



The PROBUS Pilot



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

OCTOBER 2024

Vol:16 No:2

Tuesday 8 October

Fighting fraud: *If it sounds “too good to be true”... it probably is*

Did you know, only about 5% of Frauds and Scams are reported?

Police, Including the O.P.P., have seen an increase in reported FRAUDS (Scams) with hundreds of thousands of dollars being lost to various scams occurring in our communities. Safeguarding yourself and your loved ones is key to combatting this rising trend, which too often targets the vulnerable and trusting members of our communities.

Everyone, regardless of age, can take many basic steps to better protect themselves from becoming victims of fraud.

This presentation, by a member of the O.P.P., will explain some of the more common Scams and Frauds that are becoming increasingly familiar. It will



offer advice and suggestions on being aware, prepared and able to spot these attempts to steal money from us. As we go through the presentation together questions and comments are very welcome and hopefully, we can all learn from each other.

Above all, this O.P.P. presentation will show that we are ALL vulnerable to these ever-changing Scams and if you have already sent funds, don't be embarrassed - you're not alone. Let's Fight Fraud together!

Staff Sergeant Chris Sturgeon is the Commander of the Ottawa OPP detachment Auxiliary Unit and has been with the OPP since 2007. In his rank of Staff Sergeant, Chris commands auxiliary constables and sergeants at the Ottawa detachment.

Chris patrols and assists at various detachments in the region including Lanark County and enjoys meeting people and exploring the area at events and on various patrol shifts including Marine, ATV, traffic enforcement and foot patrol.

Chris is trained as an Aerospace Engineer and has a background in building, testing and launching satellites into space and also worked on aircraft satellite communications systems.

He lives in the Stittsville area and is very pleased to support and present crime prevention and education programs on behalf of the police to the public across the region.



Tuesday 1 October

Beaver Pond Walk

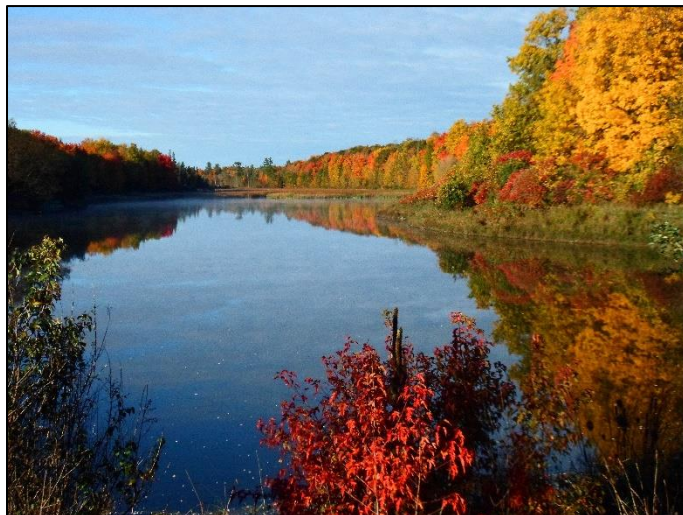
Meet at 10:30 am

Join us for a leisurely 2.5km walk on a smooth trail around the Kanata Beaver Pond. Please meet at the pond off Walden Dr. Parking along the road.

Bring your camera.

We will go rain or shine, so dress appropriately.

[Map in website](#)



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

**Kanata Baptist Church
465 Hazeldean Road**

The Prez Sez



Hello everyone.

For October we are trying out a new idea – a pop-up outing. The idea is an eleventh-hour notification of an event requiring no registration. Our first pop-up is a hike around the Beaver Pond in Kanata, rain or shine. It will take place on Tuesday, October 1st! Details are in this newsletter as well as on our website.

Also on our website is Gord Larose's presentation in September on the current state of Artificial Intelligence. Be sure to check out the robotic video on slide 12 (the link may take few seconds to come up) – it's amazing!

