



The PROBIAN ~ March 2010 Edition

~ Contributing Editor Orion Clark ~



**THE PROBUS CLUB
OF PERTH**
P. O. Box 2164,
Perth, Ontario
K7H 3M9
www.probusperth.ca

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

President
Bruce Gourley
613-283-5967
brucegourley@sympatico.ca

Past President
Ernie Trischuk
613-283-8112

Vice President
Mike Else
613-267-2302

Secretary
Sheila Clark
613-267-4939

Treasurer
Don Sherwin
613-264-0759

Program
Ian Doig
613-264-2707
and Glen Pettinger
613-267-9747

Special Events
Glen Pettinger
613-267-9747
and Mary Kilgour
613-264-0024

Membership
Jean Crowley
613-267-3306

Member at Large
Keith Brown
613-264-0206

Facilities
Bill & Kathleen Lea
613-264-0972

Webmaster
Colin Stephenson
613-264-2609
info@probusperth.ca

Pro-bites.....

The annual trek to the 1000 Islands Playhouse in Gananoque on May 27th promises to be very interesting this year. The play, "The 39 Steps" has been described as follows: "Mix a Hitchcock masterpiece with a juicy spy novel and add a dash of Monty Python for a hilarious, fast-paced whodunit for anyone who loves the magic of theatre! This smash hit fresh from Broadway is packed with nonstop laughs, over 150 zany characters (played by an incredibly talented cast of 4!), an on-stage plane crash, handcuffs, missing fingers, and some good old-fashioned romance!" Event coordinator Helen Black has arranged for a pre-play gourmet box lunch on the deck, with a chat with the production crew. Cost will be \$22 for the play and \$12 for the lunch (cheques payable to Perth Probus Club), although you are free to dine separately if you wish. The May meeting will be the final date for payment as final numbers must be given to the theatre. Ride sharing can be arranged.

Municipal Infrastructure Planning



Jorgen Hoeven & Eric Cosens

This month's speakers were Jorgen Hoeven, Director of Corporate and Environmental Services for Perth and Eric Cosens, Director of Planning for Perth. This team of senior administrative staff informed us of the importance of planning and how the Planning Act and Municipal Act establish a mechanism for creating 'planning documents'. Service level planning, involving hard and soft services, is the least formal element of municipal service administration. Capital planning needs assets to deliver services. Unfortunately, prior public sector accounting standards were largely cash based and provision for replacement of water, sewer, bridges, etc was not amortized for the life of the asset. Hence, funding for sustainable asset replacement lags by \$1.7 M/year and thus items must be prioritized. The adoption of a Strategic Budget

Guideline approach allows Council to see the immediate impact of budget decisions for the long term period. By spreading the unfunded liability of the \$9M Wilson street project over three years, one can readily see from the guideline approach that tax increases could be kept to 5.8%. Long term financial plans are based on a cycle of capital asset replacement and operating budget inflation.

Six municipal projects were briefly discussed by Jorgen and Eric, as part of their powerpoint presentation:

- (i) Wilson Street Project- largest project the Town has undertaken; replace 1.4 km of road, water and sewer lines, landscape, light and complete this \$9.1 M project by March 31, 2011. The Municipal Class Environmental Assessment has taken over a year but the objective was to improve the corridor and make it inviting to the public.
- (ii) Arterial Road- Alternate Route- This project has been on the radar for over 20 years. A Class EA was conducted in 2007-8 and the project is likely to be addressed through the County Roads Network evaluation process. Funding is definitely an issue.
- (iii) Local Landfill- The town of Perth took over its operation on December 1st, 2008. There has been significant saving in space (compaction) and operational costs. While there is now 5 years of life remaining, discussions are ongoing with MOE in order to acquire approved capacity. The Green Bin and expanded recycling programs are mitigating the outcome of this landfill.

Municipal Infrastructure ~ Continued

(iv) Sanitary Treatment Expansion – While 94% of the volume capacity was its status in 2007, measures have been taken to reduce residual inflows as well as replace lines so that today the hydraulic capacity is now 81%. While we know that expanded capacity is needed, what remains an unknown is what size will be needed to handle the development of Perth for the next 20 years. A lagoon expansion would involve \$3M (transfers to reserves for expansion could almost handle this at present) but a mechanized plant would involve an expenditure of \$20-30M.

(v) Development North of Highway #7 (Secondary Plan Area) - A study was done in 2001-3 and the Official Plan Amendment #10 determined the residential and commercial needs. Hence policies for development are in place and now there is need for zoning plans. Proponents need to define their conceptual development plans so subdivisions, etc can be planned. Financial commitments from the developer are also needed before services are extended to the area.

(vi) Development of Boundary Restructuring Areas - Perth has redrawn its boundaries to include land north of Home Hardware, the Golf Course and land around the sales barn on Christie Lake Road. Based on a recent population survey, this area will meet the Town's growth needs for the near future.

For further information of any of the above projects contact Eric at ecosens@perth.ca as well as 613-267-3311.



Speakers' Corner

- **April** - Bob Pearson of [Exploritas](#), or Elderhostel, to talk about their travel programs.
- **May** - the Historica Fair Re-enactment of the War of 1812
- **June** - Jim Gilpin on his experiences in World War II.



Management Team Notes

- At the April meeting we will hear a brief presentation from **Laurel Smith**, the director, producer and general driving force behind a new professional theatre troupe in town, which is mounting two shows this summer.
- Probus Perth is planning to enter a team of 10 people to participate in the **Trivia Night** at St. Paul's UC on Sat. April 23rd. Please contact Ian Doig or Mary Kilgour if you are interested.
- Many thanks to Orion Clark for his contributions to this edition. The contributing editor for the April Bulletin will be Don McNaughton.

Self-introduction ~ Don McDiarmid

As a Fraser Valley BC native, Don did not venture outside the province to Ontario until 1953 (Boy Scouts Jamboree) and again as a student at the National Research Council in 1959. In 1965, he again returned to Ottawa to pursue his research interests involving solar wind and the earth's environment at the NRC. Don, being an 'unreconstructed westerner' returned to B.C. annually for visits.



Don McDiarmid

In 1971 he met his life partner, a year of prolific snowfall for the area. In 1983, he was seconded to continue his research in Germany. After joining the Canadian Association of Physicists, he continued to lobby for research dollars for the next 13 years. While employed in Ottawa, he was active in community affairs involving the Ottawa School Board , church congregational affairs and other nonprofit organizations. Since moving to Perth in 2009, he has continued his community involvement with two local associations. Welcome Don!

Special Events

- **May 18, 2010** ~ Spring Fling (the annual regional Probus social event) will be held at the The Best Western Parkway Inn in Cornwall. Registration at 10:30 a.m. and meal at noon. It will be the Cornwall Probus Club's 15th Anniversary, so they are inviting us to celebrate with them. There will be entertainment & lucky draws too. Reminder: Each Club is asked to provide its payment with a single cheque payable to Probus Club of Cornwall & Area by Friday, April 16, 2010.
- **May 27, 2010** ~ Trip to see "[The 39 Steps](#)" at 1,000 Island Playhouse in Gananoque. Matinee performance, gourmet boxed lunch on the deck. Cheques should be made out to the Perth Probus Club for \$22. p.p.for the ticket and \$12. p.p. for the box lunch and pre-show chat, if that is desired.
- **June 21, 2010** ~ Annual Golf Tournament to be organized again by Glen Pettinger by popular demand.



Wonder what is playing in Perth? Go to:
www.perthentertainmentnow.net