

PROBUS Club News



MEN'S PROBUS CLUB of NEWMARKET

30 YEARS STRONG

Anniversary Edition of our Newmarket Club— May 2021 Newsletter

President's Message

The 30th anniversary of our club was celebrated at our May 19 general meeting held on Zoom due to COVID-19 restrictions. We managed to take advantage of the situation by inviting guests across Canada and overseas to join us. As a result, close to 80 people were in attendance.

There were four major components in this special project. It required a team of dedicated individuals whose sole focus was to "MAKE IT HAPPEN".

Commemorative photo album

In November 2020, a decision was made to produce a commemorative photo album.

In February, the final design was approved by the Management Committee.

The album was sent to the print shop in April. Booklets were mailed to the membership and representatives of PROBUS Canada and PROBUS Global in May.

Congratulatory Letters and Certificates of Recognition

In November 2020, requests were made to officials from all levels of government that represent the Newmarket-Aurora area, PROBUS Canada and PROBUS Global.

From February through to April, Letters and Certificates began to arrive. Those received prior to the photo album went to print were included.

Certificates of Recognition were delivered to the recipients in May.

News media coverage

In November 2020, local media outlets were notified of the upcoming anniversary.

The Toronto Star and Newmarket-Today published articles on our anniversary in April and May, respectively.

The May 19th General Meeting

In November 2020, we re-confirmed our arrangements which we did originally in May with Mayor John Taylor as the keynote speaker. At the May MC meeting, the agenda was finalized with arrangements confirmed for all guest speakers.



Management Team for 2020-2021

President

Sunny Lau

Vice President

Dick Furlong

Secretary

Doug Wrigglesworth

Treasurer

Robert Vernon

Past President

Peter Hardy

Webmaster

Sunny Lau

Membership

Dave Elms

Warren MacRobie

Programs (CAE)

Naqi Ahsan

Dave Brisley

Newsletter & IT

Steve Muir

Ted Wilkinson

Continued Over...

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President's Message continued

Video recordings of the meeting are available at <https://www.mensprobusclubofnewmarket.ca/videos.html>. You can view all congratulatory letters at <https://www.mensprobusclubofnewmarket.ca/30th-anniversary.html>.

For the next fiscal year, the **Vice-President** and **Treasurer** positions on the Management Committee are open. You are welcome to attend one of the MC meetings to experience for yourself before deciding on your nomination. Please contact Dick Furlong or Sunny Lau if you are interested.

The light at the end of the COVID-19 tunnel continues to brighten as vaccinations help drive cases down while warmer weather enables limited activities and group gatherings outdoors to be held safely.

I look forward to seeing you in-person soon. Take care and Stay Safe.

Sunny Lau, President

Post May 19, 2021 Anniversary Meeting Comments

John Taylor, Mayor of Newmarket

"Thank you Sunny – it was a very enjoyable event and thank you for connecting us to Newmarket UK !"

Michael Jefferys, Mayor of Newmarket, Suffolk, UK

"Perhaps when the pandemic is over, we can begin to plan for more opportunities to build on this initial link. It was wonderful to meet you all. It was just a shame that it was such a brief time together. I look forward to a brighter future and a stronger link with Newmarket, Ontario."

Jamie Doolittle, Past President, PROBUS Canada

"Thank you again for the opportunity to address your Club. The meeting went very smoothly and was very interesting hearing from both Mayors and the M.P. An additional benefit was chatting with members around the globe. Keep up the good work!"

Brenda Andrews, Vice President, PROBUS Canada

"Thank you for a very inspiring meeting. You and your management team did an outstanding job. 30 years this quite an achievement. You all deserve a round of applause. I am looking forward to presenting your anniversary certificate in person when we meet again."

Cathie Vincent, Past President, Maple Leaf Women's PROBUS Club

"Thank you for including me in your 30th anniversary celebration today. It was such an interesting meeting with lots of good information from the Mayor. I also really enjoyed hearing from the Newmarket, UK Mayor."

