



**PROBUS**

***The “PHOGHORN  
Newsletter”***

**Saint John, NB CANADA**

**JULY—2020**

**Monthly Edition**

Volume 27—#11

All PROBUS meetings are cancelled until  
further notice due to the COVID-19 VIRUS



# "THE PHOGHORN"



*A Professional and Business Retirees Club.*

## **PROBUS Monthly Newsletter**

PROBUS Club Membership #026. Published by **PROBUS Club** of Saint John, NB E2L 3V9

Meetings are at the *Canada Best Value Inn on Main St, next to the Lord Beaverbrook Arena*, every third Wednesday of the month, 10:00 am. Website <http://www.sjprobus.ca> --- **PROBUS CANADA** website [www.probus.org](http://www.probus.org)

**Volume 27—#11 .... JULY 2020**

### *2019—2020 Executive members*

*Don LeBlanc* ----- President  
*Ed O'Keefe* ----- Past president  
**John Andrews -1<sup>st</sup> Vice President** (to be confirmed by vote)  
**Peter Morris -2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President** (to be confirmed by vote)  
*Robert Taylor* -----Treasurer  
*Chip Lawton* -----Secretary



**President Don LeBlanc in the chair**

### **Presidents' Report.**

Fellow Probus members; I hope that you are well! Our Club has been meeting as Executive and Committee Chairs to deal with changes that will be required going into our new Probus Year in September. We will assume that our Provincial orders will continue as now in place- so subject to that condition; we intend to begin holding physical gatherings.

**FURTHER-** we have been advised that the **B&G Club** will be unavailable to us for the foreseeable future. We have created a management group for reviewing possible sites and for handling Protocols- which have been led by John Doyle, Thomas Craig, and Ron Pearce. We will begin gradually Sept 15th for a "dry run" -with Executive and Committee Chairs (no speaker)-located at the *Canada Best Value Inn on Main St SJ*. This hotel was known as the **Fort Howe Hotel**.

All may attend- but kindly be aware that if you feel that you have additional health vulnerability or any type of a "cold"-  
**Please DO NOT Attend.**

We will plan to maintain social distancing and to maintain Provincial Protocols. (i.e.: max attendance is 50) It is felt however that notwithstanding all the above - Probus's "social -seniors value proposition "is substantial and is worthwhile maintaining even under limiting conditions.

There will be a fixed Menu offered at lunch (several selections-6)- and at a very reasonable price (\$14 gratuity included.

Tea and coffee will be offered but at an extra cost. Cost is to the PROBUS Club so please put some coins in the container provided. It is planned that the coffee will be outside the meeting room. We will have more on that later.

Lunch as always will be optional.

Very warm regards; *Don LeBlanc* Club President



# PROBUS CANADA

## "NEWSLETTER"

Published for the Members of PROBUS Clubs in Canada by PROBUS CANADA

May, 2020



**PRESIDENT**  
**JAMIE DOOLITTLE**

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I am honoured and privileged for the confidence your Board of Directors has placed in me and also delighted to be your President for the next 12 months. During the last four years while serving as one of thirteen Directors, at various times I have pondered why I became a Director. The answer is easy. The thirteen of us who are Directors are there because we care. Our goal is to have all retired and semi-retired individuals in Canada and Maine enjoy the benefits of the fun and fellowship we have had and continue to have in PROBUS. I have learned an enormous amount in the past year from Past President Marlene Pearce. I plan to continue with many of the excellent practices she demonstrated to the Board of Directors and Clubs in PROBUS CANADA. Both Jim DeZorzi and Fred Duck are retiring from the Board of Directors. I thank these gentlemen for their service to PROBUS CANADA including starting new Clubs in their districts and conducting energetic district conferences.

The current COVID-19 pandemic has turned our lives upside down and created days unseen since WWII. The self isolation and distancing is very difficult for all of us. PROBUS members thrive on getting together at meetings and the social events we all enjoy. In the interim before we resume our regular meetings, please keep in touch with your fellow members by telephone, e-mails, skype, zoom, and any other means you are comfortable with using. Communication and caring are synonymous with PROBUS.

