



The PROBUS Pilot



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

June 2022

Vol: 13 No: 10

Next Meeting: Tuesday, June 14, 10am (in-person only)

John & Jan Milnes - *Forgotten: The British Home Children*

100,000 British Home Children came to Canada between 1869 and 1939 to work as farm labourers and domestics. These children, aged 4 to 14 years, were the collateral damage from the Industrial Revolution, an event that completely altered the social fabric of Britain. Each came here with the hope of starting a new and better life. But that was not to be the case.



The Milnes, originally from Leicestershire, England, emigrated to Canada in 1970. On arrival in Cornwall Township, they purchased a 200 acre farm. With qualifications in Environmental Science and Special Needs Children, they taught full-time with the Stormont, Dundas & Glengarry County Board of Education. In their spare time they developed the farm house and the 200 acres into a viable mixed farm - one that eventually served as a valuable and much appreciated learning tool for many local teachers when organizing class outings!

Throughout their working life they developed many interests such as membership in their local church community, farming associations in the area and clubs such as Probus in Cornwall. Indeed Jan is a past President of that club.

Now retired, Jan and John live in Long Sault, Ontario. With a keen interest in the history of the area they began to research the forgotten subject of the British Home Children. This led to the publication of two books on the subject entitled ***Stepping Stones*** and ***For As Long As We Live***.

The Prez Sez



As we come out of 2 years of COVID, I am thankful for the support of members during this difficult time and look forward to handing over the President's gavel to Ray Jones as we commence a new year in September.

Your Board will see a number of changes and I want to highlight and thank some of our long serving executive members who are leaving the Board.

Desna Sulway has been a member for 14 years and served as our treasurer for the past 4 difficult years.

Mary Jones has been a member for 17 years, served a term as president and has looked after our publicity for the past 5 years.

Charlie Boole is only a recent member, but he immediately volunteered and has been coordinating our speakers for the past 3 years.

Barbara Bole, a member for 18 years, is a past president, secretary and has now served twice as our membership coordinator.

Martha Maslen has been a member for 8 years and served briefly on the executive as a Member-at-Large before becoming Secretary thereafter.

Pat Stoate has been a member for 15 years and has coordinated our Euchre Group for almost that whole time.

You will be electing a new Board at the June meeting. Many Board members are staying in their roles and others are changing positions. We still have openings for Speaker, Outings and Vice-President as well as a second Member at Large. Please volunteer.

Peter van Boeschoten, president@probuswesternottawa.ca

Who We Are

The Probus Club of Western Ottawa is part of the international organization of Probus Clubs designed to serve retired and semi-retired professional and business and like-minded people.

Our club meets at Kanata Baptist Church, 465 Hazeldean Road (just west of the Farm Boy Plaza) on the second Tuesday of each month (except July & August). The morning begins at 10:00 am with coffee and a time for socialization followed by a guest speaker. Use the church parking lot on its west side and enter the building by the doors at ground level.

Topics are varied, interesting and stimulating. Special social events occur throughout the year.

Visitors are welcome.

Masks recommended, but optional.



Current view of our 2022-2023 Executive*

Details of these position responsibilities may be found on our web site [here](#).

President:	Ray Jones
Vice President:	Vacant
Past-President:	Peter van Beschoten
Secretary:	Marg Demers
Treasurer:	Bryan Wakeford
Membership:	Ruth Wakeford
Speaker Program:	Vacant
Lunches:	Marie & Ron Armstrong
Outings:	Vacant
Publicity:	Vacant
Newsletter:	Peter van Beschoten
Website:	Bill Johnston
Policy Advisor:	Peter Doyle
Coffee Coordinator	George Steeves
Member-at-Large #1	George Steeves
Member-at-Large #2	Vacant
Setup Crew	David Stafford & Peter Durose
Euchre Club	Barbara & David Stafford
Cards and letters	Betty Jean Bone

* To be formally elected at the June meeting

Chuckle Corner

An annual competition is held by the 'New York Times' to see who can create the best original lexophile (a person who loves sentences) such as....

This year's submissions:

- I changed my iPod's name to Titanic. It's syncing now.
- England has no kidney bank, but it does have a Liverpool.
- Haunted French pancakes give me the crepes.
- I know a guy who's addicted to drinking brake fluid, but he says he can stop any time.
- A thief who stole a calendar got twelve months.
- When the smog lifts in Los Angeles, U.C.L.A.
- I got some batteries that were given out free of charge.
- A dentist and a manicurist married. They fought tooth and nail.
- A will is a dead giveaway.
- With her marriage, she got a new name and a dress.
- Police were summoned to a daycare center where a three-year-old was resisting a rest.
- A bicycle can't stand alone; it's just two tired.
- The guy who fell onto an upholstery machine last week is now fully recovered.
- He had a photographic memory but it was never fully developed.
- Acupuncture is a jab well done. That's the point of it.
- I didn't like my beard at first. Then it grew on me.
- I'm reading a book about anti-gravity. I just can't put it down.

