



PROBUS CANADA

“NEWSLETTER” December, 2021

Wishing Probus members all across Canada & everywhere a happy and joyous season, President Bob



President's Message: December 2021

My best wishes to you, your family members, friends, and Club members for a very “Happy Holiday Season” and, hopefully, a return to a more normal time of “Fellowship, Friendship and Fun” in 2022.

My wife, Diane, and I, at the time of this writing, are making plans to have our families re-united for Christmas dinners and celebrations.

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, 2021 continued to be a very challenging year for our PROBUS Clubs across the country. A few clubs were able to hold in-person meetings, some were offering “hybrid meetings” and many continued to offer monthly Zoom Meetings.

Your Board of Directors was very busy this year in both Committee and full Board Meetings. In August the Board of Directors approved the “Standard Constitution for PROBUS Clubs, 2021” and the “Suggested Bylaws for PROBUS Clubs, 2021”. The Board Directors’ Manual was approved during a Hybrid Meeting in October as was the Board’s Strategic Plan, October 2021-October 2024. A Board Committee has been working on a Club Guide and Clubs across Canada were asked for input as to what information they would like to have included in this helpful document. The Board hopes to have this Club Guide ready for distribution to our Member Clubs in early 2022.

During its October Meeting the Board of Directors decided to change PROBUS MONTH celebrations from March/April to October of each year. PROBUS MONTH was suggested by Steve Campbell in 2013. Our next PROBUS MONTH celebrations will take place in October of 2022. This will coincide with the “Canadian National Seniors Day” (October 1st) and the “International Day of Older Persons” that was established by the United Nations Member States and was first celebrated on October 1st, 1991. It is observed by all United Nation Member States. Each year has a theme. The theme for 2021 was “Digital Equity for All Ages”.

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Maureen Huismans

1931 - 2021



There are many people who have left their mark on PROBUS CANADA and on the Women's PROBUS Club of Newmarket in Ontario. Perhaps none moreso than that left by a one of our Best Boosters..**MAUREEN HUISMANS**. Maureen, who passed away recently, after 90 years of active life, was a truly good friend to many, Her first major contribution to PROBUS was as one of the "**founding**" Members of the Committee that formed the Womens PROBUS Club of Newmarket, Ont. in 1995. Ten Years later. in 2005, Maureen became the first Woman President of **PROBUS CANADA** and served with the same kind of enthusiasm as always until, lo and behold, she became a recipient of the **JOHN R. MORRIS AWARD**, a very special tribute for work effort and participation in PROBUS for many years. Maureen was best described as a "Happy Camper" and if something was not right, she worked hard to help make a positive change for those involved.... not just for change but change for the better. She was always careful to ensure that change was not made at the expense of someone, but with a desire to make things better for all.

We join with Maureen's family in wishing for her that she finds many new and exciting paths to follow and bring joy and happy involvement to those who show a willingness to help her bring better thoughts and joy to her new friends !



So, what do the Board of Directors do when there's a pandemic to be concerned about. They certainly do not sit at home and wonder what's next. President Bob gets on the phone and calls a meeting to deal with the situation. The Members of the Board get appropriately dressed, masks and all, and off they go to a "safe place" which has been properly prepared and the deliberations begin and they don't end until some positive action is determined to allow some proper things to happen for the good of all.



Lorna Eadie Hocking, Director, Ontario District 5 attended her first in-person PROBUS Club meeting since becoming a Director in May 2020. On Nov 3rd, Lorna travelled to Exeter to present the Exeter PROBUS Club president, Wayne Deluca, with the club's 15th Anniversary Certificate. Some of the club's founding members are pictured here along with Wayne and Lorna. The club thanked Lorna and presented her with a lovely book, THE BEAUTY & BOUNTY OF HURON COUNTY.



Do you know what you want for Christmas ? Are you afraid to ask for fear that Santo will say no ? Why not ask Brenda to relay your special item to Santa, She certainly seems to be on his good side .

PROBUS CLUBS IN CANADA AND MAINE **NATIONAL PROBUS MONTH**

We have typically held PROBUS month in March and or April. We are now switching the date to October to coincide with the National Seniors Day and the United Nations Senior Day. National PROBUS Day is an opportunity to recognize the importance of seniors in our communities. There are numerous ways to celebrate the day:

- Create a PROBUS Club flag or banner.
- Have your clubs flag flown over City Hall.
- Have your Mayor proclaim N.P.D.
- Enjoy cake, or a breakfast, or a luncheon.
- Acknowledge your founding members.
- Extend an invitation to a neighboring PROBUS Club. (Have a party).
- Arrange for your local press to attend.
- Recognition of your Past Presidents.
- Encourage friends or relatives to join your club.
- Invite your PROBUS CANADA District Director to speak about PROBUS.

The opportunities are endless!! Have fun with planning events, take pictures. Remember to send me your pictures to add to the PROBUS CANADA National newsletter

BE A FRIEND – BRING A FRIEND



Dec.7th 2021 Director Keith McGregor(left) presented the Probus Lantzville Club--President Lia VanWassenaar (center) and Founding President Jim Tucker (right) with their 20 Year Anniversary Certificate at their Christmas luncheon



PROBUS LAPEL PINS

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 and 25 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. They usually take a week to ten days for delivery.

To order your pins, or for more information, please contact our Managing Director Reg Whynott by regular mail at P.O.Box 292, Qualicum Beach, B.C. V9K 1S8 or by email at rwhynott@shaw.ca or by phone at (250) 757-8026.