



The PROBUS Pilot



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

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How can we preserve and expand affordable housing in Ottawa?

We know that affordable housing in Ottawa is in short supply. Between 2011 and 2021, over 36,500 affordable homes renting for under \$1,000 per month were lost in Ottawa. This is many times more than the number of new affordable homes that were created during this period.

How might we preserve affordable homes, and even grow the number of permanently affordable homes under community ownership? The Ottawa Community Land Trust (OCLT) is a nonprofit organization devoted to this work and to engaging the community in working together to develop the mechanisms to achieve this mission.

This presentation will outline OCLT's efforts with the community to raise capital, acquire land, preserve affordable housing, and strengthen the community housing sector.

Mike Bulthuis has worked with the Ottawa Community Land Trust (OCLT) since December, 2022. Throughout the previous 20 years, he worked in various positions at the intersection of policy, research and community development. He has held roles within the federal public service developing policy on issues including homelessness, social finance, social innovation and



Mike Bulthuis

infrastructure and several leadership positions in the non-profit environment, including those with Ottawa's Alliance to End Homelessness, and with the Canadian Observatory on Homelessness. He is committed to the preservation and expansion of affordable housing.

The Prez Sez



Hello everyone.

I hope you all enjoyed the long Easter weekend.

What a meeting we had in April! It was quite a scramble getting ready given the major snowstorm and missing executive members. Critically, our speaker (Lola Allin) and Audio/Video person (David Lee) made it in on time. Our Membership /Treasurer team (Ruth/Bryan Wakeford) were snowed in. Fortunately, Annette Lindsay arrived and was able to greet and register our 3 visitors and one new member. Shanna & Walter Lucas

were snowed in so I made the coffee and my wife Marjorie did much of the cleanup. Ron Armstrong was there so ticket sales for our June catered lunch were able to proceed. Our Outings coordinator, George Steeves, facing hip surgery, wisely decided not to chance coming in. Suma Abraham (Lunches) and Ruth Brydon (book swap table) managed to get in.

All in all, 55 members, half our usual attendance, braved the elements and were treated to an amazing presentation from our speaker.

The latest view of next year's Executive Committee is shown

on the next page. Without a Secretary, someone else on the executive will need to take on this role, which is not fair to them. Without volunteers to lead Outings, there won't be any. But, most critically, without someone on Audio/Visual, we may need to cancel meetings – a real blow to our club's reputation and a terrible way to treat our speaker!

Please consider a position, even if you can't be available all the time. If you have questions about what each role requires, check out the role descriptions [here](#). If willing to help, please contact me either in person at meetings or via email to ...

Ray Jones
president@probuswesternottawa.ca

June meeting to finalize Board for next year

Vacancies must be filled if Probus is to continue in the Fall

At our AGM in June, we will need to finalize our Management Board for next year. Without filling several key positions, it will be difficult to provide the support for the many activities that our members come to expect.

We now need people to step up. We are a fun group, and this is a great opportunity to get involved. If you can't do it, nominate someone else.

Tentative Executive for 2025-26			
President	David Lee	Policy Advisor	Peter Doyle
Vice President	Vacant	Webmaster	Peter van Boeschoten
Past President	Ray Jones	Newsletter Editor	Peter van Boeschoten
Treasurer	Bryan Wakeford	Publicity	Vacant
Secretary	Vacant	Member at large	Ruth Brydon (book swap)
Membership	Ruth Wakeford Annette Lindsay	Video, Audio setup	2 Vacant
Speaker Program	Tom Lukowski,	Coffee	Shanna & Walter Lucas Stan & Anne Senkowski
Lunches	Suma Abraham 1 Vacant	Cards & Letters	Betty Jean Bone
Outings	2 Vacant	Euchre	Barbara Bole David Stafford

Women in aviation talk well received

Despite the snow, many members attended to hear an enthusiastic Lola Reid Allin speak about her career and the history of women in aviation. She recalled the many women who pioneered and took the first steps, from the first female pilot to fly across the English Channel in 1912 to female astronauts today. She noted that we have made significant progress in eliminating the stigma and making an aviation career a reality for women. Career opportunities are now available for female pilots in the military, with airlines, and as instructors in flying schools. Pilots are no longer mistaken for flight attendants. Her book, *Highway to the Sky: An Aviator's Journey*, can be ordered [here](#).



End of year luncheon

Following our June meeting

After our June 10 meeting, we will have a catered luncheon to end the year. Our caterer will be Leatherworks, offering a variety of wraps, salads, desserts and coffee. The luncheon will be in the Church Hall on the other side of the foyer from the sanctuary.

