



The PROBUS Pilot



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

July 2020

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Special Report to PWO Membership



The Prez Sez

Hello Everyone! COVID 19 and its resulting cancellation of all Probus Western Ottawa (PWO) activities has resulted in the necessity of a special edition of the Probus Pilot.

Attached to this newsletter are copies of a letter from Kanata United Church and pertinent information from Probus Canada's President, Jamie Doolittle, regarding suggested guidelines for re-opening club activities. (Hard copies are sent to those receiving the Newsletter by regular mail.)

Following is a summary.

CONTINUED CANCELLATIONS

It is with deep regret I have to announce that our POSTPONEMENT of meetings, lunches, trips and all activities we, as members, look forward to will be continuing into and beyond September. Kanata United Church (KUC) has stated that they will not allow rentals in the building **until at least January 1, 2021**, if then. Although it is the safe and responsible decision it is very hard to accept. But, we are seniors; we are strong; we will persevere. How exciting it will be when we do get together again. In the meantime I guess it's "Stay strong and carry on." Note that in our dealings with KUC your executive offered to donate our monthly rent from April-December to KUC, but the church decided to refund our prepaid September-December portion.

INSURANCE ISSUES

Andy McInnis, Probus Canada's International representative for our Liability Insurance Policies, was asked by Jamie "if an individual contracts COVID-19, can the executive of the Club holding one of these events be sued?" Mr. McInnis' response was the following in general:

"Our General Liability Insurance coverage has no specific exclusions in it. If an individual did contract the disease, it would be extremely difficult to prove where they got it and to prove PROBUS negligence was at fault. That being said, our Insurance would be used to defend PROBUS CANADA or an individual Club or its officers."

In spite of this statement, caution about health considerations are, and will continually be, a priority for PWO. Although our province has begun to open slowly, for now, we are reticent to have a club sanctioned activity and will follow Probus Canada's guidelines for reopening when the time comes.

TO ZOOM OR NOT TO ZOOM

At an executive meeting in July, it was determined, following much discussion, that our club will not proceed with meetings via Zoom or other community electronic chat forums. Probus functions best when we meet face to face and in person such as is the norm. We felt that Zoom meetings would not fulfil this and provide quality at the same time. There are other reasons as well such as finding speakers who are prepared to meet the types of restrictions imposed by using Zoom.

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ELECTIONS AND ACCLAMATIONS

In June the Probus Pilot published a proposed executive for the year 2020-2021 reproduced at right with the following changes...

- Barbara Bole has agreed to stand for Membership on a permanent (for the 2020-2021 year) rather than an interim basis.
- Outings continues to have no volunteer, but the executive has agreed that this will not impede meetings resuming when it is safe to do so.

We are saying "Goodbye and Thank you " to our Past President Mark Darroch who is leaving the board after three years of exemplary service and to Brian and Ruth Wakeford who after too many years to count, actually it is five, are leaving Outings, to travel much more widely with each other.

If you would like to volunteer for a position or nominate someone else for a position, with their permission of course, please contact our current president at President@probuswesternottawa.ca or **613-435-7490**. **IF THE EXECUTIVE HEAR OF NO OTHER NOMINATIONS BY AUGUST 15, 2020, THESE NOMINEES WILL BE CONSIDERED ACCLAIMED AND WILL TAKE OFFICE SEPTEMBER 1, 2020.**

The executive continues to meet at a minimum once a month in spite of the membership not being able to meet as a large group.

It has been a privilege for me to serve as your President for this somewhat shortened term of office. I enthusiastically look forward to our getting together as soon as we can. I know this club will be in excellent hands with Ron in charge. I've said it before. It bears repeating. The executives that serve for the good of Probus Western Ottawa are exemplary. Their professionalism cannot be matched. Their commitment to you as members is sincere and goes far beyond expectations. It has truly been an unexpected challenge for your executive this year but they have "stepped up to the plate" in every possible way.

Thank you for your trust, your faith and your expertise. We WILL get together soon. Marg

Your 2020-2021 Management Board*

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

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

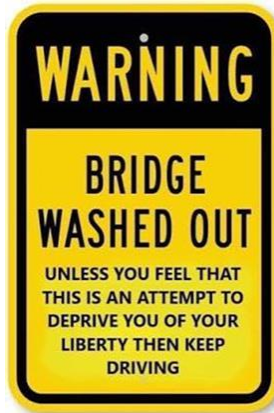
Probus Canada Thanks Front Line Workers

The Board of Directors of PROBUS CANADA decided in early June that Probus should acknowledge the tremendous contribution and selflessness of our first responders and those providing essential services that put themselves on the front line.

On June 6, 2020 they placed a notification of this thanks on behalf of all Probus Canada members in the first section of the Globe and Mail which is circulated nationally across Canada.

The Probus Canada Web Site is at <https://www.probus.org/> and a link to a copy of this notice is in their June newsletter ([click here](#)). A hard copy is provided to those receiving the newsletter by regular mail.

Chuckle Corner



It was on Day 4 of the lockdown when Fluffy decided there had been enough family time.



A plane has 5 passengers on board: Donald Trump, Boris Johnson, Angela Merkel, The Pope and a 10-year-old schoolboy. The plane is about to crash and there are only 4 parachutes. Trump says, "I need one: I'm the smartest man in the USA and am needed to make America great again." He takes one and jumps.

Johnson says, "I'm needed to sort out Britain". He takes one and jumps.

The Pope says, "I need one as the world needs the Catholic Church." He takes one and jumps.

Angela says to the ten year old, "You can have the last parachute. I've lived my life. Yours is only just starting."

The 10-year-old replies, "Don't worry, there are 2 parachutes left. The smartest man in the USA took my school bag."

Curious

The countries most affected by COVID-19 are, the US, Brazil, Russia, Spain, the UK, Italy, and France. Here are photos of their leaders:



The countries which are recognized as having best managed the crisis are Germany, Taiwan, New Zealand, Finland, Norway, and Denmark. Here are photos of their leaders:



Hmmm...