There is now an official PROBUS Canada YouTube channel (<https://www.youtube.com/@PROBUS-Canada>). A couple of very brief promotional videos are on the channel and the Club Management

Team Training Video can be accessed using the link (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HqbQAki4x5I>) (may be slow to come up)

At the last meeting, we announced that a new member, Peter Weir, will be our newsletter editor. He comes with a wealth of experience as the newsletter editor for the Rideau Trail Association.

I hate to sound like a broken record, but we still have open positions on the Executive Committee: i.e., **Audio/Video Setup, Website Maintenance and Publicity.** We're backfilling as best we can with Management Committee members who have other responsibilities, but it is not fair to put an extra load on them. If we have a sufficient number of volunteers, that lightens the work for everyone.

PLEASE HELP YOUR CLUB!

Ray Jones
president@probustwesternottawa.ca

Membership fees are due now

It's time to renew your membership. Dues have not increased and are still only \$25.

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

Another alternative is to pay your dues via e-Transfer to membership@probustwesternottawa.ca

Detailed e-Transfer instructions can be found [HERE](#). Make sure to indicate the names of all persons for whom you are submitting fees.

After the meeting Join us for lunch

Join us for lunch after our October meeting. Often our speaker agrees to join us. This month we will be at:

Busters Bar & Grill
420 Hazeldean Road
www.bustersbarandgrill.ca/



Our Golf outing featured two Probust foursomes at the Marchwood Golf Course last month. Relaxing afterward were (clockwise from lower left:) Shanna Lucas, Peter Doyle, Ray Jones, Andrew Glen, Stan Senkowski, Richard Jamison, Syd Georgekishwatt and Walter Lucas.

Join us on 11 Oct. for monthly Euchre

Where: Bells Corner United Church,
3955 Old Richmond Road
at Moodie Drive.

Time: 12:30 for social
time, coffee:

Games begin at 1 p.m.

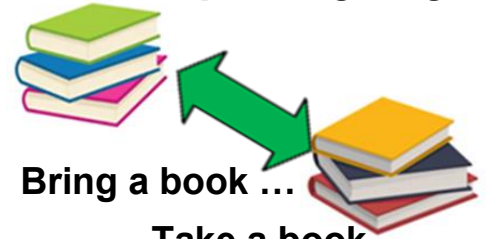
Everyone is welcome,
even if you have never
played!

Easy to learn and we will teach you!
You just have to be a Probust
member!

For further information, feel free to
contact Barbara or David Stafford
at (bbole@sympatico.ca)



Let's keep this going



Bring a book ...

...Take a book

**Check out our book swap
table at every meeting**

Don't miss our upcoming speakers

Nov 12: Richard Mayne
"100th Anniversary of the RCAF"

Dec 10: Charlotte Gray
"Passionate Mothers, Powerful Sons; How Mothers Make a Difference"



We like to send a card when someone is ill, hospitalized, in need of a comforting word or on the occasion of a significant milestone.

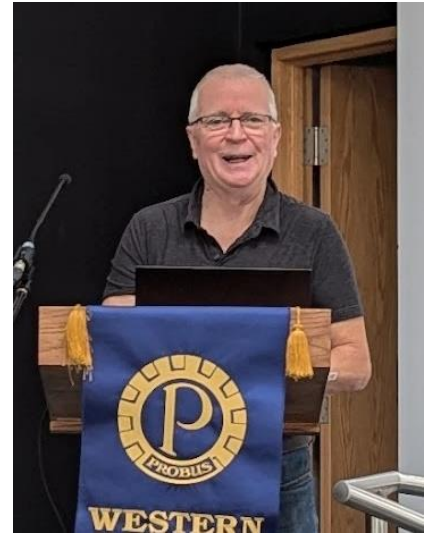
If you know of someone who would appreciate receiving a **card**, please call Betty Jean Bone at 613-721-5536 or email:

cards@probuswesternottawa.ca

Artificial Intelligence presentation was informative and well-received

Artificial intelligence (AI) was the topic of Gord Larose's presentation at our September meeting. He traced the history of AI from Greece, through the Middle Ages to early computers and finally to the present day where AI is everywhere. He described the [ChatGPT](#) website and his favourite [perplexity](#). Gord then went on to explain the tie into applications such as Alexa and driverless cars.

