



Probus Club of Perth

The Probian

June 2021 edition

The End of the Tunnel ?



With an ever-increasing number of Canadians being vaccinated against Covid-19, we hear frequent mention of there being “light at the end of the tunnel”.

While it is true that there is light at the end of most tunnels, getting to that light is the challenge.

When the Babylonians built a 3000ft tunnel under the Euphrates River in 2140-2180 BC they would have faced a lot of the same challenges in getting to the light as those who constructed the 57km Gotthard Base Tunnel in 2004-2016.

It takes time, patience and determination. Just like tunneling out of this pandemic.

After 15 months of all this trauma, it would seem that we have done the “time” part and the “patience” part is wearing pretty thin! That leaves “determination”.

Your board determinedly stands in readiness to resume in-person meetings just as soon as it is permissible and safe.

The Ontario Government has tied our return to permissible meetings to vaccination rates and so by being vaccinated we can all help with the “safe” aspect.

That way we just may reach that elusive light!

In the meantime, be sure to tune in to the June 02nd Zoom meeting.

Rob Leonard, Editor

June 02nd Speaker:



Bruce Burlton is a world pioneer in the establishment of commercial communications satellite systems.

Among his many achievements, he was part of the team that successfully implemented and operated the world's first domestic satellite communications system (Telesat) and led the team that successfully placed twelve Telesat satellites into operating orbit.

He also created the storage orbit concept, which resulted in a \$40 million saving to Telesat and which led to his being the recipient of Telesat's first David Golden award.

His most spectacular contribution was to lead the team which twice successfully rescued the Anik E2 satellite, developing the earth-borne control system enabling it to successfully operate for 10 more years, in spite of critical failures of its onboard control systems.

Text taken from the Canadian Academy of Engineering website.

Coming events:

On a personal note:

Cathy Brown turned 90 on May 3. I enjoyed a wonderful visit with her. If you wish to call Cathy or want to send her a card, please contact me (Mary). Her daughter, Donna, has given me permission to share.

1000 Island Playhouse is now offering single tickets for each of the 4 shows or a package subscription for \$80:

- Sexy Laundry August 5-28
- Back in '59 September 9-October 2
- Serving Elizabeth October 7-31
- Miss Caledonia November 4-28

Please note that the November date for Miss Caledonia is a change from July, made in response to the Ontario Government's new Reopening Plan.

If you have tickets for July they will be automatically transferred to the new date. Should you prefer a refund or credit, please contact the theatre. (Contact info. follows.)

Go to 1000 Islands Playhouse for details and to purchase tickets. The box office can be reached at 613-382-7020 or further information is online at <http://www.1000islandsplayhouse.com/2021-season/>

Check out the National Art Centre website at www.nac-can.ca/en for a variety of shows including:

- A Virtual Garden Tour Across Canada
- NAC Chamberfest,

Also, free offerings such as interviews and a Powwow Workout Class at <https://nac-cna.ca/en/event/23420#:~:text=Powwow%20Workout%20Class%20%E2%80%93%20A%20%E2%80%9CPowwow,sounds%20of%20traditional%20powwow%20music>

We are all anticipating an improving situation in Ontario. If all goes well, we will look forward to organizing a picnic in the park, a round of golf and possibly a patio activity!

Let's all do our best to make this possible!

If you have any virtual concerts and/or events to share, please let us know.

Mary and Gail

Nominating Committee:

It is a pleasure to report that Bill Kennedy (a Past President) has agreed to sit on the Nomination Committee. Thank you Bill.

We are looking for a member to fulfill the position of Vice President for next year and to be part of the team as we keenly anticipate some return to normalcy!

If you can help the Club in this regard, please email me at past-president@probusperth.ca and I can then call you to answer the questions you may have.

Thanks,
Liz Leonard

Membership:

Membership remains at the cap of 205, with 24 on the waiting list.

Prospective members

Current members are asked to advise anyone interested in joining that, should they apply, their applications would be added to the waiting list.

A fillable membership application form is available on the club website.

The completed form can either be e-mailed or mailed to the club, but e-mailing is the recommended option.

Once the club receives the completed form the applicant's name will be added to the waiting list.

Members email addresses:

Would members please be sure to advise Aline (membership@probusperth.ca) of any email address changes.

A point to remember when returning to normal life:

"You only live once, but if you do it right, once is enough."

