



The PROBIAN ~ April 2013 Edition

~ Editors: Dennis Dwyer & Colin Stephenson ~



THE PROBUS CLUB OF PERTH

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Probus meets the first
Wednesday of each month,
Sept. to June.

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Apropos

Often in our increasingly complex and connected world political, financial, and religious “saviours” stride onto the stage promising a simple solution to all our problems. Be they socialists, capitalists, demagogues of the “left” or of the “right”, orthodox or theologically liberal, their answer is the same — “my system is the correct one and if you adopt it your problems will disappear.” Our quote for this month reminds us that “both / and” is a surer road to social progress than “either / or”.

Dennis Dwyer & Colin Stephenson

(Apropos reflects the views of the Editors but not necessarily those of the Club.)

Don Drummond on the Drummond Report



Many of our members have been at meetings over the years where economists put them to sleep. This month no one fell asleep. Mr. Drummond gave us a bravura performance keeping us on the edge of our seats while explaining, without notes, the intricacies of government finance. Above all, he did it with a wonderful sense of humour. Who has ever heard an economist say, “I worked for six months on the well-researched forecast and nailed it ---- it was totally wrong!” Throughout his presentation, he warned us over and over again about allowing governments to mount programs without attempting to first be clear what the program’s objectives were and then measuring outcomes. He did all this without setting himself up as a guru without error but rather as one who consistently asks why? What works?

His warnings about the need to reform our health care system were particularly pointed. As others have insisted our system is really not a “health care” system but rather a hospital-centric system where 1% of Ontario’s citizens account for 49 % of all hospital spending. This has unintended costs, for example many people with congestive heart failure, after 5 days of hospital care without exercise they lose 50% of their mobility. In example after example we were treated to an outline that clearly showed that our present system, left un-reformed and its outcomes unmeasured, will in just a few years gobble up well over half of the entire provincial budget. A complete diversion of chronic care patients into alternative care, including home care must be carefully examined. Don also walked us through education, record keeping, social policy, maintenance of our infrastructure and other areas where we depend on governments, be they federal, provincial or municipal. And all this wrapped up with a sense of humour. “If you’re going to be wrong, be wrong for the right reasons.”

We all came away much better informed. Now it is up to us to insist that our politicians and bureaucrats look into the road map offered in the Drummond Commission so that Ontarians can count on public services that are both excellent and affordable.

Thanks Don for waking us up.

Tips for a Personal Profile

This short section is inserted at the request of a number of new members who have asked for guidance in preparing and delivering their own personal profile.

Time: We do not want to put too much of a burden on our new members so the time limit is set at **7 minutes**.

Outline: Three sections as follows:

One: early life

Two: career and family

Three: retirement & why locate in Perth

Try to keep each section to 1/3 of your time.

Practice: It is a good idea to practice delivering your talk it will give you confidence and ensure that you keep to the time allotted --- **7 minutes**.

BE LIKE CHURCHILL

---- PRACTICE IT AND TIME IT!

Special Future Events



- **May 7** – Spring Fling, Tudor Hall 3750 North Bowesville Road, Ottawa ON. Participants must already have registered. [More information](#).
- **May 29** – Thousand Island Playhouse, 690 Charles Street, Gananoque ~ “[Suds ~ the Rocking 60's Musical Soap Opera](#)”. Tickets are \$26 each, including HST, with cheques payable to Probus Club of Perth. Lunch reservations have been made for the [Watermark Restaurant](#) in the Gananoque Inn 550 Stone Street. Sign up for the play and lunch at the May 1 meeting. [Map](#).
- **June 5th** – Closing Probus luncheon at the Perth Legion after the meeting. Please sign up at the May 1 meeting.

Lunch After May 1st Meeting

@ the Perth Restaurant, 23 Gore Street, East

Quote for the Month :

“A hand that is always open or always closed is a crippled hand. A bird that cannot open and close its wings cannot fly.” *Imam Jal ud-Din Rumi from “The Song of the Bird” by Anthony de Mello*

The Last One-liner :

I want to die peacefully in my sleep, like my grandfather..... not screaming and yelling like the passengers in his car.

Speakers' Corner

Our speaker for **May 1** is **JAMES BISSETT**, one of Canada's leading authorities on immigration. After 36 years of public service often serving at the highest levels, in 1974 he was appointed head of the Immigration Foreign Services. After serving as Canadian Ambassador to Yugoslavia, Bulgaria, and Albania in the early 90s he was asked by the Russian government to help in establishing a new immigration agency. We are fortunate that he will bring these many years of experience to us in discussing immigration in Canada.



Self Introduction ~ Tim Murray, CM.



Tim came to Canada as a baby during the war, and grew up in Ottawa. At school and high school he discovered a life-long passion for music playing piano, guitar, trombone and flute in jazz and dance bands. Later he played at Queen's where every girl's residence had a piano, and finally being part of a jazz quintet that's been going for 60 years. Graduating in medicine in 1962 and getting married to Joan, he then served in the RCAF in Churchill, Manitoba and North Bay. He continued studies at McGill and the Royal Victoria Hospital, then research at Harvard and finally settled in at U of T for 35 years as a professor of medicine while keeping the quintet alive. While there he started the first national osteoporosis society in 1982. He was made a member of the Order of Canada and retired from the U of T in 2006.

Tim did find time for family life he and Joan have been married for 50 years and have a son and daughter. They moved to Perth in 2006. Since then they have been active in community affairs, and their garden and music happily fill their days. Tim has a rather magnificent tally of over 130 published works to his credit.