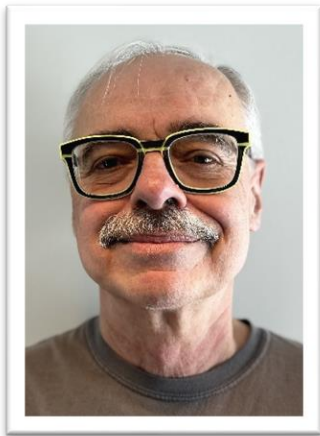




# PROBUS Club of Clarington

*Meetings: 2nd Wednesday of  
the month, 10:00 AM  
1685 Bloor St., Courtice  
(Hope Fellowship Church)*

## From our President



Welcome to my first President's message. For the benefit of our newer members, I would like to give you a short PROBUS bio. I have been a member of Clarington PROBUS from almost day one. I was on the steering committee that set up the club and was the first Interest Group Chair. I have also held numerous Management Committee positions, as well as filling in as interim Vice President, and interim Treasurer.

Over the years I have seen a lot of changes from our humble beginnings, meeting at the Salvation Army in Bowmanville, to our current location at Hope Fellowship Church. (A special shoutout to Jim Bamford and Laurie Allum for securing this place.) I have watched our membership grow from 119 charter members to our current 226.

I was there for the introduction of Wild Apricot. And of course, there was COVID, when we were all introduced to the world of ZOOM. Through it all, one thing has been constant. Jim has mentioned this on numerous occasions, and that is: the joy, laughter and fun that emanate from you, the members.

I am looking forward to working with the Management Committee members in the coming year. I would also like to hear from you, our members. If you have any concerns, ideas, or would like to sit in on one of our Management Committee meetings, do not hesitate to contact me.

I will be on vacation and therefore not able to attend the May general meeting. Past President, Leslie Soltay, has graciously agreed to chair that meeting. See you in June.

*John Muzik,  
President*



## PROBUS MANAGEMENT TEAM

John Muzik  
President

Marg Allen  
Vice President

Leslie Soltay  
Past President

Sherry Shrives  
Secretary

George Rickard  
Treasurer

Nadia Bilyk  
Membership  
Coordinator

Donna Bright  
Interest Group Chair

Andrea Shaw  
Social Committee Chair

Alice Chase  
Communications Chair

## PROBUS Canada Update

Brenda Andrews' term of office as President ended April 28. Thank you to Brenda for her leadership and hard work! It was a pleasure meeting her at our March meeting. We welcome Martin Capper as the new President of PROBUS Canada.

### Speaker for May



Less than 50% of Canadians have a valid will. And of the remaining percentage that do have wills, many are outdated or ineffective. Andrew Felker, a Certified Specialist in Estates and Trusts Law, will be speaking on the topic of "What Should Go into An Effective Estate Plan – Wills, Power of Attorney Documents, and Trusts."

He will address the following areas:

1. The choice of an appropriate executor
2. Ensuring that your financial products with beneficiary designations are consistent
3. Specific gifts of money and personal items
4. Your options in terms of who are your principal beneficiaries
5. Planning for the "worst case scenario"
6. Holding money in trust for grandchildren who might inherit
7. Options to avoid probate tax
8. Powers of Attorney for both finances and property, and for health.

*Mr. Smith is on his deathbed and knows the end is near. The nurse, his wife, daughter and 2 sons, are with him. He asks that 2 witnesses be present and a camcorder in place to record his last wishes, and when all is ready, he begins to speak:*

*"To my son, Bernie, I want you to take the Mayfair houses."*

*"My daughter Sybil, you take the apartments over in the east end."*

*"My son, Jamie, I want you to take the offices over in the City Centre."*

*"Sarah, my dear wife, please take all the residential buildings on the east bank of the river."*

*The nurse and witnesses are blown away as they did not realize the extent of his real estate holdings, and as Mr. Smith slips away, the nurse says,*

*"Mrs. Smith, your husband must have worked very hard to have accumulated so much property."*

*To which the wife replied, "My husband had a paper route."*



## Member Profile



Mike and I retired and moved to the Port of Newcastle in November of 2021. We had lived in Stouffville since 1974. We are happy with our decision to move as we are closer to our daughter and her family, and to the Lake.

