

April 22, 2020

Perth Probus Presents: The Online Speakers In Isolation Series

Dear Fellow Probians,

The Speakers' Committee of Probus Perth has been sharing ideas to provide informative presentations of interest to our members during this time of isolation and cancellation of meetings. In lieu of our usual program with monthly speakers, we are creating an *Online Speakers In Isolation Series* that we hope will educate and entertain our viewers. The Speakers' Committee has been sweeping internet hubs for videos that we view, discuss, shortlist and finally post on the Probus Perth website with the assistance of designer and moderator, Colin Stephenson. We are attempting to model the 30-45 minute speaker format plus time for questions, answers and comments, to which we have all become accustomed.

A wide range of options will be offered as we build a virtual library of materials over time, with this process continuing through to September or until our return to regularly scheduled Probus Meetings. In addition, the Speakers' Committee welcomes the sharing of topics or videos of interest by Perth Probians. We would ask that you simply respond by email to the Committee Chair, David Farquharson (speakers@probusperth.ca) with a link, video details or a topic for consideration. Member recommendations will be explored and added to the collection once vetted by the Speakers' Committee. If interest is strong, it is conceivable that other videos could be posted during any month.

We have designed an Online Speakers in Isolation Series webpage, which will allow Probians to view the video(s) for the month and make comments for other members. We will invite interested members to visit this site, to view the provided video(s) and post comments about them on the website's Comments utility that will appear below the embedded videos. Comments will be reviewed by Committee Members Derek Cooke, Gardie Church, John Byers, Gail Read and David Farquharson, as well as moderator Colin Stephenson, to delete any inappropriate comments from unknown respondents. Remember, your comments will remain visible only until the next video is posted.

Our first videos will be available on Wednesday, May 6, 2020, the date on which our next Probus meeting would have taken place. The videos for this month will be:

- Video #1) Canadian Space Agency: Canadian astronaut Jeremy Hansen who answers questions from Canadian children during a live presentation. This event was announced by Prime Minister Trudeau at a time of self-isolation with a comparison of our experience to life in space.. First aired on April 05, 2020 and 21 minutes in length.

and

- Video #2) NASA: In her final days as Commander of the International Space Station, Sunita Williams of NASA recorded an extensive tour of the orbital laboratory and downlinked the video just hours before she, Cosmonaut Yuri Malenchenko and Flight Engineer Aki Hoshide of the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency departed in their Soyuz TMA-05M spacecraft for a landing on the steppe of Kazakhstan. The tour includes scenes of each of the station's modules and research facilities with a running narrative by Williams of the work that has taken place and which is ongoing aboard the orbital outpost. First aired on November 19, 2012 and 25 minutes in length.

To ensure that participation is limited to Perth Probians only, moderator Colin Stephenson will circulate an email to all members just prior to May 6th, with the actual active link to these videos and an invitation to share comments with fellow viewers. The Comments function will only be applicable to the most recent video (or videos) posted on the website. This process is intended to minimize the chance of hacking of our Perth Probus website and your comments in particular. You will be able to visit the *Online Speakers In Isolation Series* at your convenience. Past videos will also be accessible and will be filed by the month in which they were posted.

In future, the Probian will include a description of the upcoming videos, including the date on which they will be activated.

Wishing you the best in health and happy viewing!
Probus Perth Speakers' Committee