



# The PROBUS Pilot



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

September 2023

Vol:15 No:1

Tuesday, September 12

## Gary Smith: Ice War Diplomat

### Hockey Meets Cold War Politics at the 1972 Summit Series

**Gary J. Smith** is a former Canadian Career Ambassador and Diplomat with over 30 years of service beginning in 1968. More than 20 years were spent abroad at: the United Nations in New York; the Soviet Union during the Cold War; NATO Headquarters in Brussels; Israel, during the return of Sinai to Egypt; India, following the Air India explosion in 1985; Germany, when the Berlin Wall fell; Indonesia, during the collapse of the Suharto Regime.



He has contributed to a variety of publications on international security as well three ambassadorial essays in the books “Declassified” and “Not Mentioned in Dispatches”. He is the author of “Ice War Diplomat: Hockey Meets Cold War Politics at the 1972 Summit Series”.

Gary was a diplomat at the Canadian embassy in Moscow from 1971 to 1974. He was instrumental in making the 1972 Canadian-Soviet Hockey Series happen—and keeping it from falling apart.

For the return games in Moscow, he assisted Team Canada as a Russian speaker from the Canadian Embassy and participated in all off-ice disputes and negotiations, as he had in the many months leading up to the series.

This series was also used as part of the détente efforts by former Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau to find common ground with the USSR—to ease tensions and reduce the risk of nuclear or conventional war following the Cuban missile crisis of 1962 and the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia in 1968.

It is a case of classic sports diplomacy at its best. Stereotypes were broken down. The Canadian players became household names in Soviet homes and on Russian frozen parking lots, as did the names of Soviet players in Canada. Hockey internationalized from that moment. In time, Russian players came to Canada and the United States and starred on NHL teams. The heated rivalry between the 1972 players transformed into mutual respect. Anniversary celebrations were held in 2012 and 2017.

But now this hockey bridge, constructed between Canada and the Soviet Union/Russia back in 1972, is in jeopardy due to Russia’s unprovoked invasion of Ukraine.

Gary lives in Perth, Ontario. His book, “Ice War Diplomat”, will be available at the meeting for \$25 (cash only) or from the publisher, [Douglas and McIntyre](#), or from Amazon Canada.

The Probus Club of Western Ottawa is part of the international organization of Probus Clubs designed to serve retired and semi-retired professional, business and like-minded people. The morning begins at 10:00 am with a time for coffee and socialization followed by our meeting at 10:30 which includes a guest speaker.

Probus Western Ottawa meets the second Tuesday of the month at

Kanata Baptist Church,  
465 Hazeldean Road

#### Upcoming Speaker Schedule

**Oct 10:** Elliana Kleiner  
“Living Well on Retirement Income”

**Nov 14:** Johanna Lemke  
“Enemy Under Our Roof”  
A memoir of Nazi occupation.

**Dec 12:** Karen McMorine & Rick Johnston  
“Refugees in Canada”

## The Prez Sez



Welcome back everyone to another year of fellowship, friendship and fun. To the right is a listing of your new executive team and below, a group photo.

Volunteering is a great way to meet people and we still have some vacancies on the management committee. Please support your club by volunteering even if you can only manage a part time commitment. Fresh ideas are always appreciated.

We're prevailing on past expertise to maintain our web site and newsletter, but these folks have served the club for many years and would appreciate a break.

The lack of a vice-president is very worrying as there is no one to take over the presidency next year.

**Please support your club.** Speak to me at a meeting or send me an email if you have any interest and/or wish more information.

Ray Jones,  
[president@probuswesternottawa.ca](mailto:president@probuswesternottawa.ca)

### Your 2023-2024 Executive

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

President:	<b>Ray Jones</b>
Vice President:	<b>Vacant</b>
Past President	<b>Peter van Boeschoten</b>
Secretary:	<b>Marg Demers</b>
Treasurer:	<b>Bryan Wakeford</b>
Membership:	<b>Ruth Wakeford &amp; Annette Lindsay</b>
Speaker Program:	<b>Beth Sweetnam</b>
Lunches:	<b>Vacant</b>
Outings:	<b>George Steeves</b>
Newsletter:	<b>Vacant</b>
Website:	<b>Vacant</b>
Policy Advisor:	<b>Peter Doyle</b>
Coffee Coordinators	<b>Shanna &amp; Walter Lucas</b>
Member-at-Large	<b>Pat Hunter</b>
Setup Crew	<b>Peter Durose &amp; David Stafford</b>
Euchre Club	<b>Barbara Bole &amp; David Stafford</b>
Cards and letters	<b>Betty Jean Bone</b>
Publicity:	<b>Vacant</b>



