



PROBUS CANADA

“NEWSLETTER”

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January 2019



BOB BOONE
PRESIDENT

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

HAPPY NEW YEAR, It has been my pleasure to be the President of PROBUS CANADA for the year which began the first week in May of last year. It has been a very busy year throughout the country. In August we started the web site and since have seen lots of visits to the site, more than 5,000 in November. Last month we announced an improvement in our insurance plans. All 13 directors have been busy within their own Districts and often helping Directors in other districts. The PROBUS CANADA Directors share quarterly activity reports with each other so we are all aware of what is happening throughout the Probus family.

CLUB NEWSLETTER In my visits to clubs I have become aware that some have placed a link on their own newsletter to the national web site. Many Clubs also are on the distribution lists to receive newsletters from other clubs in their own districts which helps them to become aware of speakers and other club activities.

PROBUS MONTH.....Many clubs celebrate Probus month in March while others do so in April to catch the returning members from the south. There are many ways to celebrate being a member of Probus and do something special as we enjoy our years of retirement. Consider sharing these special times with other clubs.

NEW CLUBSThis year the PROBUS CANADA directors have placed a focus on getting new clubs started as one of their objectives. Since the beginning of May there have been seven new clubs started with the latest new club starting on January 16th. Based on the director's reports, I am aware of plans underway for another six new clubs. A common result is that new clubs almost double their members within the first year. Our total membership has passed the 37,000 mark and we are on our way to 38,000. We offer a special welcome to all our new members this year.

EMERGENCY PLANNING One of the advantages of visiting other clubs is finding new things they do. Recently I discovered that one club had lists kept by the leader of an activity or event of the emergency contacts of each club member. This is something each club could consider with the need of keeping such lists up to date. Another aspect of emergency planning is to be aware of the defibrillator at the place where you meet and who can operate it.

WEB SITE TRAFFIC Since the national web site started in last August the web team has been keeping track of visits to the site each month. In October and November there were over 5,000 visits to the site each month with an average visit time of 5 minutes. The web team keeps track of new visitors, returning visitors, what section on the site is looked at and the number of visitors to the join a club section. When I visit a club, I check the web site to get the latest information. One item the web team asked me to mention is to ask the clubs that get contacted via the web site to send an email to the web team stating whether the person contacting them actually joined the club. **THIS IS IMPORTANT** to know as one of the goals of the web site is to help attract new members.

GET CONNECTED – STAY CONNECTED !



PROBUS CANADA Director Keith McGregor was all smiles when he presented the **PROBUS CANADA 25th Anniversary Certificate** to a smiling Past President Helen Shaw, of the Parkville, B.C. Club. Parkville is the first Club to celebrate 25 years on Vancouver Island and the reports are that they held a “fantastic” party to mark the occasion !
“CONGRATULATIONS PARKVILLE”

MEDOC Travel Insurance Plan

MEDOC is designed to combine all of the travel insurance needs of **PROBUS** Members in one convenient package, with plan options to suit the coverage you require as well as your budget. **MEDOC** balances the needs of travelers regardless of age or health status. It is important that you carry the coverage that gives you peace of mind while traveling. Know & understand the plan you purchase.

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PROBUS CANADA Director Jamie Doolittle also was busy with presentations as shown in this very much Canadian Flag promotion as he presents a “20 Year Anniversary Certificate” to Past President Barbara Bole Stafford of the **PROBUS Club of Western Ottawa** as the Club gathered for their special celebrations.

PROBUS Pins & Other Supplies

*Regular **PROBUS** lapel pins are \$5.50 each in orders of less than 25 but only \$4.50 each in orders of 25 or more.*

*The 5, 10, 15, 20, 25 and 30 year pins are \$5.50 each regardless of number ordered and the President pin, the Past President pin and the **PROBUS** Canada pin are \$8.00 each regardless of the number ordered. The price includes taxes and shipping cost. Pins are shipped with an invoice and return envelope.*

To order your pins, or for more information, please contact our Managing Director Reg Whynott by regular mail at 233 Kenmuir Road, Qualicum Beach, B.C V9K 2E7 or by email at ...rwhynott@shaw.ca ... or by phone at (250) 757-8026.



Brian Bancroft and Wayne Tester, the Club's two longest serving Members, accepted a certificate presented by Ontario District #6 Director David Ricketts recognizing the **St. Catharines Club's 30th Anniversary** of activity. The plaque, also signed by **PROBUS CANADA** President Robert Boone, said in part .. “ In recognition of the 30th Anniversary of the presentation of your Charter # 12 issued on November 15th, 1988”.

“CONGRATULATIONS ST. CATHARINES”

LOOKING FOR PROBUS PRODUCTS !!

