welcome five new members to our club: Virginia W, Maureen D, Heidi L, Peter W and Marilyn C. Hope to see you at our April meeting.

And now for all those members who have not received their badges yet because you joined during COVID shutdown or just as our in-person meetings stopped. Come see me at the



Membership table during our April meeting. Your badge will be waiting for you. I have badges for Tino A, Brent B, Corrine B, Janet B, Jack B, Vicki B, Tom B, Oonagh B, Jane C, Linda D, Maureen E, Marcell F, Caroline F, Pat H, Melanie H, Phil H, Joan H, Wendy K, Don Larabie, Marianne M, Kim M, Nancy M, Dale P, Garry P, Susanne R, Carol R, Nicole S, Patti S, Trevor S, Ornella S, Lorne S, Sylvia T, Kathy W, Brenda W

and Chris W. Thank you for your patience and understanding for the delay in receiving your badge.

I also have a few badges for members who misplaced their badge and requested a new one be ordered for them - Peter L and Lorna A.

[Sharon](#)

The Social Scene

Remember the song "When the Red Red Robins go Bob Bob Bobbin along?" That song was written by Harry Woods back in 1926. Spring has sprung and it is time for us to get up, get out of bed, cheer up, the sun is red, live, love, laugh and be happy!

Did you know that if you participated in all of our April events that you would be busy for over 45 hours? Who says retirees don't keep busy!

It is so great being able to get out and see each other. I managed to sign up for a free cooking class offered by the city. I saw a couple of our members there and even managed to pick up a couple of contacts for future activities under our Durham. We are always "phishing" for new activities and trips. If you have any suggestions, make sure you let us know.

ACTIVITY GROUPS

ARTS and CRAFTS

In Stitches - Meets on the third Monday of the month at 1pm. This is a group of like-minded members who enjoy all yarn crafts (knitting, crocheting, etc.). As our April meeting lands on Easter Monday, our next meeting will move to **Monday, May 16th** at 1pm - all interested parties are welcome to join in.

BOOK CLUBS

Cover to Cover Book Club - The next meeting will be held on **Monday, April 25th** at 2pm and the book for discussion will be *The Last Bookshop in London* by Madeline Martin. Note: This club is currently seeking one new member. If you are interested in joining, contact Pauline Fields.

Not a Book Club - will meet on **Tuesday, April 12th** at 1 pm. Each of us will talk a bit about a book we have read in the past month and then we will put together a list of books for those interested.

Mystery Readers - will meet on **Friday, April 8th** at 11am. Members have been asked to read an Alafair Burke book of their choice. In the first half of the meeting we will be talking about the author and the various books in her collection. In the second half of the meeting we will ask members about the other books they have read. A list of books is always provided after the meeting.

FOOD & DRINK

In the Kitchen - Are you busy on **Thursday, April 14th** at 3 pm. Why don't you join us on zoom. We are going to explore the creative world of Charcuterie boards. Bring your questions and ideas for another fun time!

Lakeside Ladies Lunch - hosted by Gail Gobeil, will be at the Pickle Barrel in Pickering on **Wednesday, April 13th** at noon. There are still lots of openings.

Meals Out - Breakfast will be returning to Perkins in Pickering on **Monday, April 18th** (Easter Monday) but the time has been changed to 10am. Some of us find 9am is a little too early!

Taste of the World - is back with Virginia McKay and Maureen Kelly. We will be going to the Prague Restaurant on Scarborough Golf Club Road on **Wednesday April 13th** at 5 pm. We will have a set 3 course meal menu with entrée choices for \$40.00 per person.

GAMES GROUP

Bowling is back. Bring a friend or come out by yourself on **Monday, April 4th** at 1 pm. This is now a monthly activity for your enjoyment.

Bridge - The Ajax club will be continuing to run Bridge sessions on the Trickster Cards app and will continue to offer spots to our members. The games will take place on the **first and third Tuesdays of April** at 2 pm. If you are interested please contact Harvey Brodhecker (at hbrodhecker@yahoo.ca) for more information.

Billiards at Petrina's is back on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month starting at 10:30am. The April dates will be **April 6th** and **April 20th**.

Crack the Case - will meet on **Wednesday, April 27th** at 1pm. There was a plane crash, robbery and murder in March. I can hardly wait to see what is involved in April, but I can guarantee you that it won't be the Easter bunny!

Euchre - will be held at the Royal Canadian Legion on **Thursday, April 7th** at 1 pm.

Trivia - It was great fun to get out to the Falcon Brewery for some Trivia last month. The questions were a bit tough so this month we will use a different question book that will be a tad easier. Join us on the **4th Tuesday of each month** for some triviality!

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, April 11th** at 2pm as we discuss the movie 'The Divine Secret of the Ya Ya Sisterhood' starring Sandra Bullock and Eileen Burstyn. After years of mother-daughter tension, Siddalee receives a scrapbook detailing the wild adventures of the "Ya-Yas", her mother's girlhood friends. Filmed in 2002, this movie is available for viewing on Hoopla through the Library.