Welcome these new members who joined since the last newsletter...



**Bruce Jessop
John Kern
Kathleen Cowan
Karen Walchuk**

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Prospective new members: please contact membership@probuswesternottawa.ca

Coming Up

A **catered lunch** will immediately follow our meeting on June 14. Registration is now closed.

Fall Speaker Program - An Exciting Lineup

This fall we have an exciting lineup of possible speakers to enjoy each month at Probus! As the speakers have not been finalized, I can only give you a taste of the possible topics to anticipate.

1) Risk Management: We have all journeyed through the risks associated with COVID and its multitude of variants and in the main we have done quite well. But how is risk managed in the corporate world of finance and business? There are risks that go on all the time that we may not be aware of, but there are those amongst us who work silently in the background to protect us from some very nefarious characters and operations. Come and hear one such person, an expert in the field.

2) Hospice Care: Hopefully in our own lifetime we may not need such care but it would help us all if we are aware of what it is and what it is not. Our speaker can address the situations that people face whether they be young or old. Our speaker will be able to address the signs to take note of in this area of medical need that is rarely addressed in the public forum or in the daily news cycles of health care.

3) When Tobacco Was King Our speaker has written a definitive book on the subject, having grown up in the Tobacco Belt of southern Ontario. Marlborough Man, step aside! Let's hear the real story of the reign of tobacco.

In addition to the above, other possible topics range from Conservation efforts in this region, innovation in the car industry, historical personages of the Ottawa region and so on. We have an informed and varied focus for the new season 2022 - 2023.

We need someone to bring our speaker program to fruition. Please contact Charlie Boole at program@probuswesternottawa.ca if you can help us or just wish to understand what is required. This is an opportunity to make new friends as part of a supportive team.

Guided Tour of Rideau Hall set for June - Thursday 16 June 11 am

Rideau Hall has been the official residence of every governor general of Canada since 1867 and their workplace since 1940. It is a national historic site with nearly two centuries of history and has become an important gathering place and site of official activities.

Accompanied by a guide, walk through the State rooms where the governor general fulfills official duties, welcomes dignitaries and honours Canadians.

The residence is home to a fine collection of Canadian art and furniture. On display are the works of such renowned Canadian artists as Jean Paul Lemieux, Emily Carr and Allen Sapp. A special exhibition on Canadian honours is also included in the tour.

We are limited to 25 people for this tour.

Sign up at the June meeting or email outings@probuswesternottawa.ca



Pretty Clever, Eh?

How's this for effective speed control? People actually slow down and try to "straddle" the hole.

This is a real device that is currently in use in Canada.

It is much cheaper than speed cameras, radar guns, police officers, etc.



May in Review

Speaker: Our speaker in May, Michael Boole, Manager of the Anti-Money Unit at FINTRAC (the Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada), described FINTRAC's role in tracking criminal activities related to human trafficking, child exploitation & money laundering. He pointed out that FINTRAC has two major responsibilities: ensuring reporting compliance and performing a financial analysis of the data received from designated reporting entities. FINTRAC has no enforcement mandate. Suspect activities are referred to the reporting entities and the appropriate police authorities.



In 2020-2021, **FINTRAC** received over **30 million** financial transaction reports for analysis. The top three categories of offences detected were related to drugs (34%), fraud (35%) and tax evasion (9%).

FINTRAC works with similar agencies in 110 countries to share information and detect offences having an international component.

Luncheon: On May 18, 16 members met for lunch at the Mill Street Brewery. We enjoyed ourselves despite a longish wait for our meal. More time to chat!! Nice to meet some new people.

NOTE: We will not be doing another lunch in June other than the one immediately following our meeting. This is as usual.



Ford Visit highlighted New Automobile Technology



Our May outing was to the Ford Connectivity and Innovation Centre. Despite a change in date and the storm power outages we still had 18 participants for an informative and enjoyable tour. The Centre is situated in two new buildings near the Canadian Tire Centre and employs 1000 workers, mostly producing software.

Ford's chief engineer, Zoltan Racz, was our host and provided a comprehensive overview of the vast changes occurring with respect to car technology. He covered the waterfront from batteries to 5G and artificial intelligence. Zoltan explained that the software in cars, while in some respects similar to software in an iPhone, must emphasize safety to prevent any possible failure that might put lives at risk. He also explained that soon cars will be talking to cars. There were lots of questions from our group and we very much appreciated Zoltan's knowledge and enthusiasm. Oh yes, we also were served coffee, muffins, and Timbits.

After the presentation we were able to visit some of the vehicles being used as test beds for the new technology, including an all-electric Ford F150 Lightning truck. Under its deep hood was nothing, just empty space like a trunk. Batteries & electric motors are all under the floor. BTW, If you want to buy a new F150 Lightning, there is currently a 2 year waiting list.