**L-R Front:** Beth Sweetnam, Marg Demers, Pat Hunter, Peter Durose, Ruth Wakeford, Shanna Lucas  
**L-R Rear:** George Steeves, Peter van Boeschoten, Annette Lindsay, Barbara Bole, David Stafford, Ray Jones, Bryan Wakeford, Walter Lucas

## Membership fees are due - \$25

Payment may be made either by cheque or with cash. Cheques should be made out to Probus Western Ottawa. Treasurer Bryan Wakeford will be at meetings before and after to accept your payment. This is also a good time to update your email address and other particulars.

Another way to pay your dues is via e-Transfer to [membership@probuswesternottawa.ca](mailto:membership@probuswesternottawa.ca). Detailed e-transfer instructions can be found [HERE](#). Please indicate the names of all persons you are submitting fees for in the message field.

**Probus Club of Western Ottawa  
Financial Statement For Fiscal year 2022-23**

**Opening balance July 31, 2022** **\$2,422.82**

**Revenue**

Membership	\$3,725.00
Xmas lunch	\$1,880.00
June Lunch	\$1,160.00
Tour and badges	\$660.00
snail mail surcharges	<u>\$40.00</u>

**Total** **\$7,465.00**

**Expenses**

Speakers and lunches	\$1,155.00
Probus Canada	\$423.00
AV equipment	\$1,545.00
KBC facility fee	\$775.00
KBC donation	\$250.00
Web hosting	\$360.00
Xmas lunch	\$1,880.00
June Lunch	\$1,280.00
Tour expenses	\$360.00
Badge subsidies	\$410.00
Coffee	\$170.00
Miscellaneous	\$244.00
Bank Charges	<u>\$30.00</u>

**Total expenses** **\$8,882.00**

**Fiscal year deficit** **-\$1,417.00** **-\$1,417.00**

**Bank balance July 31, 2023** **\$1,005.82**



## Euchre Players!

A reminder to regular members and an invitation to new members...

You just have to be a Probus member. We're a friendly group and play for enjoyment!

Hope to see you on **Friday, September 8** at 12:30 for coffee and light refreshments plus a social time. Games begin at 1 p.m.

**Please note:**

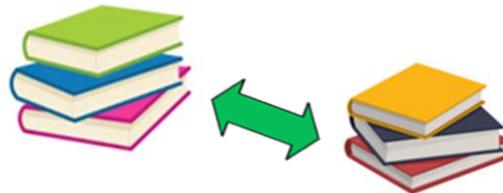
**Our October date has been changed to Friday, October 6**

The Probus euchre group meets monthly at the Bells Corners United Church, 3955 Old Richmond Road (at Moodie).

For further information, please contact Barbara or David Stafford at [bbole@sympatico.ca](mailto:bbole@sympatico.ca) or phone 613-592-0296.

### Bring a book

... take a book



Check out our book swap table at every meeting

**Pat Hunter and Barbara Bole**  
will be representing our club at

**Kanata Expo 55+**

Macak Community Centre  
2500 Campeau Drive  
Friday, September 15, 1:00-3:30 pm

Drop by and say hello

Learn about programs and services  
offered to Kanata residents

*Hosted by Cathy Curry  
Kanata North Councillor*

*After our meeting*

Join us for lunch at  
[Busters Bar and Grill](#)  
420 Hazeldean road  
at noon



**Sign up** (via show of hands)  
**at the September meeting**

*Welcome*  
to our  
**New Members**

The following new members joined  
Probus Western Ottawa in June:

**Mary Pearson**  
**Sylvia Blakeburn**

## Images from Our June Meeting



Our District Director, Craig Greenwood, presenting our president, Ray Jones with a certificate honouring our club's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary



Our June speaker, Sandra Hawkins, began her presentation with images from her arctic expedition to Spitzbergen. As an artist she explained how the experience affected her view of the changing environment. She then showed how she incorporated these images with nautical maps and cloaked boats as part of her *In Search of Bearings* Exhibition. Visit her website at [sandrahawkins.ca](http://sandrahawkins.ca).



Our in-house June Catered luncheon had 64 attendees. Food was provided by [Leatherworks](http://Leatherworks) and greatly enjoyed.