STRATHCRAFT AWARDS have been with **PROBUS** Canada as a supplier for several years. For information, or to order, check out their latest site for Probud supplies !

www.strathcraft.com/stores/probus

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

WHERE ARE WE NOW

Our number of active PROBUS Clubs is now standing at 250 with 36,500+ individual Members, a number which changes daily. Since the last report to you by way of this newsletter we have added 4 new Clubs, one in B.C., one in Saskatchewan and two in Ontario. The following is for your information:

THE PROBUS CLUB OF OWEN SOUND, ONT. (Comb.) #262
 318379 Grey Road #1, Owen Sound, Ont. N4K 5N4
 Email: probusowensound@gmail.com Fax : none
 175 Members (Sponsor PROBUS Club of Collingwood)
 Charter Members 175 10/ 17/ 18
 OWEN SOUND MEET Bayshore Comm. Ctre , 3rd Wed., 10:00 AM
 President Paul Bonnici (226) 909 - 0117
 Secretary Cindy Weir (226) 664 - 3967

THE KAMLOOPS DESERT HILLS PROBUS CLUB , B.C.
 (Combined) # 263
 2385 Young Avenue , Kamloops, B.C. V2B 4M7
 Email: schiller.faye@gmail.com Fax: None
 75 Members (Sponsor Thompson Rivers PROBUS Club)
 Charter Members 75 11/ 20 / 2018
 KAMLOOPS DESERT HILLS MEET Brock's Seniors Ctr.
 1800 Tranquille Rd. First Tues., 9:30 AM
 President Faye Schiller (604) 839-1642
 Secretary Margaret Pillay (306) 715-2435

THE PROBUS CLUB OF PICKERING LAKESIDE
 (Combined) # 264
 899 Baylawn Drive, Pickering, Ont. L1X 2N7
 Email: fsancroft.19@gmail.com Fax: none
 57 Members (Sponsor PROBUS Club of Pickering)
 Charter Members 57 12/27/2018
 PICKERING LAKESIDE MEET Pickering Rec. Complex-
 East Salon, 3rd Wed., 10:00 AM
 President Fran Sancroft (905) 550-8823
 Secretary Viki Sampson (905) 619-9389

THE PROBUS CLUB OF SASKATOON RIVERSIDE,
SASK. (Combined) # 265
 2134 - 37th Street West , Saskatoon, Sask. S7L 4E3
 Email: lynngee@shaw.ca Fax: none
 82 Members (Sponsor PROBUS Club of Saskatoon Bridges)
 Charter Members 82 01/21/19
 SASKATOON RIVERSIDE MEET Nutana Legion
 3021 Louise St. 3rd Wed. 9:30 AM
 President: Lynn Gee (306) 374-9417
 Secretary: Carol Gordon (306) 382-6013

We appreciate the effort of the Organizing Committees and especially the PROBUS Clubs who are the sponsors of the latest new Clubs. If your Club has a waiting list and you would like to consider a new Club in your community, or in a neighboring community, please contact your Director from the list of Officers / Directors on this page.

You will find they can be most helpful !

CURRENT OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS OF PROBUS CANADA

President..... Robert (Bob) Boone, Mississauga
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Secretary Bob MacNair ,Collingwood, Ont.
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NON-VOTING VOLUNTEER STAFF

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The celebration of the 25th Anniversary of the **PROBUS Club of Parkville, B. C.** was honored by the presence of several Past Presidents of the Club who attended to participate in the recent fun day in celebration of the day and to observe recognition of the Club by PROBUS CANADA. Special Guests included l. to r. - - Past Presidents - Helen Shaw, Judy Wood, Fred Collins, Wayne Stewart, George Shaw, Tony Marsland and on the far right PROBUS CANADA Director Keith McGregor .



PROBUS CANADA President Bob Boone also has been kept busy with participation in a number of Anniversaries ... or Birthday Celebrations... and above a number of Past Presidents of the **PROBUS Club of Brampton** attended to observe the presentation of the special Certificate to recognize the 25th Birthday of the Club. President Bob was heard to express that the participation and support of the Members of the long standing Clubs was a major contributor to the ongoing development of new Clubs in Canada and he passed his compliments and his thanks to all for their ongoing activity in PROBUS .



OUR PROBUS TREE

IN 2015 THE MANAGEMENT TEAM OF OUR CLUB, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE MEMBERSHIP, DECIDED TO PLANT A COMMEMORATIVE TREE THROUGH THE PLANTING PROGRAM OFFERED BY THE CITY OF BROCKVILLE. OUR OAK TREE WAS PLANTED IN OCTOBER OF THAT YEAR. IN ADDITION TO THE TREE AND ITS ON GOING MAINTENANCE, THE FEE INCLUDES A PLAQUE TO COMMEMORATE OUR GROUP. THE TREE IS LOCATED ON A NEWER PART OF THE BROCK TRAIL WHICH RUNS BETWEEN KING ST. W. AND CEDAR ST. OUR TREE HAS NOW BEEN IN THAT LOCATION FOR 3 YEARS AND IS GROWING VERY WELL. THANKS TO PROBUS MEMBER, NANCY LÉGER, FOR PROVIDING THE PICTURES AND THE INFORMATION ABOUT OUR TREE.
"THE PROBUS CLUB OF LEEDS AND GRENVILLE"

