

# **PROBUS Canada Connections**

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### **Message from the President**



It is hard to believe that summer is already over and we are well into fall. It was an unusually quiet summer for me as President of PROBUS Canada, however, the major highlight was presenting 100<sup>th</sup> birthday

greetings to a member on behalf of all PROBUS Canada members.

John Neu is a charter member of the Cambridge Men's PROBUS Club which was the first PROBUS club in Canada so there can be no doubt that he is the oldest, longest-serving member of PROBUS Canada! In a very special meeting of the club, John received birthday greetings from his club, from the Town of Cambridge, and from PROBUS Canada. This club can now boast of two centenarians — John Neu and Ivan Robinson - both of whom are veterans! Can any other Club in Canada equal or better this? Please let me know.



Left to right: John Neu, Martin Capper and Ivan Robinson

#### Remembering War

Last October, John Neu was invited to share some of his personal history in wartime at his club's monthly meeting. Click here and go to the 12:45 mark to hear his talk about his life-changing experience seeing the horrors of a concentration camp.

#### **Promoting PROBUS**

A subcommittee of the PROBUS Canada Board, working with General Manager - Wendy Machmer and volunteers from two PROBUS clubs, have developed a range of marketing materials and tools to help our clubs get their message out to potential new members in their community. Click here to view or download the materials from the PROBUS Canada website (or go to probuscanada.com and search "Marketing Materials").

I cannot let the opportunity pass to mention that one of the two club volunteers is Bob MacNair, who recently completed six years of service on the PROBUS Canada Board including a year as President. Bob continues to serve PROBUS Canada in every way that he can and, on behalf of all of you, I thank him for doing so.

#### Club Annual Meetings / Information Updates

Many of our Clubs have their Annual General Meetings at this time of the year and I would remind the incoming members of the Management Teams to ensure that their Club information is updated on our website probuscanada.ca. Accurate, current information makes it easier for members and prospective members to connect with your club and also ensures that your District Director can support you! Click <a href="here">here</a> for instructions to update your club's information.

As we enjoy the fall season and look forward to the holidays at year's end, perhaps like me you will express your gratitude for being a PROBUS member and everything it means to you.

Sincerely,

Martin Capper,

President and Director ON4

**PROBUS Canada** 

Get Connected. Stay Connected

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# And congratulations go to.....



Congratulations to **Major Jim Parks** on the celebration of his 99th birthday. **The Men's PROBUS Club of Newmarket**, where he is a long-time member, organized a community event with many local dignitaries. Presentations included greetings from PROBUS Canada by **Brenda Andrews**, National Past President, and a life membership from Membership Chair, **Dave Elms**. Click here for the full story.

## PROBUS Club of Saskatoon Bridges 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!

There is a tremendous amount of energy in the Saskatoon Bridges PROBUS club and it was a party atmosphere in September when members, as well as the Presidents of the two other Probus clubs in Saskatoon, got together to celebrate the club's ten-year milestone. There were door prizes and music provided by Brian Kendall who took everyone clapping, singing and dancing down memory lane. Ineke Knight, PROBUS Canada Director for Manitoba, NW Ontario, Saskatchewan District, was honoured to attend and present the club with their 10-year certificate.



Left to right: Ineke Knight and Richard Maj, President

#### Two Centenarians at the PROBUS Club of Dundas in Ontario!



Left to right: John Howard, club President; Bob Parliament, Roger's son; Roger Parliament; and David Ricketts, PROBUS Canada Director District ON6

A party was held in September to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> birthdays of members Roger Parliament and Ross Cruikshank Sadly, Ross was hospitalized and not able to attend, then passed away a few days later.



Ross Cruikshank

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#### Congratulations to the PROBUS Club of Owen Sound on celebrating five years on October 18!



The founding Management Committee left to right: Paula Mercer, Jane Abraham-Dunn, Bridget Bonnici, Paul Bonnici, and Bob MacNair



Left to right with the five-year certificate: Bob MacNair; Rob Welland, current President; Jane Abraham-Dunn, Past President; and Paul Bonnici, Founding President.



The PROBUS Club of Ganaraska Valley in Port Hope, Ontario held their AGM on September 14 and celebrated the 100<sup>th</sup> birthday of a founding member, **Doreen Sproule**. Along with a cake and flowers, Doreen received a standing ovation from her fellow members and was presented with certificates from PROBUS Canada and her club.

