



The Probian

September 2022

Probus Club of Perth



It was most exciting returning to our 'In-person' meeting on September 7th. Most delightful so many attended including some new members. It was special, too, to have Gary Smith speak about his 'first-hand' experiences he encountered during the

Summit Hockey Series in 1972 with Canada winning! How often do we have this opportunity?



We've had a splendid 'Awesome August' and a lovely 'Serene September' that continued to delight us with summer blooms and plentiful supply of fruits and vegetables to preserve and enjoy during the long winter months.



When this newsletter arrives, it will be 'October' delighting us with a magnificent array of colourful leaves and bountiful harvest well acknowledged with the celebration of Thanksgiving. 'October' is a month that has the right temperature for brewing beer in time for 'Oktoberfest!'



October also celebrates International Seniors and Probus Month. Including our Probus Club's 25th Anniversary.

*Credits:
Painting courtesy of Jordan Hicks.
Autumn lake courtesy of Kevin Tulett.*



Indeed, we do!

The Probian Newsletter is a 'team effort'. With this in mind, we require 4 volunteers to join our team now as follows:

- To write a synopsis of our member's Personal Profile. (PP)
- To write the report on the main Speaker's Presentation.
- To take photographs at the meetings.
- Membership Co-ordinator by January 1st 2023. [More information under 'Membership Report'].

Without these contributions, The Probian will be depleted of the aforementioned content for members to keep updated of our activities.

Please give your utmost consideration to volunteer for one of these positions.

*Thank you!
Gayda Errett
Newsletter Editor
Contact:*

probian@probusperth.ca



*A friendly reminder to put
away your summer 'toys'!*

— NEXT MEETING —

Join us on Wednesday, October 5th at 9:30 a.m.

Our guest speaker, Michael Cohen, who became the new President and CEO of the Smith's Falls District Hospital on November 21st, 2021, will be speaking to us about the important work of the hospital.

Protocol for our 'In-Person Meeting' will be centered on 'safe distancing'. No coffee will be served. Thank you to those who have answered our survey about masking. We urge you to reply if you have yet not done so.



At the AGM on September 7th, 2022, members accepted the Minutes of the 2021 AGM and the Financial Statements and Reviewer's Comments for the past year. They also accepted the Final Slate of Nominations for the Management Committee for 2022-23. In addition, they approved the Motion to accept the Revised By-laws, as well as the Motion to Increase Membership Fees to \$35 for 2022-2023. The fees for this year are now payable, either by e-Transfer or by cheque and members are asked to make their payments as soon as possible ~ see [PAYMENTS-PROBUS](#)

Meeting Information Submitted by Gail Read, Susan Freeman and Colin Stephenson

— OUR GUEST SPEAKER —



On November 2nd, 2021, Michael Cohen, a seasoned health-care executive, became the new President and Chief Executive Officer at Perth and Smiths Falls District Hospital. He has a solid understanding of rural hospitals, clinical services, strategic planning and advocacy with community partners. In his prior years, Michael served as the President and CEO of Glengarry Memorial Hospital in Alexandria and held a variety of senior leadership positions at Queensway Carleton Hospital in Ottawa, including Vice President of Clinical Services, Chief Privacy Officer and Director of decision support and health records.

Michael will share about his building upon the solid foundation of our hospital, current initiatives, building partnerships, addressing challenges facing Ontario health care, and next steps in the new

integrated health system. This presentation will be the first item on our agenda!

Prepared and Submitted by Gail Read • Speaker's Committee

INTRODUCING OUR NEW PRESIDENT



Susan has had a wide-ranging career from high tech to the arts, and she has ranged geographically as well, being born in the UK in a small town near Wirral. While being exposed to the vibrant culture of Liverpool in the 60s (have you heard of the Beatles, Rolling Stones etc.?) she met at Liverpool University, the man who was to become her 1st husband. He was soon offered a job in Ottawa, and so the young couple came to our Nation's Capital expecting to stay for a couple of years. Her first two jobs were technical in nature, working for

Northern Electric on the first computerized telephone switching system, and then for another company on integrated circuit design.

