



# The PROBUS Pilot



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

June 2021

Vol: 12 No: 10

## **Tuesday, June 8, 10am, via ZOOM\***

### **John Boyko: *The Devil's Trick – How Canada Fought in the Vietnam War***

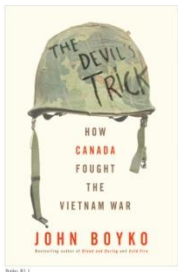
John Boyko is the author of eight books addressing Canadian history and politics, an op-ed contributor to newspapers across the country, and he writes for the Canadian Encyclopedia.



On June 8, he will be paying us a return visit, via Zoom. He will speak about his latest book that was published in April 2021, entitled: *The Devil's Trick: How Canada Fought the Vietnam War*.

Through the lens of six remarkable people, some well-known and others obscure, John will recount Canada's often-overlooked involvement in that tragic conflict as peacemaker, combatant, and a provider of weapons and sanctuary. He will explore how Canada was changed by the war and the lessons it taught that continue to resonate.

Through these wide-ranging and fascinating accounts, Boyko will expose what he calls the devil's wildest trick.



John lives just north of Peterborough Ontario in the village of Lakefield.

If you wish to read the book it is available now at local book stores and online from Amazon and Chapters. You can follow John at his website [www.johnboyko.com](http://www.johnboyko.com).

[https://www.amazon.ca/Books-John-Boyko/s?rh=n%3A916520%2Cp\\_27%3AJohn+Boyko](https://www.amazon.ca/Books-John-Boyko/s?rh=n%3A916520%2Cp_27%3AJohn+Boyko)

<https://www.chapters.indigo.ca/en-ca/books/search/?keywords=john+boyko>

***\*Zoom meeting details will be emailed to members on Sunday, June 6.***



## **The Prez Sez**

To all members of Probus Western Ottawa.

June is the month where we wrap up the year's events and get ready for the summer break of July and August. In September we will welcome our new President, Peter Van Boeschoten.

For myself, my term as president has been interesting to say the least in this Covid era. The management team started Zoom meetings with Speakers in January and they have proven to be very successful and well attended. These will continue in the fall until we can return to the church. One person I would like to recognize is Marjorie Jones (Ray's wife) for instilling in our team a desire to move forward on Zoom and I want to thank her for that. Also thanks to Ray, Peter and Charlie for ensuring each meeting ran smoothly.

I would also like to thank the rest of the management team: Martha for her diligent minutes; Barb for managing membership; Desna for the finances; Bill for the website and the others: Marg, Mary, George, Peter Doyle & Marie who supported the team by attending the meetings. Your opinions and decisions were so important in ensuring that our Club will remain active and viable when things return to normal.

Also, a reminder that there are vacant positions to be filled and we do welcome new people to support the management team.

Take care. Stay safe.

Ron Armstrong, President

## At our May Meeting



Our speaker in May was Roman Talkowski discussing climate change. His one hour presentation addressed three questions:

1. Must we change?
2. Can we change?
3. Will we change?

His talk explained why the earth is warming and how this warming spawns severe weather events (e.g. hurricanes, fires, floods). That was the scary part. However, Roman ended on a positive note by presenting the solutions available to us and what each of us can do to help prevent further warming.

This meeting was NOT recorded (by speaker request). However, Roman has provided us with a large Powerpoint slide package. A link to this presentation is available on the main page of our website at <http://www.probuswesternottawa.ca>. Note that you do not need Powerpoint on your local computer. Just click the link and the slide show should begin. To advance slides, click your mouse or touch the screen. The package has been tested with various device types including PCs, tablets and phones including Macs and Ipad.



## Our tentative lineup of future speakers (via Zoom)

Here are our upcoming speakers (subject to change). All meetings start formally at 10 am on the second Tuesday of each month. To allow time for informal socialization or just to ensure you have no technical issues with the ZOOM application, you will be able to join the call after 9:30 am.

A link to the ZOOM session and further instructions will be emailed to the membership on the Sunday prior to each meeting. More information about each speaker will be provided in the newsletter for that month.

Please pass ideas on to Charles Boole via [program@probuswesternottawa.ca](mailto:program@probuswesternottawa.ca).

For past speaker info, see our newsletters which are available on our website: [www.probuswesternottawa.ca](http://www.probuswesternottawa.ca)

### September 14 – Tim Moses

*Preparing for the End of Life*

We are now in discussions with speakers for the full September 2021 to June 2022 year although monthly speaking order (except for September) is not yet established, a task complicated by the fact that some speakers will only speak in person. Here is a sampling of some of the topics planned...

- The Assassination of D'Arcy McGee
- Money Laundering and Human Trafficking
- Writing Behind Bars
- Risk Management

## NOTICE

There will be no meetings or newsletters in July & August. We'll be back in September. Have a great summer!



Welcome to the new members who joined since our last newsletter (total membership now 179)

**Rudi Askim**  
**Pauline Farey**  
**Jack Wilson**

## We would like to know who is participating in our Zoom meetings.

Please encourage interested friends to contact [membership@probuswesternottawa.ca](mailto:membership@probuswesternottawa.ca). Members will receive our monthly newsletter and links to our virtual meetings and any YouTube recordings that we are permitted to make. Tips on using the Zoom application are provided with Zoom link emails.

## Election of New Executive and Appeal for Volunteers

Due to the lack of any member response to our appeal for volunteers in last month's newsletter, the current management team took the following actions:

- Ron Armstrong will move from his present role of President to Past-President; Peter van Boeshoten moves from Vice-President to President. This is a normal transition.
- The role of Vice President remains open which is concerning as a VP is needed to assume the presidency in 2022-2023.
- Martha Maslen and Mary Jones have agreed to retain their roles until such time as we can resume in-person meetings.
- Charlie Boole has confirmed speakers for 2021-2022 which is 80% of the Speaker Program effort. He therefore agreed to stay on for another year.
- No one has yet shown an interest in arranging outings, but this position can remain vacant until we resume in-person meetings.
- The rest of the management team is unchanged from the current year.

