



# The PROBUS Pilot



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

SEPTEMBER 2025

Vol:17 No:1

**Tuesday, 9 September**

## 20<sup>th</sup> Century Canadian history through the magic of radio

Why was the Dominion Day broadcast of 1927 such a milestone for Canada?

Why did millions of people around the world tune in to hear reports about four men trapped in a mine in Nova Scotia in 1932?

This presentation covers some of the best-known events of the last century along with others that are long-forgotten but no less important. Former CBC newscaster Laurence Wall is your guide to this nostalgic look back on some of the great 20th-century events that shaped Canada and Canadians.

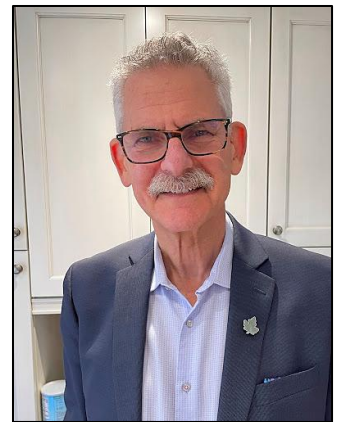
Laurence Wall prepared, edited and aired more than 50,000 newscasts and news updates during his many years with CBC Radio. He brought listeners in Ottawa, Eastern Ontario and West Quebec the latest news from their communities, their country

and their world.

Laurence began with CBC Radio in Winnipeg in 1979 and worked at CBC stations in Saskatoon, Fredericton and Ottawa. He also taught part-time at Carleton's School of Journalism for 10 years, completing his final course in Audio Journalism last December.

Laurence hosted hundreds of concerts and events over the years with the Ottawa Jazz Festival, Chamberfest, Music and Beyond, and the Ottawa Writers Festival. He has a special interest in promoting classical music for young people and has hosted several concerts featuring musicians with OrKidstra, the Young String Performers Foundation and Suzuki Ottawa.

He retired on May 31, 2024. That



**Laurence Wall**

day marked the end of an illustrious 44 years with the CBC at four different stations. If you lived in Ottawa, his name was immediately recognizable – so much so that on May 31, 2024, the mayor of Ottawa declared that “Laurence Wall Day.”

## *The Prez Sez*



### **A New Year, A Stronger Club**

Welcome back, everyone, to another exciting year of **Companionship and Celebration, and Laughter!**

Alongside the joy of reconnecting, we're welcoming your **2025–2026 Executive Team** — their names are listed in the table on the next page.

We still have **vacancies on the management committee**, and even a **few hours here and there** can make a real difference. Your time,

your skills, your passion — they matter.

### **Why Your Involvement Matters:**

Volunteering isn't just about filling a role — it's about:

- **Making connections** and building friendships that last.
- **Keeping our traditions alive** while bringing fresh ideas to the table.
- **Sharing the load** so no one burns out.

For full details on each position, visit our website [here](#) — and while you're there, think about where **you** might fit in. We're grateful to the

members who've kept Probus Western Ottawa thriving for many years — but they deserve a well-earned break. Let's share the responsibility and keep our club vibrant.

### **Let's talk!**

Speak to me at the next meeting or drop me an email if you'd like to learn more or put your name forward.

Every helping hand strengthens our organization. Together, we can make this year one of the best yet.

*David Lee*

[president@probuswesternottawa.ca](mailto:president@probuswesternottawa.ca)



The End of Year Luncheon following our June meeting featured an extensive buffet selection and was well attended.

**Monday 15 September**

**Join us for an NCC nature walk**

**NCC Jack Pine Trail Walk  
P9 Off Moodie Drive  
Meet at 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 **P9** which is just south of Hunt Club Road on Moodie Drive.



Bring your camera, food for birds and squirrels. We will go rain or shine, so dress appropriately.

Sign up at the Sept. meeting or email [newsletter@probuswesternottawa.ca](mailto:newsletter@probuswesternottawa.ca)

**Probus Bridge Club starts**

The inaugural meeting of the Probus Bridge Club will be held on **Thursday 11 September at 2:00 pm Kanata Baptist Church.**

Come and join us for social (non-competitive) contract bridge.

