



CONTACT

The monthly newsletter of the PROBUS Club of Mississauga South

Retired men often have a wealth of knowledge and skills acquired over their careers. Joining a club allows you to share your expertise with others and potentially learn new skills from fellow members.

President's Message: In Praise of Public Service



As I reflect on the recent passing of Mississauga's matriarch Hazel McCallion, and her 36 years as Mayor, it reminds me of how fortunate we are that we have people of her calibre who selflessly offer themselves to serve for the public good. Too often we want to live our lives for the simple benefit of our families, nothing more. We may join a church, a service club or a sports club involving our children. But how many of us are prepared to throw our hat into the ring for public office? Not too many, I suspect.

I think of Michael Bloomberg or Paul Martin or Erin O'Toole. All good men, independently wealthy and secure in their businesses and careers. Why would they subject themselves to the daily rigours and 24 hour news cycle of today's political life? Where probably half of the population will never agree with you, nor your policies?

The answer is clearly their recognition that a democracy is only as strong as those who take part. Too many countries today are led by autocrats whose only motivation is the enrichment of themselves, their families and their cronies. These totalitarian regimes can only return to stability, justice and growth when disciplined, principled women and men stand up for their communities and their country's future. Volodymyr Zelensky comes to mind. The very personification of integrity and leadership.

Recently we have seen the departure of Jacinda Ardern and Nicola Sturgeon from positions of leadership. Stress, exhaustion and unfulfilled objectives explain their decisions. So let's not sugar coat the ease of leadership, nor the costs to the incumbents' families.

But despite these challenges we have citizens like Hurricane Hazel who step up and offer their enthusiasm, collegiality and vision to our political structures.

Thank you to the Hazel McCallions in our society who realize that as a community we are only as good as those who get involved, and make a difference.



Member's Welfare



We would like to resume providing a drive for any member wishing to attend our monthly gathering but needs transportation. We are looking for 2 more volunteers to join Charlie Black and Dave Watters. Anyone able to help please let us know.

We wish a Happy 60th anniversary to Frank and Judy Brown, Lin and Ian Williams, and Karen and Vern Zelmer. Ernesto and Louise Babin Correa celebrate their 35th anniversary. The Probus members wish them many more.

Please be reminded that if you have an anniversary ending in a 5 or 0 let us know.

Our club is centered around hobbies, sports, arts, or other recreational activities. Participating in activities you enjoy with others who have a similar passion can bring a lot of joy and fulfillment to your retired life.

Guest Speaker: Dr. John Chattoe Virtual and Augmented Reality

Last month's guest speaker was Dr. John Chattoe who joined us to share his broad knowledge on Virtual Reality (VR) and Augmented Reality (AR). John, an engineer, worked for many years with Northern Telecom in marketing, and with General Dynamics on defense technology, the nature of which he couldn't share with us.

Using a number of slides and videos he walked us through the evolution of new technologies and the future applications for Virtual Reality (VR) and Augmented Reality (AR).

John began his presentation of VR by showing by video a victim of severe burn injuries. During the many skin grafts, skin stretching and other procedures, the victim was hooked up to VR head gear to permit him to play a video game involving snowballs and penguins. It had been demonstrated that the intellectual concentration of playing the game reduced measurably the pain related to the surgical procedures and rendered the patient calmer and more motivated.



He went on to talk about the adoption of technology by citing a 2015 Time magazine cover story on VR. The message was that the technology has yet to really take-off. As a comparison he noted that in the past 16 years, 2 billion I Phones have been sold. 1 billion are still in operation.

What is it? VR employs 3D simulation. It interacts with the individual in every sensory fashion; sight, sound, movement, touch and even smell. Research has been going on for 60 years and today we can find the technology in operating theaters, flight simulators and in the home.

AR is similar to VR in that it is computer based. Google Glass would be an example. That is 'glasses' which project images and text in the line of sight of the wearer providing her or him pertinent information as to what she/he is looking at. It can be used in training, medicine, design, manufacturing and retail.

John provided examples in surgical training, the treatment of PTSD, a furnishing app for IKEA and the manufacturing of Airbus aircraft. In each case the individual looks at a real object while additional objects, schematics and text are overlaid on the image. He noted that an aircraft could have a training manual of 5,000 pages. Using AR the technician sees only the data he needs for the parts that he is looking at.