Jean Smelski, Stratford PROBUS Club

"Thanks, Richard. Great meeting. I was not aware that Newmarket was such an advancing city."



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SPEAKERS' CALENDAR

- ◆ **June 16, 2021**, - Neil Dudley will speak on “Luxury River Cruises”.
- ◆ **July 21, 2021**, - Steward Campbell from the UK will speak on “Building of the Chunnel”.
- ◆ **September 15, 2021**, - Brad Ashton from the UK will entertain us with some “Comic Relief”

GUEST SPEAKERS

Due to the COVID Pandemic we have been holding our meetings on ZOOM Network. We have had an opportunity for members of a few Probus International Clubs join us as participants or just observers in our monthly meetings. A typical meeting may look like this as up to 85 members join in on the programme presented.



Meeting April 21, 2021:

Chris Leworthy gave a splendid talk on The Battle of Britain 80 Years On. As an experienced historic presenter, and docent at historic sites, Chris was able to clearly outline the many factors that contributed to the Battle – and to the way the German assault was countered. The intricacies of “The Dowding System” was explained. This system allowed incoming flights to be discovered early – and for efficient use of the resources available.

Meeting May 19, 2021:

John Taylor, Mayor of Newmarket as our Anniversary Speaker.

Mayor Taylor spoke on Newmarket: COVID and Beyond. In an information-packed, well illustrated and forward-looking address, Mr. Taylor gave a most optimistic and positive summary of the future of Newmarket.

It was quite serendipitous that the two Newmarket Mayors (Ontario and UK) were able to exchange greetings at this time.



Please see our Website for further details and news;
www.mensprobusclubofnewmarket.ca

**NEWMARKET 30TH ANNIVERSARY****MAY 19/2021**

Marlene Pearce, Atlantic Director PROBUS CANADA

As liaison between PROBUS CANADA and PROBUS Global, I have encountered a new and interesting group of Probians all over the World.

PROBUS GLOBAL was originally formed as a Chat group called Probus Network (IPN) in 1996 with a group of 13 members from Australia, Canada, and New Zealand. In 2000 five countries joined together and it became International Probus Network (IPN), with 166 members. The name changed to International PROBUS network (IPN) in 2007. Now it is known as PROBUS Global, with well over 500 members, representing 333 Clubs in 13 countries.

Special thanks go out to the Newmarket Club who took the lead position by hosting PROBUS Global meetings on Zoom. 125 people signed up for the January meeting and almost 100 were present. Newmarket has also taken the lead in securing International Speakers for the Zoom meetings and they are using International Speakers as well on the segment 'Who Am I' at their regular Club meetings. Another excellent contribution from Newmarket is the Operating Manual that they have made available for any Club to follow. This may be found on probusglobal.org. Look for the Club Management Page.

I would like to say a special thank to Dick Furlong for all his endeavors to help make PROBUS Global the success that it is. And thank you to the Newmarket Club for their continued support. You have helped set up and managed to create a friendly atmosphere that have opened up communications around the world.

I would be remiss if I did not say thank you to Shirley Roberts from the UK. Shirley is President of PROBUS Global and has been very active, working with her Executive, to reach the success that has been achieved.

This organization has been one positive result of Covid-19 as through Zoom we have found a new way to keep ourselves active and socially involved with fellow Probians.

Quoting from the March PROBUS Global Newsletter from Queensland Australia "Our communities may be very different, or may be similar, but PROBUS Global can unite us wherever we live as we share our experiences and ideas, making friends with members from other countries-few of which we are likely to be able to visit in the near future".

The next project for PROBUS Global is to create a PROBUS Day which will be celebrated around the World on October 01, 2021. This day will be celebrated in connection with the United Nations International Day of Older Persons. PROBUS Canada has voted in favour of supporting this venture. More to come on this special event later on.

Once again thank you to the Newmarket Club for all your connections to PROBUS Global. Congratulations on the celebration of thirty Years in PROBUS and thank you very much for inviting me to be a part of that celebration.



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