ONLINE CHAT

Ladies Let's Talk - will meet on **Friday, April 1st** at 11am. THIS IS NOT AN APRIL FOOL'S JOKE!

PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES

Golf - sure evidence that Spring has arrived and Summer is right behind. We will be playing at Spring Creek Golf Club, at 10am, on the first and 3rd Thursday of the month starting on **April 21st**.

Lakeside Weekly Walking Group - This weekly walking group goes out each Tuesday at 10:30am.

- **Tuesday, April 5th** at 10:30 - Rouge Valley
- **Tuesday, April 12th** at 10:30 - Ajax Rotary Park
- **Tuesday, April 19th** at 10:30 - Col. Danforth Park
- **Tuesday, April 26th** at 10:30 - Carruthers Marsh Pavilion, Ajax

Note: We are looking at doing a "Senior's Stroll" with the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, York/Durham. Details will follow when they are available.

OTHER

Our Durham

On **Tuesday April 5th** at 2 pm, Tom Rosebush will present '*How I met my Family - An Ancestry DNA Story*'. This should be a fascinating activity!

On **Thursday, April 29th** at 2 pm, Debbie Bilinski will do a presentation of the Galapagos Islands. A true natural beauty!

Day Tripping

Regent Theatre - Legends Show - On **Monday, May 2nd** at 7pm. We will meet up at the Regent Theatre in Oshawa for a delightful show that brings together some of the world's most exciting performers live on stage. Accompanied by the "Rockin' Royals Band", this show will feature the most incredible tribute to Roy Orbison, Connie Francis, Jerry Lee Lewis and Elvis Presley.

On **Wednesday, June 28th** we are heading to Stratford where we will have lunch at the Borealis Restaurant before going to the Stratford Festival Theatre to see their production of Chicago. "With its killer score and knock-'em-dead dance numbers, this deliciously lurid tale of murder, greed, adultery - and all that jazz - packs some serious heat."

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

[Lakeside Ladies Let's Talk](#)

Friday, 1 Apr 2022 11:00 AM - Online Zoom meeting

[Ajax 5 Pin Bowling Centre](#)

Monday, 4 Apr 2022 1:00 PM - 172 Harwood Avenue, Ajax

[Lakeside Weekly Walking group](#)

Tuesday, 5 Apr 2022 10:30 AM - Rouge Valley, Pickering

[Our Durham - How I met my family. an Ancestry DNA Story.](#)

Tuesday, 5 Apr 2022 2:00 PM - Online Zoom meeting

[Billiards](#)

Wednesday, 6 Apr 2022 10:30 AM - Petrina's Billiards, 21 Harwood Ave S. 2nd floor, Ajax

[Euchre](#)

Thursday, 7 Apr 2022 1:00 PM - Royal Canadian Legion - 1555 Bayly St Pickering

[Mystery Book Club](#)

Friday, 8 Apr 2022 11:00 AM - Online Zoom meeting

[Movies](#)

Monday, 11 Apr 2022 2:00 PM - Online Zoom meeting

[Lakeside Weekly Walking group](#)

Tuesday, 12 Apr 2022 10:30 AM - Ajax Rotary Park

[Not a Book Club](#)

Tuesday, 12 Apr 2022 1:00 PM - Online Zoom meeting

[Lakeside Ladies Lunch at The Pickle Barrel](#)

Wednesday, 13 Apr 2022 12:00 PM - 1809 Liverpool Road, Pickering

[In the Kitchen](#)

Thursday, 14 Apr 2022 3:00 PM - Zoom

[Breakfast at Perkins](#)

Monday, 18 Apr 2022 10:00 AM - 1097 Kingston Road, Pickering

[Lakeside Weekly Walking group](#)

Tuesday, 19 Apr 2022 10:30 AM - Col. Danforth Park

[April Monthly Meeting](#)

Wednesday, 20 Apr 2022 10:00 AM - Recreation Centre

[Billiards](#)

Wednesday, 20 Apr 2022 10:30 AM - Petrina's Billiards, 21 Harwood Ave S. 2nd floor, Ajax

[Golf at Spring Creek Golf Club](#)

Thursday, 21 Apr 2022 10:00 AM - Spring Creek Golf Club

[Galapagos Islands - Travelogue](#)

21 Apr 2022 2:00 PM - Online Zoom meeting

[Cover to Cover Book Club](#)

Monday, 25 Apr 2022 2:00 PM - Zoom

[Lakeside Weekly Walking group](#)

Tuesday, 26 Apr 2022 10:30 AM - Carruthers Marsh Pavilion, Ajax

[Trivia at the Falcon Brewery](#)

Tuesday, 26 Apr 2022 2:00 PM - Falcon Brewing Company, 30 Barr Rd, Ajax, ON L1S 7H1

[Crack the Case](#)

Wednesday, 27 April 2022 1:00 PM - Zoom

Our Members Say

As our amazing Social Committee begins to increase the number of activities available to our membership, we have been pleased with the many comments coming in from our members, so

we decided that we will start to post some of them in our monthly newsletter.