Mass Adoption of Technology

John noted the criteria required for a mass adoption of a new technology, including:

- Technical performance
- Corporate Investment
- Advances required in software
- Market demand
- Human connectivity
- Must have effective content and pertinence

He described how Facebook (Meta) recently spent \$2 billion acquiring Oculus Rift, while Microsoft spent \$70 billion on Activision Blizzard. These companies are building the new Metaverse.

These ground-breaking technologies are creating new tools and techniques for Content Creation. Miniaturization and the increasing power of microchips are permitting infinitely more technology to be contained in smaller and smaller packages.

As no one could have guessed the penetration and rate of adoption of Cell Phones, the future for Virtual reality and Augmented Reality is yet to be defined. The Google Glass product introduced a few years ago has been taken off the market. Clunky and no 'killer' app. When the technology developers identify a need for this technology, be it in training, recreation, entertainment or medicine we can expect a geometric growth as we saw with PC's and laptops.

John Chattoe responded to many questions from our members, reflecting the high quality of his presentation and its pertinence for all of us.

Monthly Meeting Speakers

Adam Shoalts - Canadian Explorer and Author

Tim Burrows - New advancements in energy storage

Alvin Tedjo, Councilor Ward 2 - Mississauga split from Peel - All you wanted to know

Dr. John Chattoe - AI - How it works

Michael Perklin - Current State of Crypto Currency

Dr. Christopher DiCarlo- Critical Thinking in a World of Post Truth Alternative Facts

Tom Axeworthy - World Leaders I have Known

Paula Harvey - Trends in private and assisted homecare

Dr. John Moore - Artificial Intelligence: Promises and Perils

Cameron Coleman - The engineering challenges behind the QEW Credit River Improvement Project

Nancy Strauss – Creative Writing Now Introduction to writing your Memoir

Dr John Chattoe - Virtual and Augmented Reality

Panel from Innova Wealth Partners – “Estate Planning”

Harry MacNeil, “Doctors Without Borders”

Bill Redelmeier, owner of Southbrook Winery in Niagara on the Lake: “The Trials and Tribulations of making wine in Ontario”

Antony Anderson, “Lester Pearson and the Suez Crisis”

Michelle Glied-Goldstein: “Carrying Testimony - Interview with a Holocaust Survivor”

Matthew Wilkinson, Heritage Mississauga: “The Lost villages of Mississauga”

Chris Clackett, Canadian War Heritage Museum. “The Avro Arrow”

Steven iliott: "The Domestic Archaeologist – Confessions of a Professional Home Declutterer”

Kevin Donovan – “The Sherman Murders”

Tye Farrow: "Wood, the New Building Material"

Chris Allum – “Protecting Your Investments”

Dr. Angela Lee – “What You Need To Know About Lyme Disease”

Peter Weltman - Ontario Financial Accountability Officer

Ross McKittrick - "Climate Change – The Other Side"

Tim Burrows - "Wine & Whiskey, An Insider’s View of the Industry"

Dr. Arash Taghvaei - "Medicinal Cannabis"

Shauna Brail - "The City Post-COVID:Economy, Mobility & Public Realm"

Karen Cumming - "The indispensable Survivor's Guide to Ontario's Long-Term Care System"

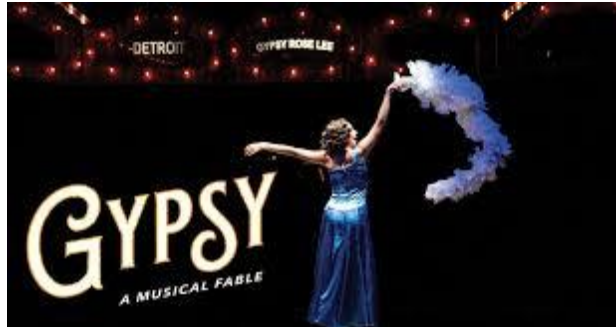
Mike Tasevski and Lisa Ferkul - " Delivering ROI From Sports Sponsorships"

Bill Morneau - "Reflections on Time In Ottawa"

John Millar - "Cyber Security – Hackers’ Advantage – Defenders’ Task"

Our club offers a wide choice physical activities like hiking, walking, cycling, or sports that can contribute to your overall health and well-being, helping you stay active and maintain a healthy life-style in retirement.