We have a great team of members going forward to help PROBUS continue to be a benefit in the year ahead. Lorna Eadie Hocking from the **PROBUS Club of HANOVER AREA** has joined the Board representing Ontario District #5 and Inga Thomson Hilton from the **PROBUS Club of THOMPSON RIVERS** has joined us representing B.C. District #3. The executive are changing as you will note on the next page. Thanks to Past, Past President Bob Boone who enters his final year as the Director of Ontario District #3 and has been our liaison with our ever evolving web team. Marlene Pearce as Past President is now our liaison with the web team. Bob MacNair after two years as our Secretary becomes Vice President, Brenda Andrews continues as our Treasurer, and welcome to Keith McGregor as our Secretary. The remaining six Directors who are listed inside continue to devote themselves to the betterment of PROBUS and I thank all the aforementioned for their dedication. Speaking of dedication, our association is extremely well served by our support staff. Mr Gordon Hutton continues to serve as our Financial Manager and we are grateful for his service. Mr Reg Whynott is our Managing Director and President Emeritus. This gentleman dedicates about 50-60 hours weekly assisting our members and Board of Directors and keeping PROBUS on the rails. Enormous thanks to both of you.

Our growth of Clubs in the past two years approximates a new Club every other month. Presently we have 256 active Clubs in Canada and we are approaching membership totalling 40,000. The pandemic has curtailed our visits and planned opening of new Clubs. However, I am confident that when the shackles of isolationism are released that we will see a continued explosion of new Clubs across Canada. When chatting with your neighbours, friends, and relatives please remind them to keep in touch with you regarding the re-opening of our Clubs.

On a personal note, since leaving Toronto in 2004 to move to Cobourg, Ontario my wife, Carol, and I have benefitted enormously from PROBUS. We knew one other couple in Cobourg 16 years ago. After joining PROBUS in 2008 and being President of a local Club for two years, we can now say that we have hundreds of friends in town and across the country. Thank you PROBUS !! For those of you who have heard me speak, you may recall that I always use the phrase:

**B-A-F B-A-F**

Be a great member of PROBUS and if you see or hear of an individual who is retired or semi-retired and not having the enjoyment you have in PROBUS then .....**BE A FRIEND -- BRING A FRIEND !**

**GET CONNECTED -- STAY CONNECTED**



### Other NEWS on PROBUS, SAINT JOHN

*As you are aware, the local **PROBUS** flag was flown full time at the **Boys & Girls Club**. In May, I noticed it was looking ragged and asked for it to be lowered. In late June it was still up so I dropped in and had it removed. The right hand of the flag was in bad shape with parts missing. No doubt this was caused by the winter weather storms. I believe the flag can be fixed and I will seek out the local shop to see what they can do.*

*Good news. The flag is being fixed as you read this edition. Cost is only about \$13.00. Here are a couple photos on its condition.*



*Damage on the left & right sides, probably due to the winter storms over the past year.*



*This is what the flag will look like once it is repaired. Flag will be used indoor at out meetings.*

### BILL COVERT NEWS

*As it was reported previously, **Bill** was somewhat stranded in Australia when this pandemic struck and almost all air travel was suspended. **Bill** now informs me he hopes to travel, by way **Hong Kong, to Vancouver**, and then on to **Toronto** and then **Saint John** to make it home soon.*

**PROBUS member is moving to his original homeland, USA.**

*Our PROBUS club is losing another newer member. **Larry Krogsdale**, former CEO of **Connors Brothers**, in **Blacks Harbour**. Larry was here for a short time and his contract has expired. So, with that in mind, he will be moving to Texas once his home sells in Rothesay. Bill related he like what he sees in our club. He was one of the best.*

**Don Connolly**

*It is with great sadness to report **Anne Connolly** passed away this week who is the wife of PROBUS member **Don Connolly**. Our thoughts & condolences go out to **Don** for his loss on behalf of the **PROBUS** club.*

**This was published in The Globe & Mail NEWSPAPER ON June 06, 2020**



**THANK YOU  
FOR KEEPING US SAFE**



Over 40,000 seniors who gather in friendship and learning in the 256 PROBUS clubs across Canada want to express our heartfelt appreciation to the front line and essential workers keeping us safe during the current pandemic.