For more information contact Surinder Khanna at 403-613-6584.



**Free Pancake Breakfast**

**Seniors Council Open House**

The Kanata Seniors' Council is inviting all seniors to come and join us for an Open House and free pancake breakfast on the morning of **Wednesday 17 September.**

The free pancake breakfast runs from 8:30 until 10:00. At the same time and continuing until 11:00 will be information on the Seniors Council's current and upcoming activities. These include travel, international dining, the health fair, computer training, Bingo and more.

While the Seniors Centre will be

running its normal fitness and drop-in activities that day, staff will be available to provide information on the many activities available at the Centre.

**Management Board  
2025-2026**

- President: David Lee
- Vice President: **Vacant**
- Past President: Ray Jones
- Secretary: **Vacant**
- Treasurer: Bryan Wakeford
- Membership: Ruth Wakeford  
Annette Lindsay
- Speaker Program: Tom Lukowski,
- Lunches: Suma Abraham
- Outings: **Vacant**
- Newsletter: Peter van Boeschoten
- Website: Peter van Boeschoten
- Policy Advisor: Peter Doyle
- Coffee Service: Shanna /Walter Lucas
- Member-at-Large
- & Book Table: Ruth Brydon
- Setup Crew: **2 Vacancies**
- Euchre Club: Barbara Bole  
David Stafford
- Cards and letters: Betty Jean Bone
- Publicity: **Vacant**

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

***Travellers Club  
set to meet***

While there are more than 12 special interest groups, the Travellers Club has shown a lot of interest. Tom Wileman and Suma Abraham have volunteered to be the primary contacts.

Our SIG has been a little slow to take off, mainly for a lack of a suitable meeting place. However, we now have a process for renting space at the KBC. The small fee will be paid by Probus Western Ottawa, subject to management committee approval.

Once all details have been confirmed, our SIG members will be notified.

To contact Tom & me, please email: [sig-travellers-club-contact@probuswesternottawa.ca](mailto:sig-travellers-club-contact@probuswesternottawa.ca)  
- Suma

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 Club meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 10:00 am with time for coffee and socialization followed by a guest speaker. We meet at.

**Kanata Baptist Church. 465 Hazeldean Road  
Vistors are welcome**

Special Interest Groups		August 25, 2025
SIG Name	# Signups	Prime Contact(s)
Art-Appreciation	4	June Stewart
Billiards	1	Ellen Clare O'Gallagher
Bird-Watching	6	
Book-Club	6	
Breakfast-Club	21	David Lee
Bridge	10	Surinder Khanna
Cycling	3	
Games-Night	6	Nicola Jarvis
Hiking	21	
Knitting	2	Elaine Bradley
Pickleball	4	
Theatre-Nights	24	
Travellers-Club	35	Suma Abraham / Tom Wileman
Walking	22	
<b>Total Signups</b>	<b>165</b>	<i>Red text indicates a change from May</i>

# It's now easier to join and connect with our Special Interest Groups

Our Special Interest Group (SIG) signup process has been changed to make it easier to join or leave a group. Note you must be a member of Probus Western Ottawa to join a SIG.

You can either

- use the new consolidated signup sheet, available at meetings, or
- send an email at any time to: [sig-\[group\]-contact@probuswesternottawa.ca](mailto:sig-[group]-contact@probuswesternottawa.ca), where [group] is replaced with a recognized\* name. Put "Join", "Leave" or "Info request" in the subject field.

For example, [sig-breakfast-club-contact@probuswesternottawa.ca](mailto:sig-breakfast-club-contact@probuswesternottawa.ca).

\* Recognized group names are listed on the signup sheets and in the table at left.

The Prime Contact, if one is identified, will respond to any "Info requests".

Updated SIG membership lists will be distributed monthly, within a week following each meeting, to each group's members, **but** only if there has been a change from the last update.

If you have any suggestions or concerns with this revised process, or are willing to volunteer as a Prime Contact, please email me at [sig-groups-coordinator@probuswesternottawa.ca](mailto:sig-groups-coordinator@probuswesternottawa.ca).

