



# The PROBUS Pilot



Probus Club of Western Ottawa – serving the western half of the National Capital Region

May 2020

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## **Important Notice**

***Due to the COVID-19 virus and government restrictions on social gatherings, all Probus Western Ottawa Meetings and outings are cancelled until further notice.***

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## **The Prez Sez**

Hello everyone,

When I stood at the podium last March, I had no idea it would be the last meeting until at least September for Probus Western Ottawa members. The executive has continued to meet through video chats and at our last meeting it was decided to hopefully invite you back to Kanata United Church in the fall. We have cancelled all activities for May and June, although the executive has asked Ray Jones to continue to publish the Probus Pilot for these months and we will let you know in late August what our plans are for the fall. Please continue to take care of yourselves. For now, stay safe by staying at home.

It was a great pleasure to recently speak to many of our members, either by telephone or e-mail and I will do it again. If I missed you or you'd like to chat again, please call 613-435-7490. Hugs, Marg

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## **Coping with Covid**

How are you coping with isolation and social distancing? Have you any stories or recommendations you'd be willing to share in future editions of the Pilot? For example - favourite hobbies, books, movies or TV shows. Please submit to [newsletter@probuswesternottawa.ca](mailto:newsletter@probuswesternottawa.ca).

Marjorie Jones is an avid quilter and, like many involved with the hobby, often has multiple projects on the go at the same time, some taking years to finish. Now forced to stay at home, there is more time to work on her UFOs (unfinished objects) – sometimes also called PHDs (Projects Half Done). The picture shows a number of her small charity quilts – some finished, some still a work in progress.



## Election of New Executive and Appeal for Volunteers

Normally our new executive would be identified in May and elected in June at one of our meetings, ready to take over on September 1. However, the cancellation of our May and June meetings means we cannot maintain this schedule. The government has given non-profit organizations like ours an additional six months to complete this task. Should the fall bring no relief on meeting restrictions, we may have to resort to online voting.

At right is the new executive as far as we can determine at this point. Ron Armstrong will move from his present role of VP to take over as President while Marg Demers will become past President. Ruth and Bryan Wakeford (Outings) plus Bill and Jean Eng (Membership) have asked to be relieved of their responsibilities. We thank them for their dedication and exemplary service to our club.

The rest of the executive is prepared to serve another term.

This leaves four vacancies to be filled – Vice-president, Outings (2 positions), and Membership.

The following are Job descriptions of these roles...

**Vice-President** (for more info, email [vice-president@probuswesternottawa.ca](mailto:vice-president@probuswesternottawa.ca) or call Ron at 613-831-0547)

- serve a one-year term
- act on behalf of the President in the President's absence
- attend all Management Committee meetings and Club meetings
- pursue opportunities to learn the role of President in preparation for assuming that office

**Outings** (for more info, email [outings@probuswesternottawa.ca](mailto:outings@probuswesternottawa.ca) or call Ruth at 613-838-2758)

- research places and activities
- determine costs, dates, directions where Members can go to participate in event
- present chosen events to Club Members at a meeting in order that they can sign up to attend
- coordinate with a venue for a determined number of Members
- collect fees, if applicable, for an event, and pass money to Treasurer for payment of attendance tickets. If necessary, use personal credit card and receive reimbursement from Treasurer.

**Membership** (for more info, email [membership@probuswesternottawa.ca](mailto:membership@probuswesternottawa.ca) or call Barb at 613-592-0296)

- record and maintain the membership roll list
- ensure new members complete a membership form
- ensure visitors are welcomed and sign a visitor form
- introduce visitors and new members at monthly meetings
- update the membership file (an Excel spreadsheet) by recording information on any new members
- add email addresses of new members to our email distribution list
- forward updated membership lists to the Executive as required

*Suggested skill: knowledge of Excel*

## Your 2020-2021 Management Board

President:	<b>Ron Armstrong</b>
Past-President:	<b>Marg Demers</b>
Vice President:	<b>TBD*</b>
Secretary:	<b>Martha Maslen</b>
Treasurer:	<b>Desna Sulway</b>
Members-at-Large	<b>George Steeves &amp; John Hardie</b>
Membership:	<b>TBD*</b> (Interim Chair: Barbara Bole)
Speaker Program:	<b>Charles Boole</b>
Lunches:	<b>Marie Armstrong &amp; Ruth MacKenzie</b>
Outings:	<b>TBD* (2 positions)</b>
Publicity:	<b>Mary Jones</b>
Newsletter:	<b>Ray Jones</b>
Website:	<b>Bill Johnston</b>
Policy Advisor:	<b>Peter Doyle</b>
Coffee Coordinator	<b>George Steeves</b>
Setup Crew	<b>David Stafford &amp; Peter Durose</b>
Euchre Club	<b>Pat Stoate</b>
Cards and letters	<b>Betty Jean Bone</b>

\* To be formally identified and elected at a time to be announced

Please consider putting your name forward for one of the open positions. This is a good opportunity to work closely with others on the executive and you will receive a lot of support no matter what position you select. Email Marg Demers at [president@probuswesternottawa.ca](mailto:president@probuswesternottawa.ca) or call 613-435-7490 to make your wishes known.

# Chuckle Corner



## Laughter is the Best Medicine

- I'm so bored I went outside to knock on my own door, then came back in and said, "Who is it?"
- The buttons on my jeans have started social distancing from each other.
- Sitting on my couch and my husband sweetly whispered, "The best part about all this, is that I get to spend more time with you. As I looked over at him lovingly I realized... he was talking to the dog!"
- I miss the days we were terrified of romaine lettuce.
- Coronavirus has turned us all into puppies. We roam the house all day looking for food. We're told "No" if we get too close to strangers and we get super excited about car rides.
- Is anyone else's car getting 3 weeks to the litre?
- Someone asked a gentleman at a bar, "Is COVID 19 really that serious?" The gentleman replied, "Listen y'all, the casino and church are both closed. When Heaven and Hell agree on the same thing, it's probably pretty serious."
- I find that I have been happier since I switched from coffee in the morning to orange juice. My doctor explained it's the vitamin C but I think it's the vodka.
- The police want you to know that running from them is not social distancing.
- My husband and I decided we don't want to have children. We'll be telling them tonight at dinner.

### Quote of the Month

First Time in History  
 We can save the human race by lying in front of the TV and doing nothing.  
 Let's not mess this up.



**Did you know?**  
 Betty Jean Bone will send a card for illness, sympathy or condolences upon request. Contact [bjbone03@yahoo.ca](mailto:bjbone03@yahoo.ca)\*



\* Cards are sent on behalf of Probus Western Ottawa and may go to either members or non-members