

PROBUS Club of Saint John
Monthly Meeting
February 21st, 2018

The regular monthly meeting of the PROBUS Club of Saint John was held Wednesday, February 21st, 2018, at the Boys and Girls Club. President Ed O'Keefe called the meeting to order at 10.05 a.m., with some 28 members and guests in attendance. With Murray Driscoll at the piano, Gordon Moulard lead us in singing "O Canada", and the sing-a-long.

We stood for a minute of silence in memory of Lester Mott, long time PROBUS member. President Ed mentioned he had presented the Mott family with Lester's PROBUS name tag.

Secretary Willard Buckley asked for approval of the Minutes of the January 17th, 2018 meeting, as issued in "The Phoghorn", pending any errors or omissions. There being none, Fenton Keirstead made motion for approval, seconded by Gordon Dempsey, passed by the membership.

President Ed thanked Tom Craig for the February issue of "The Phoghorn", complete with pictures and story on the "Probus" coin. He also mentioned that as March is PROBUS month, the PROBUS flag would be flown at City Hall, Saint John, on March 19th. As the Women's PROBUS Club have half ownership of the flag, they are to be invited for the flag raising as well. Secretary Willard to pass on the invitation.

Bill Covert read a February 21st, 1828, article from "Saint John Snippets", by David Goss, as well as a June 20th, 1877 report on the Great Saint John Fire. Brian Mitchell reported Bob James is waiting for a nursing home placement; George McCaughey mentioned Len Kinsella is recovering from back surgery; David Flewelling on Bill Banbury,, suggested Bill would not be able to return to PROBUS.

As Treasurer Don Mitchener was unable to attend, there was not a Financial Report, but President Ed stated there was no change from the January report. John Doyle reminded us of the speakers for the next 3 months: March – Irish month with Harold Wright and entertainment from Barry Snodgrass and Ron Watters; April – Beverly Franklin on the Fundy Trail; May – Bernie Cormier, magician and mentalist.

Due to illness, Dale Stevens was unable to attend, but sent a report on Membership, noting 10 new members (Tony Brooke, Clayton Daye, Harry Follett, John Johnson, Chip Lawton, Don LeBlanc, Sherman Palmer, Gary Watson and Chester Young), as well as 7 returning members (Bob Capson, Murray Driscoll, Dr, Michael

England, Frank Ervin, Ron Lister, Frank Setchell and Jim Young).

President Ed noted we had 2 guests – Robyn Humphries and David Jory, both agreeing to membership at our March meeting.

Carl Tompkins amused us with his Allegedly Fabulous Funnies.

David Flewelling won the draw of \$83.00 (\$103.00 less \$20.00 withheld).

Our special speaker, introduced by Don LeBlanc, was our own Keith Dow, who spoke on the events surrounding the 1755 expulsion and 1764 return of the Acadians. An active question period followed. Gordon Dempsey thanked Keith for his detailed account, presenting him with our Club Anniversary mug.

Meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

About 19 members stayed for the optional lunch of roast beef and vegetables, along with desert.

Respectfully submitted

Willard Buckley

Secretary