Comments as a result of Nick French's amazing presentation entitled 'Heroes and Villains of the Titanic':

"Thank you for a wonderful presentation - just fascinating" Elaine Phipps

"Fabulous presentation!. All very interesting. Thank you" Virginia McKay

"Hope to hear you tell more stories" Linda Blaschek

"Thank you Nick, thoroughly enjoyed it" Vicki Trusdale

"Thanks for organizing such a great talk!" Becky

Comments about our St. Patrick's Day Kitchen Party:

"Thank you to the social committee for today's trip to Kitchener for the St. Paddy's Day lunch and show. The weather was perfect, the lunch was delicious and the show was enjoyable. Another fabulous outing and meeting new members. Waiting for the next adventure!!!" Olga Green

"Had a great time at the St. Patrick's Day Kitchen Party. Thanks to everyone who made this happen." Elaine Phipps

"We loved it! Thanks so much Probus! Our memory will be: first outing in two long difficult years!"
Jan Copithorn

"Well planned by Valerie as usual. Had a great day and met a new member. Looking forward to many more." Vicki Trusdale

"Laura Green doing the Irish Dance. Great Job!" - favourite memory from Valerie Rodrigues

"The four musicians were excellent! I especially enjoyed each of their solos" Bill Phipps





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.

Interesting But Little Known Facts

Sudan has more pyramids than any country in the world - Not only does Sudan have more pyramids than Egypt, but the numbers aren't even close. While 138 pyramids have been discovered in Egypt, Sudan boasts around 255.

There are parts of Africa in all four hemispheres - For people whose education was largely focused on the Western world, it may be surprising to find out exactly how huge the continent of Africa is. For instance, it spans all four hemispheres and covers nearly 12 million square miles.

German Chocolate Cake was invented in Texas - The "German" part of German chocolate cake comes from an American man - not a European country. Specifically, it's named after Sam German, who in 1852 created the formula for a mild dark baking chocolate bar for Baker's Chocolate Company, which was subsequently named Baker's German's Sweet Chocolate. Fast-forward to June 13, 1957. The *Dallas Morning Star* published the recipe for the cake, invented and submitted by a reader.

The Philippines consists of 7,641 islands - The Philippines is an archipelago, which means it's made up of a group of islands - 7,641 islands to be exact. That figure does not include the thousands of sandbars and other landforms that emerge during low tide.

A one-way trip on the Trans-Siberian Railway involves crossing 3,901 bridges - Not only is the Trans-Siberian Railway the longest railroad in Russia, but it's also the longest one in the world. The journey takes seven days, during which time passengers pass through eight different time zones and cross 3,901 bridges.

The brand name SPAM is a combination of "spice" and "ham" - This is one of those interesting facts you probably thought you knew but actually didn't. Contrary to American mythology, Spam is not an acronym for "Scientifically Processed Animal Matter" or "Shoulder of Pork and Ham".

Scotland has 421 words for snow - Yes, 421! Some examples: sneesl (to start raining or snowing); feefle (to swirl); and flinkdrinkin (a light snow).

The Windy City nickname has nothing to do with Chicago's weather - If you live in Chicago, you might already know this random fact, but we're betting most other people don't. Chicago's nickname was coined by 19th century journalists who were referring to the fact that its residents were "windbags" and "full of hot air".

Thanks to 3D printing, NASA can basically email tools to astronauts - Getting new equipment to the Space Station used to take months to years, but the new technology means the tools are ready within hours.

AND FINALLY -- Irish bars used to be closed on Saint Patrick's Day - You might associate St. Patrick's Day with wearing green and drinking so much you think you actually see leprechauns. But, until 1961, there were laws in Ireland that banned bars from opening on March 17th. Since the holiday falls during the period of Lent in the heavily Catholic country, the idea of binge-drinking seemed a bit immoral.

True facts you never knew - don't you feel smarter now?

Your Management Team:

President - Peter Green (pjgreen01@gmail.com)

Vice- President - Valerie Rodrigues (valerie_rodrigues@bell.net)

Past President - Jim McMinn (jimcminn51@yahoo.com)

Treasurer - Peter Davidson (pplc.treasurer@gmail.com)

Membership Coord - Sharon McMinn (mcminnsharon67@gmail.com)

Chair, Social Committee - Lynne Stewart (912lynne@gmail.com)

Speakers Coord - Laura Green (pplc.speakers@gmail.com)

Webmaster/Newsletter - Elaine Phipps (ephipps@rogers.com)

Secretary - Greg Garber (ggarber@sympatico.ca)

Member-at-Large - Gail Gobeil (gail_gobeil@msn.com)