



**THE PROBUS CLUB OF PERTH**

P. O. Box 20131,  
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Probis meets the first  
Wednesday of each month,  
Sept. to June.

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## Apropos

On the 8th day of the 11th month, America did something unthinkable to fair minded people. They elected Donald Trump president for his vows to build a wall between Mexico and the U.S. and make Mexico pay for it, deport millions of illegal immigrants, rip up NAFTA and get out of the Trans-Pacific Partnership, and pull the U.S. out of the Paris Accord, calling climate change a hoax created by the Chinese to undermine U.S. businesses overseas. He has already moved to gut the Environmental Protection Agency and destroy Obama's Clean Power Plan. The consequences for us may be profound. Let's make it clear to those in power that we request they stay the course and stand firm on all things reasonable. As Abraham Lincoln said, you can fool part of the people part of the time but you cannot fool all of the people all of the time. Let us pray that common sense prevails and truth soon comes to light for the sake of our future and all generations to come.

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

## Perth and Smiths Falls District Hospital Update



On November 2<sup>nd</sup> Beverly McFarlane, President & CEO of the Perth and Smiths Falls District Hospital (PSFDH), provided us with an update about our community hospital.

As related by Ms. McFarlane, PSFDH is a fully accredited community hospital serving a catchment of 44,000, with the site in Smiths Falls having 38 beds and the Perth site having 47 beds. The PSFDH is also the sponsor of three community organizations - Lanark County Support Services, Lanark County Mental Health, and Lanark County Sexual Assault & Domestic Violence - and two supportive foundations and auxiliaries - the Great War Memorial Hospital and

Smiths Falls Community Hospital. PSFDH has an accountability agreement with the South East Local Health Integration Network (LHIN). In 2016/17 the PSFDH budget was \$50.7 million.

PSFDH provides both acute care services and specialty clinics. The acute care services include: general and internal medicine, obstetrics and gynecology, anesthesiology, general surgery, orthopedics, urology, a level-2 Intensive Care Unit with 8 beds, ophthalmology and cataract services, palliative care and a day hospital. The specialty clinics include: psychiatry/children's mental health, pediatrics, dietetics, diabetes counseling, dialysis, vascular protection and the use of telemedicine when appropriate.

Ontario's Hospital Service Accountability Agreement (H-SAA) and Hospital Accountability Planning Submission (HAPS) resulted in accountability legislated in 2006 that enforced no deficit submissions from Ontario Hospitals.

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## PSFDH . . . . Cont'd

Health System Funding Reform (HSFR) moved Ontario Hospitals from traditional global funding to a Health Based Allocation Model (HBAM) based on Quality Based Procedures (QBP). Under HBAM-QBP, PSFDH must compete to be the most efficient and effective of hospitals to ensure adequate funding on a continuing basis. QBPs include both elective and non-elective procedures and create financial volatility for medium-sized hospitals.

Under the new funding model, PSFDH received \$13.46 million in HBAM funding based on the hospital's expected health care expenses as a result of demographics and clinical data, which means that the coding and gathering of complete and accurate statistics about all hospital procedures is of critical importance. PSFDH also received QBP and Base funding which, when added to HBAM, means the LHIN/MOHLTC (Ministry of Health Long Term Care) funding equals \$38.2 million, which provides reimbursement for specific groups of patient services using evidence-informed rates that are associated with the quality of care delivered. Over the next three years HBAM funding will be reduced as QBP funding is increased.

The South East LHIN is working with its partners to create regional systems of integrated care through Health Care Tomorrow - a set of initiatives that will help to continue to redefine the healthcare system across our region and ensure the best care for patients, clients and their families. Seven hospital organizations, the Southeast CCAC, Queen's University Faculty of Health Sciences and the South East LHIN have formed 11 working groups. Each working group is co-lead by representatives from the participating organizations and a steering leader. The working groups focus on three main categories: business functions, diagnostics and therapeutics, and clinical services.

In June of 2016, the Ontario government introduced Bill 41 - the Patients First Act. The goal of Bill 41 is to create an integrated, patient-focused health care system. If Bill 41 passes second reading it will: make it easier for patients to find a new healthcare provider, simplify the process of transferring patients among hospitals, homecare and other service providers, and improve communications between family doctors, hospitals and community care centres to make it easier for patients to access required care.