This event is a great opportunity to close out our year and socialize with other club members before we break for the summer.

Tickets are only \$20 and available at the May meeting. Pay with cash, cheque or via e-transfer to membership@probuswesternottawa.ca (ETF instructions can be found [here](#).)

Reservations close on June 1st.

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, to Probus Canada and other local Probus

Clubs, as well as local seniors centres and seniors organizations.

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 with a time for socialization followed by a guest speaker
Western Ottawa Probus meets at

Kanata Baptist Church
465 Hazeldean Road

Special Interest Groups: Lots of interest but little action

Hello everyone.

There wasn't much activity in April – 4 new signatures and two removals.

Of the 14 groups having 4 or more members, now only 6 have identified a Prime Contact. To clarify the role again, the Prime Contact

- 1) maintains the email list of current SIG members
- 2) is aware of activities taking place
- 3) is the contact person for any request for more information about the group

The role is NOT to be responsible for all activities within the group. That is the shared responsibility of group members.

Who's in My Group?

In last month's newsletter, I discussed strategies for meeting others in your group. As a member of a group with 4 or more members, you should have received a copy of the SIG signup sheet(s) the last time there were new signatures. The copies are unfortunately rotated making them hard to read, but if you save the file, then select and open it, you can counter-rotate the image by entering Ctrl-shift-minus for better viewing. (In future, I hope to provide the proper orientation.) Also, the email that provides the update has all members' email addresses listed in the TO field. (If a couple share an email address, you must consult the sheet image to see both names.)

If you want to send an email to the whole or part of the group, an easy way to do this is to reply-to-all receiving the email. In your reply you can delete TO addresses, change the subject field and even delete the entire previous text field. Another option is to print my email to a pdf file. You can then open that and extract addresses just like text

Newsletter Submissions

Last month, David Lee submitted a short paragraph to our newsletter entitled, "Breakfast Club News". This month there is a photo on the next page. I encourage other groups to provide something similar. Email: newsletter@probuswesternottawa.ca

Ray Jones, President



Bring a book ...

...Take a book

Check out our book swap table at every meeting



Late-Breaking News

Due to a family emergency, **Peter Weir** is no longer available to organize hiking, walking or cycling outings.

Due to hip surgery, **George Steeves** will also not be available to organize cycling outings.

Special Interest Groups			May 2, 2025	
SIG Name	# Participants	Participants Notified	Prime Id'd?	Prime Contact
Art Appreciation	4	Y	Y	June Stewart
Billiards	1	N	Y	Ellen Clare O'Gallagher
Bird Watching	6	Y	N	
Book Club	6	Y	N	
Bowling	1	N	N	
Breakfast Club	19	Y	Y	David Lee
Bridge	3	N	Y	Surinder & Bonnie Khana
Canoeing	0	N	N	
Cycling	5	Y	N	George Steeves Peter Weir Nicola Jarvis
Games Night	4	Y	Y	
Gardening*	0	N	N	
Golf*	0	N	N	
Hiking	20	Y	N	Peter Weir
Kayaking*	0	N	N	
Knitting	1	N	N	
Paddleboarding*	0	N	N	
Pickleball	5	Y	N	
Snowshoeing	2	N	N	
Sommelier & Wine Tasting	3	Y	N	
Theatre Nights	17	Y	N	
Travelers Club	23	Y	Y	Suma Abraham / Tom Wileman
Walking	23	Y	Y	Peter Weir
* Sheet added in April		143	Red text indicates a change from March	

Unhosted May outing

Thursday 15 May

Butterflies in Flight

The Museum of Nature
240 McLeod Street

meet at 10:30 am

Wonders All Around You

Enter a world of brilliant, live butterflies!

Experience the beauty of nature up close as these delicate creatures soar freely.

To visit this spectacular beauty of nature, you must purchase a combo ticket which includes general admission at a cost of \$22.

Parking is available on-site.

This will be a self guided tour. Please wear your Probus member name badges. There will be no sign-up sheet for this event. Also no plans have been made for lunch afterwards.



Join us on 16 May 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 Probus
member!