Our thanks to all members of the medical community who are placing themselves at risk, those who provide the services to keep our homes functioning, and those who maintain the food supply chain without which we could not survive. Our thanks also to the combined efforts of every level of government and the companies who have collaborated to ease the financial burdens faced by so many at this time.

**You make us incredibly proud and grateful to be Canadians**

**PROBUS CANADA** Get connected - Stay connected  
for further information [www.probus.org](http://www.probus.org)





Would you do this?

Scientists say the universe  
is made up of Protons,  
Neutrons and Electrons.  
They forgot to mention  
Morons.



So true!



Now this is a bargain, don't you think?



OH!!!!

## Life like that

*Every ten years, the monks in the monastery can break their vow of silence to speak two words.*

*Ten years go by, and its one monk's first chance. He thinks long and hard before telling the head monk, "**Food bad**".*

*Ten years later it is his turn to speak again. This time he says, "**Bed hard**". A decade later, it is the big day again. The man gives the head monk a long stare and says, "**I quit**".*

*"Well, I am not surprised", the head monk stated, "you been complaining ever since you got here"*

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*Today I finished a 700-page book on my medical exam. It was the wrong book!*

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### OVERHEARD ON THE JOB:

Boss to Line Worker:

*I need you to do such and such.*

Line worker: *You did not say the "P" word.*

Boss: *paycheck!*

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*Today I went to McDonalds drive through in just a shirt and underwear thinking I would not be seeing anyone. Then, I got into an accident.*

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*My sister tried on my brother's new eyeglasses and asked how she looked. "very astute", I replied  
Annoyed, she shot back,  
"I think I look intelligent"*

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*A customer said she was looking for a book. She could not remember the title, author, or plot,  
But she said, "the cover was RED"*

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*A restaurant posts a sign that says "We'll give you \$500.00 if we fail to fill your order. A cocky customer decides to put the policy to a test by ordering elephant ears on Rye bread. The waitress takes the order to the kitchen. Seconds later, the owner storms out of the kitchen, goes to the customer's table and slams down the \$500.00. "You got me" he tells the customer. But I want you to know this is the first time we ran out of "**Rye bread**".*

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### **The Age of Reason**

*I keep getting asked, 'What's the secret of your longevity'?"  
I say, "I've haven't died yet."*

**BILLY JOEL**

*These glorious insults are from an era before the English language got boiled down to 4-letter words.*

*"He has all the virtues I dislike and none of the vices I admire."*  
- Winston Churchill

*"Thank you for sending me a copy of your book; I'll waste no time reading it."*  
-Moses Hadas

*"I didn't attend the funeral, but I sent a nice letter saying I approved of it."*  
-Mark Twain

*"I am enclosing two tickets to the first night of my new play; bring a friend, if you have one."*  
-George Bernard Shaw to Winston Churchill

*"Cannot possibly attend first night, will attend second... if there is one."*  
-Winston Churchill, in response

*"His mother should have thrown him away and kept the stork."*  
-Mae West

*"I've had a perfectly wonderful evening. But I'm afraid this wasn't it."*  
-Groucho Marx





The intent is to keep the lines of communications open amongst **PROBUS MEMBERS**. If you have any information about other PROBUS members, such as birthdays, hospital stays, etc. and would like to share that with other members, by all means drop me an email and I will be only too happy to put that news in the next edition of *The Phoghorn Newsletter*.



*Tom Craig*  
The Phoghorn Newsletter.  
July 09, 2020