PROBUS Special Events



Join us in Niagara-on-the Lake to enjoy this great musical

Gypsy Rose Lee was the world's most famous striptease artist; Momma Rose the ultimate stage mother. Follow their extraordinary story in Stephen Sondheim's timeless musical about sex, power and longing. With legendary songs, including "Let Me Entertain You" and "Everything's Coming up Roses", "*Gypsy*" remains the greatest American musical.

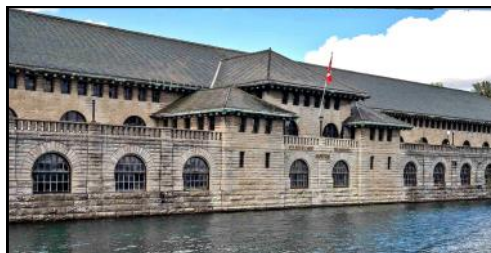
The show starts at 2PM. We envisage participants will want to arrange lunch ahead of time in Niagara on the Lake and we suggest all meeting for a drink at the theatre at 1:15PM.

Cost \$88 per person

Rows J,K,L Centre

Car-pool & Self-drive Event

Niagara Parks Power Plant Tour



Explore the first major power plant on the Canadian side of the Niagara River with immersive exhibits, restored artifacts and interactive storytelling. Uncover a new underground experience from 180 feet beneath the halls of the Niagara Parks Power Station with the all-new tunnel experience.

Find out how this remarkable 2,200-foot-long tunnel was excavated with only lanterns, rudimentary dynamite, pickaxes and shovels. Then, step out onto a new observation deck at the river's edge.

Lunch at a nearby restaurant will follow on a pay direct pay basis.

Cost \$39 per person for Tour

Car-pool & Self-drive Event

Even in retirement, networking remains valuable. Being part of our club allows you to expand your social circle and connect with individuals who might have shared professional experiences or similar life journeys. These connections can lead to new opportunities, collaborations, or even hobbies.

Casa Loma Tour



Sir Henry Pellatt, the dreamer behind Toronto's famous heritage site Casa Loma, was born to his British parents in Kingston, Ontario on January 6, 1859.

Sir Henry made and lost a fortune and built one of the most unique buildings in Toronto. The castle has been maintained in remarkable condition.

Explore the castle's 3 floors, basement and turrets. Walk through the tunnels to the stables, potting shed and garage housing the vintage cars. Learn about the history of the building and the builder. The third floor contains a history of the military in Canada with particular attention to the Queen's Own Rifles.

Itinerary

Meet at Casa Loma at 9:40. Our group must enter together in order to receive the discounted rate.

We will enter at 10:00. The tour is self-directed by downloading to your phone; however, a short presentation will be made to provide an overview at the beginning.

Note: parking at the castle is \$15/vehicle

Lunch at the castle restaurant will follow on a pay-direct pay basis.

Cost estimated at \$20 per person

Spouses are welcome

Car-pool & Self-drive Event

Dinner Club

Our dinner club meeting at REDS Restaurant (Square One)



Left to right: Barbara, Heather, Louise, Ernesto, Arlene, Anand

-Anand Lobo

Tuesday Wine Tasting

The third Tuesday afternoon wine tasting group meeting at the Cox residence on February 21. From left to right seated are: Gerry Crawford, Bloyce Beck, Bob Boone, Jeff Cox (host), Shantha Murugesen, Ezra Rosen, Raj Butani.



The results of the wine tasting are:

1	Columbia Crest H3	Cabernet Sauvignon	USA	\$20.95
2	Sa'Solin	Valpolicella Ripasso	Italy	\$21.95
3	Luccarelli	Primitivo	Italy	\$13.95
4	Xavier Lirac	Grenache/Shirah	France	\$24.95
5	Bons Ventos	Blend	Portugal	\$10.20

Our club gathers people who share similar interests and backgrounds. This common ground can provide a basis for engaging conversations and shared activities, making it easier to form meaningful connections.