Mae West

NOTICE FOR PAYMENT OF DUES:

The management team of Probus Club of Perth has made the decision to begin collecting annual dues with effect from the September meeting.

Due to the pandemic it is likely that "in-person meetings" will not be possible at that time. However, virtual meetings using Zoom will continue to take place.

The annual dues will remain unchanged at \$25 per renewing member.

These dues can be paid either by cheque payable to Probus Club of Perth and mailed to our Post Office Box 20131, Perth Ontario K7H 3M6 OR by e-transfer as set out below.

If you do not intend to renew your membership, please advise Aline McRory by email membership@probusperth.ca so that we may invite the next person on our waiting list.

USING E-TRANSFER

We have set up our account to accept e-Transfers via Auto-deposit so that your transfer will be deposited automatically without the need for a security question and answer.

Autodeposit has the same security features as the regular Interac e-Transfer service, which is one of the safest digital money transfer services in the world.

The money is transferred through established and secure banking procedures that financial institutions have used for years to settle cheques, bank machine deposits and withdrawals.

A confirmation is sent automatically to the sender.

To use e-transfer, the financial institution the member uses must support interac e-transfer.

Please follow the steps below:

1. Sign into online banking
2. Go to interac e-transfer for recipient
3. Add new recipient
4. When asked for name - enter **Probus Club of Perth**
5. For email - enter **finance@probusperth.ca**
6. Choose English (if asked)
7. For the security question (if asked) put "none"
8. **Under "details of payment" option please write a message as to purpose of payment e.g. membership renewal for (your name).**

If paying for more than one person please include both names.

9. Note confirmation and reference numbers for follow up should it be required.

Married four times:

The local news station was interviewing an 80-year-old lady because she had just gotten married for the fourth time.

The interviewer asked her questions about her life, about what it felt like to be marrying again at 80, and then about her new husband's occupation.

"He's a funeral director," she answered. "Interesting," the newsman thought... He then asked her if she wouldn't mind telling him a little about her first three husbands and what they did for a living.

She paused for a few moments, needing time to reflect on all those years. After a short time, a smile came to her face and she answered proudly, explaining that she had first married a banker when she was in her 20's, then a circus ringmaster when in her 40's, and a preacher when in her 60's, and now - in her 80's - a funeral director.

The interviewer looked at her, quite astonished, and asked why she had married four men with such diverse careers.

(Wait for it...)

She smiled and explained, "I married one for the money, two for the show, three to get ready, and four to go."

May Presentation:

Dr Christopher Di Carlo, author of the book "So You Think You Can Think: Tools For Having Intelligent Discussions and Getting Along", brought a stimulating and compelling approach to the subject of "Critical Thinking",

In the light of recent history where fake news has become an issue and a Post Truth Era has evolved, he is spearheading a move to introduce Critical Thinking courses into the Canadian High School Curriculum hoping to equip our teens with a Critical Thinking skill set, empowering more meaningful discussions through life and careers.

Dr Di Carlo outlined his approach to constructing an argument, a methodical product of foundation, support and conclusion, as one would build a house. He cited the relevance of Bias, Context, Diagram, Evidence and Fallacy as building blocks in the construction; always illustrating his points with pertinent and entertaining examples from well-documented events.

Summer Zoom meeting:

Despite our normal practice of not holding meetings in July and August, the board feels that, whilst we are restricted to virtual meetings, a mid-summer Zoom meeting would allow us all to keep in contact. To this end, a late July or early August meeting is under consideration.

Should any members wish to comment, please contact any member of the Management Team.

Further information will be forthcoming.

Speakers committee:

Gardie Church is having to step away from his Speakers Committee role due to other commitments and so the committee is looking for a replacement.

Should any member be willing to undertake this very interesting role, please contact the Speakers Committee at speakers@probusperth.ca

Thank you Gardie, for your years of enthusiastic contribution.

Brian O'Connor:



It is with great sadness that we note the death of Brian O'Connor. An active member of Probus Perth, Brian served on the Speakers Committee for a number of years.

On behalf of all at the club, our condolences go to Brian's family.

Edited by Rob Leonard
probian@probusperth.ca

In normal times the Perth Probus Club meets at the Royal Canadian Legion Hall, 26 Beckwith Street, Perth on the first Wednesday of the month, September through June.

President: Lois-Anne Brebner president@probusperth.ca

Further information on the club and contact details for the other members of the Management Team can be found at: www.probusperth.ca/board.htm