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



The Probus Breakfast Group met in April for their third outing. This time at Summerhays Grill. If you want to join our outings, please sign up on the Breakfast Club sheet at the May meeting

Monday 19 May

Trillium walk at the Beaver Pond

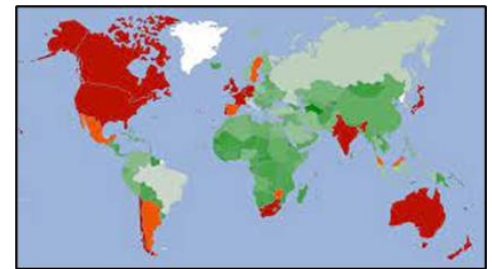
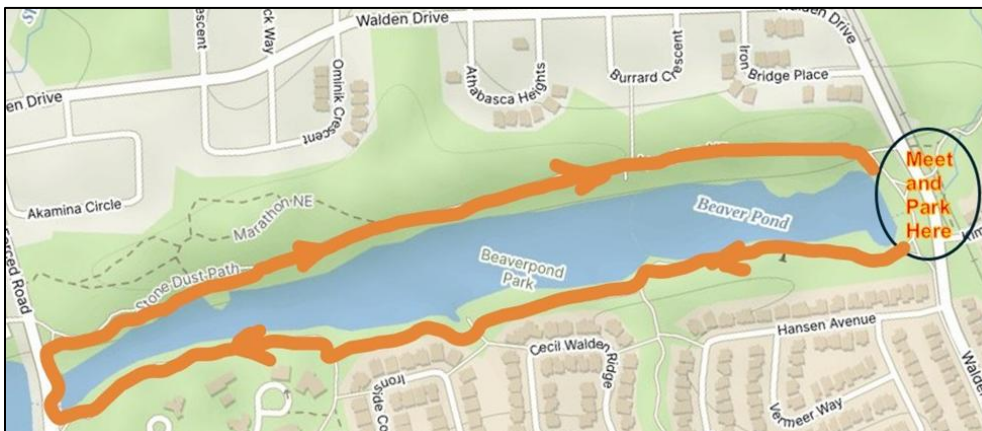
Meet at 10:30 am

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.

Sign up at the May meeting or just
show up.



Probus is truly a global organization

The map above shows the reach of Probus clubs throughout the world.

The first clubs were started in the UK in 1965 by a **Professional** and a **Businessman** who were retired and wanted an opportunity to socialize and started a luncheon club which became **Probus**. Other clubs were formed, and it grew from there.

The first Probus Club in Canada was formed in Galt, Ontario in 1987. Canada now has 244 clubs with over 36,000 members.

Today, there are over 300,000 members in approximately 4,500 Probus clubs worldwide. The UK leads the list with 1,700 clubs. Australia and New Zealand together follow with 1600. There are also clubs throughout Europe, Africa, India, Japan and the Caribbean.

To get an international perspective, visit <https://probusglobal.org/>



Welcome to new member
Frank Jonker who joined
our club in April.

Don't miss our upcoming speakers

June 10: Victoria Woodhouse
"Reviving the Route:
Pollinator Habitat Restoration
on Rights-of-Way"

Sept 9: Laurence Wall
"Twentieth Century Canadian
History Through the Magic of
Radio"

Oct 14: Bruce Wallace "
Enabling Aging-in-Place:
Supportive Smart Home
Solutions "

May lunch-out set for Canal Ritz

Thursday 29 May

Canal Ritz

375 Queen Elizabeth Drive
On the canal

Meet there at noon

With its convenient downtown location and the best views of Ottawa's beautiful and historic Rideau Canal, Canal Ritz has become a favourite destination for tourists and locals alike.

www.canalritz.com/

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



After the meeting

Join us for lunch

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

Busters Bar & Grill
420 Hazeldean Road



Before our monthly meetings, members have an opportunity to mingle, socialize and share experiences.

Thinking of you

We like to think that our Probus Club is much like a family. As such we would 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

Chuckle Corner



Laws they don't teach in Physics

1. Law of Mechanical Repair -

After your hands become coated with grease, your nose will begin to itch and you'll have to pee.

2. Law of Gravity - Any tool, nut, bolt, screw, when dropped, will roll to the least accessible place in the universe.

3. Law of Probability - The probability of being watched is directly proportional to the stupidity of your act.

4. Law of Random Numbers - If you dial a wrong number, you never get a busy signal; someone always answers.

5. Variation Law - If you change lines (or traffic lanes), the one you were in will always move faster than the one you are in now.

6. Law of Close Encounters - The probability of meeting someone you know INCREASES dramatically when you are with someone you don't want to be seen with.

Membership inquiries may be sent to
membership@probuswesternottawa.ca

Our Website
www.probuswesternottawa.ca

Newsletter comments or submissions
newsletter@probuswesternottawa.ca