Hiking February 2023

For the past couple of years, we have had near-perfect weather conditions for our weekly hikes. It appears that in February, Mother Nature turned her back on us as she delivered a combination of rain and freezing rain. The result was that we had to cancel the February 23rd hike. This is the first time since we have been leading hikes, that we have had only two hikes in a month. There were, however, 21 hikers who covered a total distance of 180 km, and a Guest Leader, Roger Gibb.

You can see the planned hike routes by clicking on each date.

[February 02](#) – Leader: Roger Gibb – Mississauga – 14 Hikers – 8.7 km



[February 09](#) – Leader: Bruce Aikman – Oakville – 7 Hikers – 8.3 km



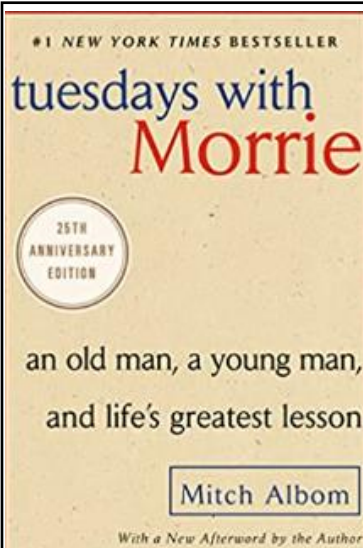
Please plan to join us in March when we hope for better weather and will see whether March comes in like a lamb or a lion.

Walk and Talk - March 2

Left to Right:
Ed Mitchell,
Brian Johnston,
Bhushan Sennik,
Richard Stove,
Jerzy Kisiliewicz,
Mike McCaughan,
Bob Boone,
Bill Evans,
Dave Watters



Book Club: Tuesdays With Morrie



Maybe it was a grandparent, or a teacher or a colleague. Someone older, patient and wise, who understood you when you were young and searching, and gave you sound advice to help you make your way through it. For Mitch Albom, that person was Morrie Schwartz, his college professor from nearly twenty years ago.

Maybe, like Mitch, you lost track of this mentor as you made your way, and the insights faded. Wouldn't you like to see that person again, ask the bigger questions that still haunt you?

Mitch Albom had that second chance. He rediscovered Morrie in the last months of the older man's life. Knowing he was dying of ALS - or motor neuron disease - Mitch visited Morrie in his study every Tuesday, just as they used to back in college. Their rekindled relationship turned into one final 'class': lessons in how to live.

The discussion was led by Bhushan Sennik who gave an overview of the book. Group comments included "I found the book to be profound and disturbing", "the book touched my heart", "this is my go-to book"

and "I am more Morrie rather than the author with whom we might have identified when we first read the book, not because we are ailing but because we spend more time in retrospection than we did even a decade ago".

The overall assessment of the group was a stellar 9.1 with a range of assessments from 8.5 to 9.5.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Friday, March 10/2023 starting at 1:30 pm. We will be reviewing/discussing the book "Dead In The Water" by Matthew Campbell and Kit Chellel. This was the book the late Peter Woods chose back in June 2022 for the 2023 season.

All are welcome to join us.

Current Affairs: Federalism, Is It Working In Canada?

On Tuesday morning February 21, the current affairs group had a lively discussion starting with China and its influence on the elections of 2019 and 2021. One of the participants felt that we, in Canada, need to understand the Chinese leadership better than we do. He stated that their priorities are:

To maintain an iron grip on the communist party

To manage their economy

Any real or potential threats, internal or external, as seen by the Chinese leadership, are dealt with as a priority. Hence their interference in our elections and their desire to get the Liberals elected in a minority government. Our concern, as a group, was why the Liberal government is so hesitant to deal with the Chinese interference. One suggestion was that we can learn from Singapore on how to better manage a relationship with the Chinese.

Our discussion then switched to looking at our federal government system. We identified the tension that exists between the federal government and the governments of the provinces and territories. Tension exists in the management of the health care system, balancing the care of the environment and natural resource extraction and the large inflow of refugees and immigrants, among many issues that currently face Canada. The provinces and territories are looking for increased funding and the Federal government is demanding more accountability.

One view brought forward is that our current system is reasonable with its checks and balances. The question was then asked on how we can improve on our current system. This provoked a number of comments and suggestions from our members.