Fortunately, she says, the company folded and she was out of work; fortunate I suppose because it gave her an opportunity to switch career gears and pursue her real passion in supporting and promoting the arts. While caring for two small children, she started off by taking courses in Arts Programming for Children, Marketing, and Board Management for Arts Organizations. She was to apply this knowledge to the many arts related endeavors she would lend her creative talents to, starting with co-creating a company that gave children the opportunity to watch international films at the National Archives. They happened to bring a then unknown children's singer to Ottawa, have you ever heard of a fellow named Raffi?

Moving on she became the Great Canadian Theatre Company's Children's Theatre Touring Manager, bringing plays to children in school across eastern Ontario. This mobile career was a particular challenge as she was now a single mother. Her next job, lasting 14 year, was extremely fulfilling, as a Touring Consultant for The Ontario Arts Council. She toured mostly through eastern Ontario, but also, via the Canada Council, to B.C, Manitoba, and the Maritimes. Her work involved teaching performing artists about Tour Management and doing Community Development by creating and supporting organizations like Perth Performing Arts and the Almonte Arts Council, amongst others.

Meeting her current husband, Cole, introduced her to a very active lifestyle, including amongst other things, marathon canoe racing!!! Oh, and they had four more children. Amazing she had the time and

energy for anything else! However, she was soon faced with the question of what to do with her time and talent when government cuts eliminated the Touring Office.

Not one to sit back and wallow, Susan wrote some columns for the Frontenac News, did some consulting, and then, driven by a desire to contribute to her local community, she ran for Municipal Politics and was Tay Valley's Deputy Reeve for 14 years.

Now, with husband Cole, they live in Burgess Wood and enjoy their family (including her 12 grandchildren) and friends. A heartfelt welcome to our new President!

Written and submitted by Kieran More



— **SEPTEMBER SPEAKER'S PRESENTATION** —



If you missed our first in-person meeting in two years since the pandemic started in the spring of 2020, then you missed a very captivating and insightful presentation by our very own Gary Smith on Russian history and the crucial soviet decisions leading up and determining the now famous '72 Hockey Summit Series' between Canada and Russia exactly fifty years ago. As most of you know, Gary was a young diplomat posted in Moscow in the early 70's and was instrumental in recognizing that the Russians were open to considering such a possibility (their hockey professionals against ours) and then actively participating in organizing this historical event and all the bizarre machinations that went into pulling it off at the height of the 'Cold War' between East and West. No mean feat!

Gary's presentation began with a historical review of Russian attitudes and culture resulting from numerous invasions from its very beginnings as a people through successive centuries from the Czar to the Soviet empire. Fear of the foreign and repression by succeeding regimes yielded a suspicious nature amongst the Russian populace commonly expressed by the aphorism "Silence is Survival". Gary recounted how strange it was to go to work in the Moscow of that that time and all you heard on the trains or buses was the shuffling of feet, no noisy chatter, the repression was palatable.

I will not recount here the fascinating events and crucial decisions that composed Gary's presentation. For that you must now purchase Gary's book 'Ice War Diplomat'. A great read, highly recommended, if you lived it, you only know half the story until you read Gary's

account of the events that enabled the actual series to take place. One more thing, if you can find it, watch 'Ice Breaker' a documentary film on the '72 Hockey Series, based on original film from multiple archives and Gary's book. Gary treated Probus members who attended his presentation to a short trailer from Ice Breaker and it captured the essence of his presentation. And, finally, Gary left us with the a clear understanding of the need for diplomatic dialogue to keep the lines of communication open between adversaries even when hostilities seem about to breakout, our planet is too small and it's the only one we've got.

Written and Submitted by John Byers



— MEMBERSHIP REPORT —

*Welcome
to our Club!*

We continue to have 205 members with 4 on our Waiting List. It was a pleasure to see new members at our 'In-Person' September meeting.



~ An Important Announcement ~



At the Board Meeting held on September 14th, Aline announced that after 4 years of serving as the Membership Co-ordinator, she would be retiring as of December 31st, 2022. A new Membership Co-ordinator is required by January 1st, 2023. Aline is willing to help out.

Submitted by Aline McRory • Membership Co-ordinator

Editor's Note:

It is always difficult to receive news of a valuable, committed and dedicated volunteer retiring. We will greatly miss Aline. She has done an excellent and remarkable job as our club's Membership Convener. We anticipate a volunteer will soon be found.



— **SOCIAL COMMITTEE REPORT** —

... Upcoming Social Events ...