<- Left to right: Doreen Sproule and Val Nippard, Club President



#### Two New Automated Services for Clubs

**How to Keep Your Club Information Current** – Instead of manually updating your club information, such as new members of the management committee or changes in meeting locations and times, each club will now receive an email one month after their scheduled AGM. The email will contain a form will all current information already filled in. The club's Management Committee will only need to make changes to the form and submit it. There is still a form online for changes that occur throughout the year.

How to Update Your Club Numbers – An annual membership fee of \$3.00 per member is submitted to PROBUS Canada each fall. This year clubs will receive an email that lists the current club information, including the number of members we have on file. The Management Committee will only need to enter the number of current members, then the form will be updated to show the amount due, as well as how to submit payment. Click submit, and that's it!

Emails were sent to the Club email addresses by the General Manager on July 19<sup>th</sup>, and October 24<sup>th</sup>, respectively, with complete details.

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### PROBUS CANADA CITATION AWARDS

Recognizing individuals who have had a lasting effect on their club, district and/or PROBUS Canada. Click <a href="here">here</a> for details on how to submit a nomination.

In October, **The PROBUS Club of Uxbridge** in Ontario celebrated the contributions of two members with Citation Awards. **Gail Heroux**, has been an extraordinary Social Chair and **Chuck Heroux**, stepped into the President's role when the club's previous President passed away. Both Gail and Chuck give 110% to their club.



Left to right: Gail Heroux, Brenda Andrews, PROBUS Canada Past President; and Chuck Heroux.



Left to right: Patricia Dion; Brenda Andrews, Past President, PROBUS Canada: Deb Luikaitis: and Pete Luikaitis.

The Probus Club of Bradford was proud to recognize three members who gave their all in their roles on the club's Board. Patricia Dion has been the club's Secretary and Membership Coordinator for 12 years; Deb Luikaitis was the club's Communications Lead and right-hand for 11 years; and over 11 years Pete Luikaitis has been the club's Vice President, President, and Tech Person extraordinaire.



#### **New Insurance Opportunity for PROBUS Club Members**

### Say hello to exclusive savings on car and home insurance through belairdirect.

You need great coverage that can keep up with your schedule. Luckily, our official partner, belairdirect, has got you covered. We've teamed up with them to score special deals on insurance that's tailored just for you, as a member of PROBUS Canada. belairdirect helps simplify insurance for you, to make your life easier. You'll also enjoy enhanced home coverage and the option for great car insurance add-ons with their Affinity Plus endorsement. Plus, a suite of helpful digital tools that make managing your insurance a breeze!

#### More than just a policy.

When you get insurance through belairdirect you're also supporting PROBUS Canada.

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Visit belairdirect.com/savings or call 1-833-887-4626.

Available to Probus members in Alberta, British Columbia, Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Ontario, Quebec, Newfoundland and Labrador.

All group insurance opportunities, including Health and Travel Insurance, can be found on the PROBUS Canada website in the Club Reference Guide under <u>Insurance</u>.

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### AT THE CLUBS

#### Brantford Area Clubs Celebrated PROBUS Month in October!



**Helen Schultz** (holding flag, left) and **Donna Potoczek** (holding flag, right) with **Mayor Kevin Davis** and members from Brantford area Probus Clubs at a flag-raising ceremony in Harmony Square on Oct. 11.

The four Probus clubs in the Brantford-Brant area have almost 500 members. The **Telephone City Women's Probus Club**, the men's **Probus Club of Brantford**; the **Grand River Women's Probus Club of Brantford**; and the **Central Brant Women's Probus Club** joined forces to celebrate the 36th anniversary of PROBUS in Canada as well as National PROBUS Month. It started in September with the City of Brantford proclaiming October "Probus Month". On October 11 the clubs' newly created Probus flag was raised and flown for a week with purple lights shining in Harmony Square. **Donna Potoczek**, President of the Grand River Women's Probus Club said the Probus Month declaration "is an opportunity to spread awareness and encourage new members to join."



**Brenda Andrews**, PROBUS Canada Past President and Interim Director ON5 (far left) visited **The PROBUS Club of Port Stanley and Area** on October 18 to induct **June Ayrhart** (far right) as President and 14 new members. June has been President for four years now and worked tirelessly to keep the club afloat through the pandemic. The club now has 74 members and growing.