- There is nothing wrong with our current system, it is the politicians that are the problem.
- How or where can we find another Hazel?
- We should get rid of the political parties and move to a presidential election.
- We should be moving towards more of a socialist system, even if we don't like it.

What do you think?

-Ezra Rosen

Fall Auto Tour to the Toyota plant in Cambridge

On Monday, September 18th, 25 Probians (including several spouses) met at Sheridan Centre Mall to renew acquaintances, car pool and set off for the Toyota plant in Cambridge. There were three groups, led by Ralph Cowell (with Roger Gibb navigating), Rick Cranston (with Kay navigating) and yours truly (with Pauline navigating). All the groups followed the same scenic, back roads route to the plant. We were pleased with the nice weather and no one got lost.



After checking in with Security, the Toyota tour started at the Experience Centre Showroom, and involved a motorized tram tour through the Assembly and Weld Shops in the North Plant, two of the most visually impressive shops in the plant. The North Plant assembles the Toyota RAV4 and the Lexus RH on a common production line that uses the "Toyota New Global Architecture" platform.

The people we talked to were obviously proud of the facility. There is an emphasis on safety, training, continuous improvement and

the goal is to send nothing to landfills. It is a non-union shop, working two shifts per day, five days per week. The whole plant is spotlessly clean. I was impressed by the driverless "tow motors" delivering parts, just in time, to the assembly line. I sat directly behind the driver of one of the two tour trams and noted how respectful and courteous he was. No more forklifts racing around at top speed.

After the tour there was a Q&A session that could have gone on much longer if we were not ushered out to make way for the next tour.

- Until next year, Kirk Benson



2024

THE MOST BEAUTIFUL VILLAGES OF SOUTHWEST FRANCE

(May 02 - 15, 2024)

This well curated itinerary showcases the very best of Southwest France. Together we'll explore an interesting mix of small picturesque villages and a few larger centres, some by the sea, some in the mountains, some with Unesco World Heritage sites.

Please enjoy this advance copy of the brochure, we hope you'll consider joining us on this 14 day journey.



Only 4 rooms left!

[Brochure](#)

ANCIENT TRADE ROUTES - ATHENS TO DUBAI ONBOARD AZAMARA PURSUIT

(October 24 - November 14, 2024)

Please join us on this captivating journey through Greece, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Oman and Dubai. Enjoy sailing on the recently refurbished 5 Star Azamara Pursuit, a smaller 593 ft. ship with a top capacity of only 960 guests. For a review of the ship please click here:

Our private excursions include a well thought out slate of 1/2 and full day tours with enough sea days in between ensuring a relaxed atmosphere for all to enjoy.

As is the norm with all PROBUS cruises, you will need to calculate your own cost of the tour.

Pricing consists of the 'fixed' land and air pricing charge plus cruise pricing which depends on individual cabin selection.

Please enjoy this advance copy of the brochure, we hope you'll consider joining us on this 22 day journey.

[Brochure](#)

NEW Dubai / Abu Dhabi - "Optional" Post Tour.

[Dubai / Abu Dhabi Brochure](#)

In the interests of good health and safety, ALL PROBUS travelers MUST be fully vaccinated against COVID - 19 prior to registering for any of our travel programs.

Activity Leaders

[For the full list and activity details go to the Activities Page on the club website](#)
www.Probusms.ca

Beer Appreciation	Bill Kipkie	Fall Auto Tour	Kirk Benson
Biking	Terry Stinson	Golf	Doug Grady
Birding	Steve Maxwell	Hiking	Ralph Cowell
Book Club	Tom Savoy	Investment Club	Ian Macdonald
Bowling	Ted Lampman	Photography Club	Steve Maxwell
Bridge (Duplicate)	Les Mayer	Pool+lunch	Dan Piitz
Bridge (Marathon)	Ray Pomroy	PRISMS	Peter Kent
Bridge (Men's)	Ralph Coulston	Pub Lunch	David Watters
Computers	Kevin Smith	Telephone	Larry Tasker
Club Travel	Rick Palmer	Walk and Talk	Mike McCaughan
Current Affairs	Rod McDougall	Wine Appreciation	Mark Wait
Dinner-Mixed	Bruce Jenkins		