### Thursday, September 21

#### **NCC Beaver Trail walk Off Moodie Drive 10:30 a.m.**

Join us for a leisurely 2.5 Km walk on a smooth trail and some boardwalks. The trail starts at the NCC parking lot **P8** which is just south of Hunt Club Road on Moodie Drive.

Bring your camera, food for birds, chipmunks

We will go rain or shine, so dress appropriately.

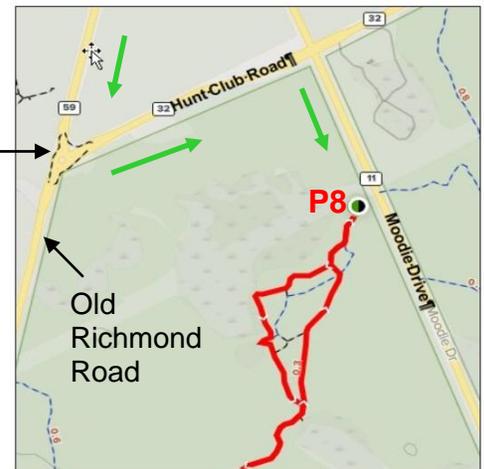
Sign up at the September meeting or email [outings@probustwesternottawa.ca](mailto:outings@probustwesternottawa.ca)

Some comments from recent visitors:

*"Very nice walk - lots of chipmunks (eat out of your hand) and all the birds - cardinal-chickadees-pileated woodpeckers- new floral growth.... great walk"*

*"Beautiful hiking trail and lots of wildlife. We saw chipmunks and fed the chickadees. They come to you if you hold out your hand with bird seed. It's definitely an experience you don't want to miss!"*

**Note:** to get to this part of Moodie & P8 you have to take the traffic circle at Old Richmond Road and Hunt Club)



### Lunch after our walk

Please join us at ...



**Moose McGuire's**  
South end of the Hazeldean Mall parking lot

## Sunday, September 10



### Humanics Sanctuary and Sculpture Park Special Event

3468 Old Montreal road -- Just east of Cumberland – about a 40 minutes drive from Kanata.

Last May, a number of our members visited this unique and exotic park filled with dozens of sculptures. Linda Miller-Nesbitt organized that tour and has just alerted us about this special free event, called “Grandparents Day”.

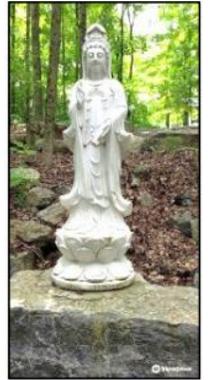
This heartfelt event is to honour the intergenerational bond between grandparents and grandchildren and promises to be a fun day for all.

There will be board games, face painting, arts and crafts, bouncy castles, mini-putt, guided tours and dialogues led by the Curator of the park Dr. Ranjit Perera. There will also be meals available for sale featuring hot dogs, hamburgers, veggie burgers, ice cream and soft drinks, or you may also bring your own picnic.

Please pre-register for your free tickets on Eventbrite by clicking on the link below. You will also see details about activity timings and a link to Google directions. Attendance will be restricted.

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/grandparents-day-tickets-706763347197>

You are welcome to share this information with your friends and family. If you have any questions, email [humanics.admn@gmail.com](mailto:humanics.admn@gmail.com), and they will get back to you as soon as possible.



### The Car Surgeon

## Chuckle Corner

A mechanic was removing a cylinder head from the motor of a Lamborghini, when he spotted a well-known heart surgeon in his shop...

The surgeon was waiting for the service manager to take a look at his car, when the mechanic shouted across the garage, “Hey, Doc, can I ask you a question?”

The surgeon, a bit surprised, walked over to where the mechanic was working on the car.

The mechanic straightened up, wiped his hands on a rag, and said, “So, Doc, look at this engine.. ”

“I open its heart, take valves out, fix them, put them back in, and when I finish, it works just like new.”

“So how come I get such a small salary and you get the really big bucks, when you and I are doing basically the same thing?”

The surgeon paused, smiled, leaned over, then whispered to the mechanic,

“Try doing it with the engine running.”

### Clever Business Names



Membership inquiries may be sent to [membership@probuswesternottawa.ca](mailto:membership@probuswesternottawa.ca)

Our Website  
[www.probuswesternottawa.ca](http://www.probuswesternottawa.ca)

Newsletter comments or submissions  
[newsletter@probuswesternottawa.ca](mailto:newsletter@probuswesternottawa.ca)