Regards, Ray Jones

## Monthly Euchre continues at BCUC

Sharpen up your Euchre skills.

**When:** Friday, September 12<sup>th</sup>.

**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.

New members are most welcome. Some understanding of Euchre is helpful, We are a friendly group, playing for the enjoyment of the game.



Hope to see you on the 12th!

For further information, feel free to contact Barbara at [bbole@sympatico.ca](mailto:bbole@sympatico.ca) or David at [davidstafford@sympatico.ca](mailto:davidstafford@sympatico.ca)

## Looking ahead at our upcoming speakers

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

**Nov 4:** Dr. Michael Petrou "In Their Own Voices"

## Let's keep this going



Bring a book ...

...Take a book

Check out our book swap table at every meeting



**The Breakfast Club** has been having regular monthly meetings, even over the summer. This was our June meeting at Allô mon Coco.



**20 Year Pins.** At our June meeting President Ray Jones presented 20 Year pins to Marg and Doug Demers with Membership Coordinator Annette Lindsay looking on.

## Lead the way – Become our Outing Director!

Do you love planning day trips, discovering hidden gems, and bringing people together for memorable experiences? The Outing Director is at the heart of our club’s adventures — from brainstorming destinations to organizing the details that make every outing run smoothly.

If you’ve got a knack for coordination (and a sense of fun), we’d love to have you on the team. Speak to the President at our next meeting or send an email to learn more. Your ideas could be the ones we’re all talking about.

<b>Probus Club of Western Ottawa</b> <b>Financial Statement - Fiscal year 2024-25</b>		
Opening balance July 31, 2024		\$495
<b>Receivables</b>		
Membership	\$4,790	
Newsletter Fees	\$20	
Badge Fees	\$400	
GIC Net Cashout	\$1,054	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$6,264</b>	
<b>Expenses</b>		
KBC Rental	\$800	
KBC Donation	\$250	
KBC Coffee	\$175	
Speakers	\$1,100	
Speakers Lunches	\$300	
Probus Canada Fee	\$525	
Web Site hosting	\$370	
Bank Charges	\$30	
Badges	\$640	
BCU Donation	\$250	
Miscellaneous	\$100	
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>\$4,540</b>	
<b>Fiscal year surplus/deficit</b>	<b>\$1,724</b>	
Bank balance July 31, 2025		\$2,219

## Lunch-out starts in September

Wednesday 24 Sept. at Noon

### The Ironstone Grill

320 Terry Fox Drive  
(The restaurant is inside the club house at the Marshes Golf course.)

Located on the main floor of the clubhouse, this 130-seat stand-alone restaurant features exposed post-and-beam construction, magnificent stonework and a rugged fireplace.

Please sign up at our September meeting or via email to [lunches@probuswesternottawa.ca](mailto:lunches@probuswesternottawa.ca)



## Membership fees are due

Although we had to cash in part of our GIC last year, your executive has decided to keep dues at \$25 per member.

So now it’s time to renew your membership. Payment may be made either by cheque or with cash.

Cheques should be made out to Probus 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@probuswesternottawa.ca](mailto:membership@probuswesternottawa.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 September meeting. Often our speaker agrees to join us. This month we will be at:

#### Busters Bar & Grill

420 Hazeldean Road  
[www.bustersbarandgrill.ca/](http://www.bustersbarandgrill.ca/)



**Free Coffee/Tea Service now offered from 9:45 -10:20 am**  
(to facilitate clean-up)

**At our June meeting,** Victoria Woodhouse gave an enthusiastic presentation on the merits of using road rights of way, hydro corridors, and other open spaces to encourage butterfly habitats. She mentioned that 17% of Monarch Butterflies that journey successfully to Mexico are from Canada. The main breeding areas in Canada are southern Ontario and southern Quebec. Victoria emphasized the importance of Milkweed — it’s their only host plant and the only thing Monarch caterpillars can eat. More information can be found at [helphemonarchs.ca](http://helphemonarchs.ca)

## Chuckle Corner

**Boy: “Wow, so many scars. You must have had an adventurous life!”**

**Old man: “No, I just have a cat.”**

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)