"Anne of Green Gables"

**Community Musical Theatre on Friday, November 11th.
We will organize a dinner and theatre for 30.
More information In the October Probian.**

**Community Update:
Events that may be of interest to you!**

September 20-24th	Plowing Match in Kemptville. Tickets available at Tickets Please
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... Other Resources for Social Events ...

- Pick-up a copy of The Humm. There are details listed about many activities in and around Lanark County and the Ottawa Valley.
- if you are interested in attending Canada's "Longest Running Dinner Musical" for December's Matinee Performance e-mail Wayne Ashby washby2832@gmail.com. [October is 'Sold Out!'] They also are advertising "Come from Away" and many other interested events.
- Harmony Concerts have very interesting lists of performers at Studio Theatre. Get your tickets from Harmony Concerts. I have booked "Kitchen Party" for December 17th. Please book your own tickets if interested.



... AUGUST OUTING ...



A good time was had by all visiting Schulman's Winery in Westport on August 9th.

... Social Events in September ...

Wheeler's Pancake House & Museum

Wednesday, September 28th at
11:45 a.m. Limit 30.

Sign up with Gail at:

social-gail@probusperth.ca



... September Outing ...



Members enjoyed dinner at Fiddlehead's then attended Studio Theatre's production of the play, 'Art'.





Mary Kilgour welcomed newly-elected President, Susan Freeman, after the AGM.

Probus Club Christmas Party



We are very excited to announce that we have a Christmas Party planned for you. It will take place at *The Stone Cellar Loft 71 Gore Street East in Perth on Friday, December 9th at 6:00 p.m.*

E-mail Mary: social-mary@probusperth.ca or call 613-264-0024 if you plan to attend. (This is the only location that I could find that there was space to eat and dance and we do not have to leave a deposit.) There is seating for 80. Plan your own table of 6 friends if you wish to sit with friends! Food has to be ordered in advance.

We will have live music for listening and dancing. To cover the cost of the Music and convenience of having a Bar upstairs each person will pay \$10. This will be added to your meal when ordering and paying ~ see information on the bottom of the menu for total amounts and payment procedures.

The evening will commence with drinks from the bar upstairs. There will be Fun prizes including a Gift Certificate from Stone Cellar. The Party ends at approximately 10:00 p.m. or last call at the bar. If you wish to donate a gift, please let Mary know. *Last date to order will be November 12th.* Lindsay Mason will take 'undecided' until December 2nd if necessary.

Lindsay Mason, owner of The Stone Cellar, has put a lot of thought into creating a dinner that should please everyone. Orders will start to be taken starting now. We need a minimum of 20 couples to make this evening happen.

Please see the Menu below for this event and to send in your order to Mary.

MENU FOR PROBUS PERTH CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Stone Cellar Loft

71 Gore St. E., Perth

Friday, December 9th at 6PM

Please choose one for each participant - No orders will be taken at the party:

Starter:

House Salad

Daily Market Soup

Please choose one for each participant:

Main Course:

Frenched Chicken Breast
Chicken supreme, bocconcini, prosciutto, marinara, basil pesto, seasonal vegetables and starch

6oz AAA Canadian Tenderloin
Topped with compound butter, seared with starch and seasonal vegetables

Bay of Fundy Atlantic Salmon
Maple cajun smoked, butternut squash, seasonal vegetables

Pasta (for vegetarians ONLY)
Linguini in a vodka rosé sauce

Dessert: Can be chosen that evening based on what our local bakers deliver that week for us.

Cheesecake or
The Pie Bar Pies

Price:

\$68 (per person including tax and gratuity) for 3 courses + \$10 (music and bar) = \$78

Entrée ONLY - No option to add on at event.

\$48 (per person including tax and gratuity) for 1 course + \$10 (music and bar) = \$58

Note: Please email your order back to Mary Kilgour at social-mary@probusperth.ca or call Mary at 613-264-0024 with your order **before November 12th** please.

Payment will be by e-Transfer or by cheque (see [PAYMENTS-PROBUS PERTH](#))

Closing
thoughts ...



Jack Layton's letter to fellow Canadians ...

*"My friends, love is better than anger. Hope is better than fear.
Optimism is better than despair.
So let us be loving, hopeful and optimistic.
And we will change the world."*



FOR 70 YEARS GOD 'SAVED' OUR QUEEN!



Enjoy The Fall!



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: Susan Freeman

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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

Newsletter Editor • Gayda Errett