On the local level, PSFDH has been actively participating in changes to acute stroke and chemotherapy treatments to improve patient care. A project to designate an acute

stroke unit in Lanark, Leeds & Grenville (LLG) has been ongoing for over two years. Brockville General Hospital has been designated as the LLG acute stroke unit, and acute stroke care transfer from PSFDH to Brockville General Hospital began in the spring of 2016. PSFDH will continue to provide follow-up care and rehabilitation to stroke patients. PSFDH also worked with the Regional Systemic Chemotherapy Treatment Program in Kingston to optimize appropriate delivery of care for intravenous treatment of certain types of cancer. Chemotherapy services at the Great War Memorial Hospital is available for the provision of Level-4 intravenous treatment. Over 300 treatments will be provided to area residents, permitting them to receive treatments closer to home.

Ms. McFarlane also discussed physician recruitment. Although physician recruitment is not a primary role of PSFDH, maintaining a good hospital and a healthy community requires physician recruitment to ensure good physician coverage. PSFDH recognizes that physician recruitment is not something that is done and forgotten, it is a continuous process that requires recruitment to begin at the student level.

As explained by Ms. McFarlane, the philosophy of PSFDH is to work with patients and their families, rather than doing things to them or for them. PSFDH wants true patient engagement and provides family-centered care based on a framework of strategies to improve the experience of care and enhance safety, quality and efficiency. Consequently, there are no "visiting hours" at PSFDH. Families are not only welcome to visit patients at any time, PSFDH encourages the family to become an integral part of the support and care program.

Furthermore, a Patient & Family Advisory Council has been formed. The role of the Council is to: identify current and future opportunities to improve the care experience for patients, family and caregivers; build a structured relationship between the Council and PSFDH; and better identify and integrate the patient perspective in its planning and activities. The goals of the Council are to: ensure the perspective of patients, family members and/or their caregivers is always considered and incorporated in organizational activities; and listen to and learn from patients, family members and/or their caregivers to embed the patient perspective throughout the organization. The responsibilities of the Council are: to provide feedback on, and ideas for, initiatives and programs that enhance, ensure and embrace the model of patient-centered care; be a collaborative, positive and rational force for the enhancement of high-quality patient-centered care at

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## PSFDH . . . . Cont'd

PSFDH; and advance patient engagement and patient-centered care principles and practices at PSFDH.

Following Ms. McFarlane's presentation many members expressed sincere appreciation for their positive patient experiences at PSFDH.

Thank you Beverly for your service to the community and a most informative update about the principles guiding PSFDH.



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## Personal Profile ~ Elsie Stresman



Elsie Stresman grew up in Stittsville, Ontario, when it was a village of 1,200 in the 1950's-60's. Her parents were immigrants from the Netherlands arriving in Canada in 1948. Their education had come to an end as teenagers when the Nazis took control of their homeland. They arrived in Canada with little knowledge of English. They learned the local

language in addition to the two they already knew, and succeeded in making a good home for their daughters.

Elsie enjoys learning, earning degrees from the University of Ottawa, the University of Western Ontario, and Lakehead University in Thunder Bay.

From 1976 through 1979 Elsie taught at Fellowes High School in Pembroke. Her husband Lloyd worked in Algonquin Park.

When they moved to Thunder Bay in 1979, Elsie began work with the Lakehead District School Board as a secondary school teacher. Lloyd worked as a By-Law Enforcement officer. Elsie became a vice-principal, board coordinator and principal with the Lakehead DSB. In 1989 Elsie was on loan of service to the Department of National Defence working for two years at their school for children of Canadian military personnel stationed at Canadian Forces Base Baden-Soellingen, Germany. The Black Forest in Germany along with the Alsace in France became the playground for Elsie, Lloyd and their two

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## Personal Profile . . . Cont'd.

daughters, Sarah and Gillian. They put more than 100,000 km on their Westfalia van camping throughout Western Europe.

In 2007 Elsie was again selected for a loan of service to DND, this time as Director of AFNORTH International School. This school provides education for the children of military members stationed at the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's (NATO) Joint Force Command Headquarters in Brunssum, Netherlands and at the NATO air base at Geilenkirchen Germany. AFNORTH International School is a Dutch Foundation sponsored by four nations: Canada, the United Kingdom, the United States of America and the Federal Republic of Germany. As International Director of Education her job was a combination of business management and liaison with senior military command. She was responsible to an international board of directors for the ethos and operation of the school. Maintaining cohesiveness among just five nations and cultures, Elsie learned a new appreciation for the tasks facing NATO and the United Nations.