He described the wide scope of AI from languages to images, to medicine and so much more. Finally, he outlined some potential issues before going into the future possibilities. Gord's full presentation with embedded links can be found [HERE](#).



Make sure to visit our website

Our club has a website to keep you up to date on speakers, activities, photos, our organization, and other information. It can be found at: www.probuswesternottawa.ca

Make sure that you bookmark this location so that you don't have to keep typing it in. The left-side menu lets you go to any of the featured pages.

The website has a link page, not only to Probus Canada and other local Probus Clubs but also to local seniors centres and other seniors organizations.

Do check it out and let us know if we should add anything.



The Brockville Railway Tunnel was the venue for 29 of our members last month. Brian Porter from the Brockville Probus Club gave us a brief history of the tunnel dating back to 1860. We then proceeded to walk the length of the tunnel as Brian

pointed out various highlights of construction.

Following the tour, we walked up to the 1000 Island Brewing Company and enjoyed some much-needed beverages and a local dining experience.

Welcome, New Members

Yolande Akl
John van Schouwen
Bob Bullock
Kate Goodine
Janice Hatina
Gary Hatina
Lyn Mayer
Tom Dettman
Jan and John Milnes
Tina Nicholson
EllenClare O'Gallagher
Tina Ross
Marion Staidler
Jane Sicotte
Peter Weir
Brenda and David Fairbairn

Wednesday 16 October

Cranberry Farm visit and lunch

Join us in October for a visit to the Upper Canada Cranberry Farm. It is the only commercial cranberry grower in Eastern Ontario and only one of 3 in the province.

In 2008, the Farm introduced a small line of delicious and unique-tasting cranberry products under the Slate's brand - Cranberry Sauce, Cranberry Jam, Cranberry Chutney and Cranbee - a refreshing cranberry drink. Then came dried cranberries, and so much more.

www.uc-cranberries.com

2283 Stagecoach Road, Greely, Ont., just a twelve-minute drive south of the Ottawa International Airport

Meet at 10:30 am,

Lunch to Follow at

CreekSide Bar & Grill, 5511 Main St., Manotick.

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



Join us for our October lunch-out

Wednesday 23 October

The Black Dog Bistro

5540 Manotick Main Street, Manotick

Casual dining at its' best. Rustic, robust and a tad eclectic.

www.blackdogbistro.ca

Please sign up at our October meeting or via email to lunches@probuswesternottawa.ca



EXPO 55+ at the Mlacak Centre was well attended by seniors. Marg Demers and Annette Lindsay answered questions from prospective members at our Probud table.

Chuckle Corner

A young man was walking through a supermarket to pick up a few things when he noticed an old lady following him around. Thinking nothing of it, he ignored her and continued on.

Finally, he went to the checkout line, but she got in front of him.

"Pardon me," she said, "I'm sorry if my staring at you has made you feel uncomfortable. It's just that you look just like my son, who just died recently."

"I'm very sorry," replied the young man, "is there anything I can do for you?" "Yes," she said, "As I'm leaving, can you say 'Goodbye, Mother'? It would make me feel so much better."

"Sure," answered the young man.

As the old woman was leaving, he called out, "Goodbye, Mother!"

As he stepped up to the checkout counter, he saw that his total was \$127.50. "How can that be?" He asked, "I only purchased a few things!"

"Your mother said that you would pay for her," said the clerk.

Membership inquiries may be sent to membership@probuswesternottawa.ca

Our Website
www.probuswesternottawa.ca

Newsletter comments or submissions
newsletter@probuswesternottawa.ca