Michael worked in sales and always enjoys learning new things. I, Bonnie, worked as an RN for many years, graduating from Toronto Western Hospital. In later years, I worked with clients with Aphasia in a community program as a Communication Disorder Assistant.

We are looking forward to meeting new people and hopefully travelling again.

*Bonnie and Mike Morrison*

## Membership Report

Our current membership stands at 226. We warmly welcome our new members Judy Schneider and Zia Choudhary.

We are looking for volunteers for the Share the Wealth table at the monthly meetings. Please contact me if you are interested or sign the request sheet in the lobby at the next meeting. Great way to meet people!

Purchase Share the Wealth tickets and enjoy free coffee and treats! \$1/ 1 ticket, \$2/ 3 tickets, \$5/ 8 tickets. Good Luck! Winner last month was Bonnie Sokolowski.

Please register for the monthly meetings. Thank you.

*Nadia Bilyk*



*April Share the Wealth Winner, Bonnie Sokolowski; Photo by Pleun Dorsman*

## News from your Social Committee

### April Events

#### 1. Trivia Afternoon

Fun is always guaranteed at this popular trivia get-together with emcees Dawn and George Aitken. Our teams were challenged with many themed quizzes and two musical themed quizzes that took us down memory lane. Many thanks to Dawn and George for a wonderful afternoon and to Lynette for picking up the prizes.



*Photo by Susan Hollyman*

## 2. Tour of Little Canada

Twenty-five members, led by our trusty Cathy Spracklin, headed downtown by GO train to see Little Canada. The displays took us through a vast and highly detailed, miniature animated recreation of many of the country's most celebrated sights. It was a wonderful afternoon and we highly recommend people to visit. Many thanks to Cathy for organizing and leading us on this fun event.



Photos by Andrea Shaw

## Upcoming Events

### 1. Hotel California (The Eagles Tribute Band), Fri., May 12, 7 pm; Newcastle Community Hall

All those who purchased tickets through PROBUS are asked to pick them up at the Social Committee table in the foyer at the General Meeting on May 10. If you cannot attend the meeting, Andrea Shaw will have tickets at the door of the venue.

### 2. Car Rally, Wednesday, May 31, 9:30 am start time



Fasten your seat belts as Kevin and Victoria Girling have finalized plans for the first car rally of the year! They have decided to move the starting point a little further afield. We can share that it will be near Tyrone and washroom facilities will be available at Haydon Community Hall before the start of the rally. It will involve an extremely circuitous route with questions along the way (hence the need for at least 2 people per car). The rally should finish about lunchtime and we will share answers and your brown bag lunch at the final stop of the route. If the weather is nice, please bring a lawn chair with you. Remember, this is not a race, but an opportunity to see some new countryside. There will be a few roads that are not paved but are entirely passable. Fingers crossed for a sunny day, because this is a go rain or shine!

A second rally is being planned for the fall by Merv Bolton and Joan Seaton.

### 3. Waste Management Tour, June 8, 2:00 pm; Durham York Energy Centre, 1835 Energy Dr., Courtice; \$5.20

We are pleased to announce that the Waste Management tour has been rescheduled to June 8<sup>th</sup>. If you previously registered and know that you will not be available to attend on June 8<sup>th</sup>, please email Andrea at [andrea49@gmail.com](mailto:andrea49@gmail.com) to let me know. All guests must wear the following PPE required for the tour:

- Long sleeves
- Long pants

- CSA-approved safety footwear (If a guest does not have safety footwear, they can accommodate closed-toed, no-heel, comfortable/sturdy walking shoes (for example: running shoes, hiking boots, winter/rain boots)

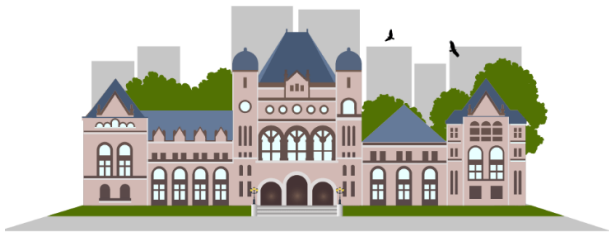
They have the following items on-site to provide to each guest:

- high-vis vest
- Gloves
- Hard-hat
- Safety glasses.