While living in The Netherlands Lloyd was her support team. Elsie enjoyed riding her bicycle to work each day and doing staged treks from the south to the north of the country. She cycled 2000 kilometers each year along wonderfully marked bicycle paths in both Netherlands and Germany. Elsie and Lloyd lived 2 hours from Amsterdam, 1 hour from each Brussels and Cologne, and 4 hours from Paris. They traveled by car, train, cruise ship and discount airline to many places in Europe, the United Kingdom, to Russia, Africa and China.

In 2012 Elsie and Lloyd moved to Perth, which they now call home. Their daughter Sarah is working in Ottawa while Gillian works in London, England. Elsie is an active volunteer for The CARR, continuing the tradition of welcoming newcomers to Canada, as our forbearers and her parents had been welcomed.

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## Lunch After December Meeting

To be held at Maximilian's Restaurant, 99 Gore Street East, Perth.



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## Quote of the Month

"A liar is always lavish of oaths." — **Pierre Corneille**

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**Special Notice:** Probus Canada offers travel insurance to all Probus members through Johnson Insurance. The rates seem to be quite competitive compared to most group plans. Additionally, the coverage seems to be more extensive and includes wider coverage for pre-existing conditions as well as out-of-province and out-of-country travel.

If you are interested in learning how you might be able to take advantage of this coverage contact Johnson at 1-866-606-3362 and tell them you are a Probus member. Alternatively, visit their website [www.johnson.ca/medoc](http://www.johnson.ca/medoc).

## Special Events

- **November 4th** - 34 enjoyed dinner at East Meets West and 46 enjoyed the PCC presentation of "Death and Taxes".
- **December 2nd** – This year's Christmas Dinner/Dance will be held at the Lion's Club Hall, Perth. A roast beef dinner that includes a salad course as well as homemade pies for dessert will be catered by the Lionesses. Social time with hors d'oeuvres and cocktails will start at 6 pm, followed by dinner, gifts and dancing. Music is again by "Touch of Class" which is described as 'A self-contained tribute to the 50/60/70's featuring multi-instrumentalist, Simon Clark, ex-"Freddie and the Dreamers"'. Please let Gail Read know by November 23rd at the latest by email at [read2read@outlook.com](mailto:read2read@outlook.com) or by phone at 613-464-3063 if you wish to attend. The price is \$36/person, with cheques payable to Probus Perth. Payment by CHEQUE is preferable and can be given to Gail at the Dec 2nd event. This year at our Christmas party we will be continuing our 20th Anniversary celebration with our gift exchange. Purchase 20 of an item within a \$10-15 price range (eg. 20 candy canes, 20 chocolates, 20 Christmas tags, 20 bows) and wrap it for the gift table. Your imagination will make this a fun deviation! It would be great if all participated by bringing a 'gift of 20' for the exchange.
- **December 7th** – This meeting will be our sign up for the January 4th lunch at the Legion after our first meeting of 2017. Lunch will be "lasagna and Caesar salad" OR "wraps with veggies", dessert, tea & coffee. Cost is \$10 per person. Please pay by cheque.

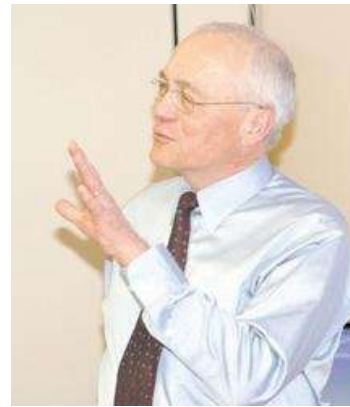
## Special Events . . . Cont'd

**January 21<sup>st</sup>** - Sign up at the December meeting for the January 21st Robbie Burns Dinner & Dance at the Perth Legion. Tickets will be \$35. Seating arrangements will be available at our January 4th meeting. Please pay by cheque. (Please write 2 separate cheques, one for the January lunch and one for the Robbie Burns Dinner. This is easier for us to reconcile.)

### Save these dates:

- **May 31** – the annual trip to Ganonoque for the play "BOOM" at the 1000 Island Playhouse"
- **Sept 30<sup>th</sup>**- (Saturday) for the Fall Trip

## Speakers Corner



Our speaker on December 7 will be Dr. Thomas R. J. Todd, MD. Dr. Todd, along with a team of specialists at Toronto General Hospital, performed the first ever successful lung transplant in 1983. In 1986 they performed the first successful double lung transplant. Dr. Todd

has written a book titled [Breathless: A Transplant Surgeon's Journal](#), about his decades-long career as a transplant surgeon.

## New Members Welcomed



New members (left to right): Gail McAdam, Sylvia Paul and Shirley McLenaghan are welcomed by Don McDiarmid (far left) and President Richard Thomson.