## Your 2021-2022 Management Board

President:	<b>Peter van Boeshoten</b>
Past-President:	<b>Ron Armstrong</b>
Vice President:	<b>TBD*</b>
Secretary:	<b>Temporary - Martha Maslen</b>
Treasurer:	<b>Desna Sulway</b>
Members-at-Large	<b>George Steeves +1 TBD*</b>
Membership:	<b>Barbara Bole</b>
Speaker Program:	<b>Charlie Boole</b>
Lunches:	<b>Marie Armstrong</b>
Outings:	<b>TBD* (2 positions)</b>
Publicity:	<b>Temporary - 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

Once again, the following are the job descriptions for the vacant roles.

**Vice-President** (for more info, email [vice-president@probuswesternottawa.ca](mailto:vice-president@probuswesternottawa.ca))

- 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 [president@probuswesternottawa.ca](mailto:president@probuswesternottawa.ca))

- research places and activities
- determine costs, dates & directions to an 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.

**Secretary** (for more info, email [secretary@probuswesternottawa.ca](mailto:secretary@probuswesternottawa.ca))

- record and transcribe Minutes of all Executive meetings
- distribute Minutes to Executive members for approval at next Executive meeting
- maintain an up-to-date file of approved Minutes
- any other correspondence as may be required

**Publicity** (for more info, email [publicity@probuswesternottawa.ca](mailto:publicity@probuswesternottawa.ca))

- Advertise monthly in the Citizen "Our Town" column.
- Advertise in any other local newspapers or news outlets for our area
- Arrange payment for advertising where needed

**Member-at-Large** (for more info, email [president@probuswesternottawa.ca](mailto:president@probuswesternottawa.ca))

- attend all Management Committee meetings
- an opportunity to see how the executive functions without any specific duties
- may be asked to assist in some capacity on occasion

Please consider putting your name forward for one of these open positions. Email Ron Armstrong at [president@probuswesternottawa.ca](mailto:president@probuswesternottawa.ca) or call 613-831-0547 to make your wishes known.

## Chuckle Corner

### THE STUDENT WHO OBTAINED 0% ON AN EXAM

Q1.. In which battle did Napoleon die?

**\*His last battle**

Q2.. Where was the Declaration of Independence signed?

**\*At the bottom of the page**

Q3.. River Ravi flows in which state?

**\*Liquid**

Q4.. What is the main reason for divorce?

**\*Marriage**

Q5.. What is the main reason for failure?

**\*Exams**

Q6.. What can you never eat for breakfast?

**\*Lunch & dinner**

Q7.. What looks like half an apple?

**\*The other half**

Q8.. If you throw a red stone into the blue sea, what will it become?

**\*Wet**

Q9.. How can a man go eight days without sleeping?

**\*No problem, he sleeps at night.**

Q10. How can you lift an elephant with one hand?

**\*You will never find an elephant that has one hand.**

Q11. If you had three apples and four oranges in one hand and four apples and three oranges in other hand, what would you have?

**\*Very large hands**

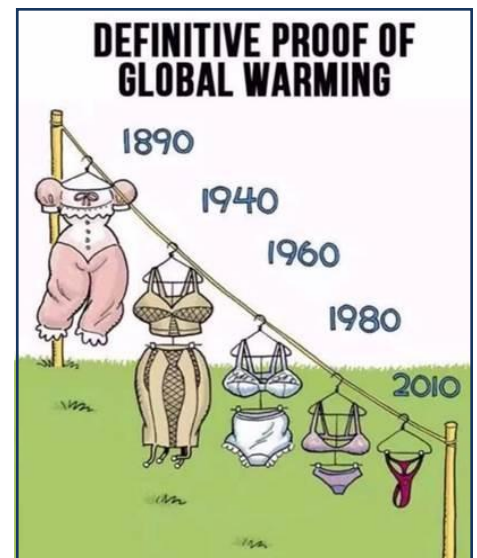
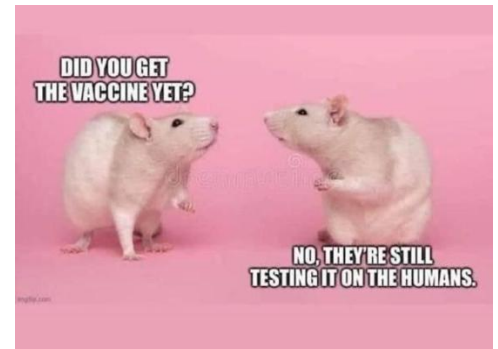
Q12. If it took eight men ten hours to build a wall, how long would it take four men to build it?

**\*No time at all, the wall is already built.**

Q13. How can you drop a raw egg onto a concrete floor without cracking it?

**\*Any way you want, concrete floors are very hard to crack.**

*I would have given him 100%! Each answer is correct, grammatically correct, and funny too. The teacher had no sense of humor.*



A minister was completing a temperance sermon. With great emphasis he said, 'If I had all the beer in the world, I'd take it and pour it into the river.'

With greater emphasis he said, 'And if I had all the wine in the world, I'd take it and pour it into the river.'

And then finally, shaking his fist in the air, he said, 'And if I had all the whiskey in the world, I'd take it and pour it into the river.'

Sermon complete, he sat down...

The song leader stood very cautiously and announced with a smile, nearly laughing, 'For our closing song, Let us sing Hymn 365, 'Shall We Gather at the River.'

Smile - life is too short not to!