Guests can park in the visitor parking lot at the front of the building; **carpooling is encouraged** as they have limited parking spaces. As you approach the front door, there is a buzzer at the front door to speak with reception to gain access to the facility.



#### **4. Tour of Ontario Legislature with English Tea to follow, Friday, June 16, 1:45-4pm; \$47.25 (transportation not included)**



Enjoy a guided tour of our provincial Legislature and learn about the history, art and architecture of this distinctive part of Queen’s Park before enjoying a traditional afternoon tea (scones, finger sandwiches, sweet treats and tea). Our own Cathy Spracklin will be guiding our group as we travel on GO train and TTC together.

We have room for ten more participants but registration must be before May 26.

#### **5. 4<sup>th</sup> Line Theatre, Thursday, July 20<sup>th</sup>; 779 Zion Line, Millbrook; \$50.40**

We will be seeing the World Premiere of The Tilco Strike about the yearlong fight between 50 poorly paid women at Tilco Plastics in Peterborough, and their hard-nosed male bosses, who were determined to crush the women and their union. We need a minimum registration of 25 people to get reserved seating under cover. Tickets are only held for two weeks so please register now. This is a popular event that sells out each year. Bring your own food to picnic at 4 pm or pre-order food online. Show starts at 6:00 pm.

We encourage members to contact us with their comments and suggestions. Your input helps to guide our planning for future events.

Final Note: tickets to social events are non-refundable. We do, however, endeavor to connect those on our waiting lists with members who have needed to cancel their registration.

*Andrea Shaw*

## **Interest Groups**

### **Birdwatching**

On Thursday, April 20 the bird watching group visited the Second Marsh in Oshawa. The goal was to look for migrating waterfowl. Unfortunately, because of the relatively calm conditions, most of the waterfowl were out on the lake instead of hanging out in the marsh. That didn’t mean it was a total loss. We observed a pair of Caspian Terns sitting on the beach and three Pine Warblers. In all, we saw 26 species.

We will not be meeting in May, as Nancy and I will be in Portugal. Our next outing will be on June 15 at Enniskillen Conservation Area. If you would like to join our group, sign up on the website, or contact me.

*John Muzik*



*Photos by John Muzik*



## **Bowling Group**



*Photos by Donna Bright*

Thirteen bowlers met up for two games of 5 pin at Neb's in Oshawa. There was a lot of laughter, cheering and encouragement. Since what happens in Oshawa, stays in Oshawa, no scores are being reported. Special shoutout to Kelvin Hare who almost bowled 200 and to Brian Reid who threw three strikes in a row! This is called a "Turkey" for some unknown reason. Shirley Shirley and Wendy Johnston stood out among the women bowlers.

Additional bowlers are welcome for a couple hours of fun, non-competitive bowling.

*Donna Bright*



## Breakfast Club



Breakfast Club meet up March 30<sup>th</sup> at The Fisherman on Hwy 115.

Photos by Rhoda Wraith



## Hiking Group



Ten happy hikers and one dog enjoying our first hike of the season in the Orono Crown Lands.

*John Windatt*

*Hiking is a bit like life: the journey only requires you to put one foot in front of the other...again and again and again. And if you allow yourself the opportunity to be present throughout the entirety of the trek, you will witness beauty every step of the way, not just at the summit.*

## Ladies Who Lunch

On April 20<sup>th</sup>, fourteen ladies enjoyed lunch at Frosty Johns in Bowmanville.

*Shirley Shirley*



## Management Team Information



Outgoing Management Team...



Photos by Pleun Dorsman

New Management Team: from left to right, Leslie Soltay, Past President; Sherry Shrives, Secretary; Alice Chase, Communications Chair; John Muzik, President; Donna Bright, Interest Group Chair; Nadia Bilyk, Membership Coordinator; Andrea Shaw, Social Committee Chair; George Rickard, Treasurer; Marg Allen, Vice President

### A little bit of laughter...

Q: How do you keep your car from being stolen?

A: Buy a standard shift model.

Q: How do you send a message in code?

A: Write in cursive.





## Website Tip of the Month: Member Pages

Did you know there is a wealth of information under Member Pages on our website? You need to log on to the website to view and use the information. This information is available only to members of PROBUS Club of Clarington. Once you log on, you will see the Member landing page. This page contains news, upcoming events, the latest Member Forum posts, a link to order PROBUS clothing, a link to PROBUS Health and Travel Insurance and links to PROBUS Canada and PROBUS Global. If you scroll to the bottom of the page there is a site map which displays and links to all pages on the website.

To view the content on member only pages, click on Member Pages in the menu. A secondary menu will appear. The secondary menu will display the Member Directory, 2023 Management Committee, Constitution and Bylaws, PROBUS Merchandise and the Member Forum. Click on the page you would like to view.

The Member Directory allows you to search for a member, view their phone number and address, or email them by clicking on the email address. An email window will pop up automatically. You may also send messages through Wild Apricot's email by clicking on the member's name and then click the send a message button.

The 2023 Management Committee directory displays the members of the Management Committee. A description of the management position with a list of duties may also be viewed by clicking on the position name. You may contact the member by clicking on the contact link. This will take you to their profile in the member directory.

The Constitution and Bylaws lists the most current PROBUS Club of Clarington bylaws.

PROBUS Merchandise provides information on how to order a replacement badge. There is also a link to the supplier of PROBUS clothing. You deal directly with the supplier to order the clothing and can visit them in Whitby if you wish to try on any items and to pick up your orders.

The Member Forum is an open forum to post questions to other members or to share information. A new topic on the Little Canada social event was posted recently. Check it out by clicking the link <https://probusclarington.wildapricot.org/Member-forum/13180640##13180640>. You can respond to this topic or create your own. You may subscribe to the forum if you wish to receive notifications when a new topic is posted. A website tip on how to post a topic will appear in a future newsletter.

*Nancy Muzik*

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### ***Next PROBUS Meeting***

***Wednesday, May 10, 2023 at 10 am***

***Remember to bring a mug and money for Share the Wealth***

***Deadline for submissions to newsletter is **May 27*****

***Send articles, pictures and jokes to [chase\\_al@hotmail.com](mailto:chase_al@hotmail.com)***

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## Enjoy the Celebrations!



Mother's Day, Sunday, May 14



Victoria Day, Monday, May 22

*The following event or travel opportunity is offered for your information only and is not being sponsored by PROBUS Club of Clarington. Members should be aware they would be dealing directly with the travel company or sponsoring organization and that it may be offered to other PROBUS clubs and/or the general public.*

**CANXPLORE**

**Escorted Small Group Day Tours**



## SPRING GARDEN TOUR

**Thursday, June 15th, 2023**

### ROYAL BOTANICAL GARDENS

- Visit Hendrie Park and Laking Garden

### WHISTLING GARDENS

- Picnic lunch and guided tour

### NORTHLAND NURSERY

- huge selection of unique and interesting plants for purchase

**\$125<sup>pp</sup>**  
tax incl.

**Activity Level:** Active (walking for extended periods)

**Price:** \$125 per person, tax included, due upon booking

Email [cathy@canxplore.com](mailto:cathy@canxplore.com) to book

CanXplore - 145 West Side Drive, Bowmanville, ON t. 289.275.1182  
TICO #50025952 [www.canxplore.com](http://www.canxplore.com)