



THE PROBUS CLUB OF OAKVILLE

Established in 1988, The Fifth Probud Club in Canada

www.oakvilleprobud.com



February 15, 2024 – In-Person and Zoom Meeting
Meeting begins at 10:00 AM. Speaker at 11:00 AM.

**Meeting Place – Oakville Public Library - Central Branch –
120 Navy St. Second Floor Auditorium**

**Plenty of Parking on Water St with Elevator to Second Floor
but we also respect those who wish to participate via Zoom**

FEATURED SPEAKER – February 15, 2024



Andrey Cavalcanti, Microsoft

Artificial Intelligence (AI) at work, at rest and at play

February 2024 Newsletter

This month, we are delighted to welcome Andrey Cavalcanti, Head of Cloud Computing at Microsoft, Canada. Andrey will be sharing his knowledge and expertise with us as we explore the mystifying world of Artificial Intelligence (AI).

Andrey has spent 20+ years at Microsoft leading & 'co-piloting' ¹ various projects with corporate and private Clients. He manages a group of 100 colleagues across Canada who are working on the next generation of AI. 'Co-pilot' ¹ is one feature of Microsoft Clarity (helping businesses and private individuals understand website metrics and more to enhance their results for customers).

Much has been written and spoken about AI in our lives and how we are/will be affected increasingly by AI. Andrey will enlighten us and sort through the information supplied by [visionaries](#) as well as the casual fear mongering by some 'talking heads'.

Although we may not think about it, we are already using AI, for example, in our homes; cars; shopping at the grocery store; or booking a trip on our laptop to, say, Portugal. Our kids and grandkids may already be using video streaming platforms and other file hosting services. We've certainly been encouraged to back up/secure our data by anonymous 'pop up' advertisements; and who hasn't been annoyed already by 'Chatbots' instead of real humans!

By the end of this interactive presentation, we should be able to understand the perils, pitfalls, promise and potential of AI so that we are not as anxious - rather more educated - about AI. Welcome, Andrey!

For more background on today's presentation and to inform your questions, please consider the following - amongst others:

<https://www.cbc.ca/radio/asithappens/geoffrey-hinton-artificial-intelligence-advancement-concerns-1.6830857>

<https://finance.yahoo.com/video/artificial-intelligence-101-why-different-201900184.html>

President's Message February 15, 2024

I hope you all are enjoying the snow-free Oakville winter so far. Only 2 months to go for most of us but others are heading to Portugal or other warmer areas.

Over the next few months, we will have stimulating speakers who will talk to us about International Shipping, IBM Canada, and Public Education. We will also have a short presentation by a local Retirement home about their facilities and service. (We will have these presentations by retirement homes from time to time as members should be contemplating the needs for future housing and care.)

The Book Club and the Investment Club continue to meet monthly. The Book Club will be reading about one of the biggest but least known international swindles and you'll have to join the Investment Club to find out whether they continue to invest in the tech sector or do they find the multiples too high.

Best regards,

Alex



The Probus Club of Oakville

Minutes of the General Meeting of the Probus Club of Oakville January 18, 2024 Oakville Public Library

1.0 Minutes

A motion to accept the minutes of the November General Meeting was made by Paul Nelson and seconded by Grant Gooding. The minutes of the last meeting were then unanimously accepted.

2.0 Membership and Guests:

We had three guests, Gerry Sutton brought his son Malcolm, Wolfgang Hartmann had Kurt Rudolph as his guest and Jay Kell had Joseph Varadi as his guest.

3.0 Treasurer's Report

Ray Henrickson presented the financials for both November and December. We finished the year with a bank balance of \$6,474.52

4.0 Speakers

Tim O'Shea summarized the speakers for the next three months:

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February will be Andrey Cavalcanti from Microsoft Can. Talking about AI

March will be Jason Stitt talking about Cybercrimes

April will be Dr. Myriam Nafte our CSI person

May will be Oleg Dolzиков, Ships Master with TeeKay LNG shipping

June will be Diane Mulholland, Ontario Education Co-Ordinator for the Alzheimer's Society

July will be the team from Calgary reconstructing the Avro Arrow

The meeting with Anita Anand may happen if they agree to a time on either the 20th, 21st or 22nd of February.

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5.0 Activities

Jay Kell said that there will be a pub lunch sometime this spring but beyond that he is looking for ideas. A trip to Crawford Lake was suggested, as was RBG, The Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum and Cambridge Theater.

Jay has also taken over membership on a temporary basis and said that we are now up to 50 members. Great job of recruiting members on Jay's part resulting in a nice increase in numbers over the last couple of months.

6.0 Website/Newsletter.

Gerry Pielsticker said he continues to update the website and encouraged all members to access and see the latest improvements. While the site was down for a few days while he was making the changes, the improvements are obvious. He is editing using Filmora making it easier to dovetail the videos on the site. Each month he will add something new and will ask everyone the following month what that change was. Stay Alert as there will be a prize.

Paul Nelson made a presentation today in place of a profiler. He came will prepared slides of his recent visit to Nevada and Area 51.

He showed newspaper clipping from 1947 where the reported spaceship crashed in Roswell. The photo showed what was supposed to be spaceship debris but it could have been from anything. Roswell became a tourism destination and all kinds of rumors were flying around.

Nevada is 80% Federal Land so access to some areas is very restricted but Paul did take the 3 hour drive out into the desert to get as close as possible to Area 51 and take a walk on Groom Lake. Check out on line:

Groom Lake, Rachel Nevada, Tonopah Nevada, and Janet Airlines. All very interesting. Thanks Paul

9.0 SPEAKER

Doug Peebles introduced today's Wolfgang Hartmann

The title of Wolfgang's presentation was "Nuclear Energy for Canadians"

Wolfgang first explained how a nuclear reactor worked and then what the benefits are to Canadians:

Nuclear fission offers substantial benefits, notably in generating vast amounts of energy without air pollution. It produces both radioactive and stable isotopes essential in medicine, industry, agriculture, and research, often outperforming alternatives in effectiveness and cost. Moderators like water in reactors slow down neutrons to facilitate fission chain reactions. Different reactor types exist, including light water reactors using low-enriched uranium (0.72% to 3-5% U-235) and others like the Canadian CANDU and British Magnox reactors using natural uranium. These variations highlight diverse nuclear technology applications without the need for high enrichment like in nuclear weapons. Additionally, breeding fissile isotopes like Plutonium 239 and Uranium 233 is possible.

Historically, natural nuclear reactors in Oklo, Gabon, operated about 1.7 billion years ago, indicating the feasibility of long-term geologic nuclear waste storage. These natural reactors, powered by concentrated uranium and water, ran for approximately 150,000 years and were self-regulating.

Small Modular Reactors (SMRs) in Canada represent a new, safer class of nuclear reactors with reduced size and refueling needs. These SMRs are portable, scalable, and can potentially operate for decades without uranium replenishment. They offer fail-safe designs and diverse applications, from electricity generation to district heating and industrial use.

Furthermore, Wolfgang discussed the production and utilization of liquid hydrogen for energy storage and transport, produced via electrolysis and used in various applications like fuel cells for vehicles.

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Canada's electricity policy is evolving towards greener, low-carbon sources and aims to be at 95% low and non-emitting carbon sources by 2050. The country is shifting from carbon fuels to more reliable and sustainable options like hydro, wind, nuclear, and solar energy, considering the challenges and risks associated with each source. This shift aims for diverse, sustainable electricity production, addressing global warming and radiation risks.

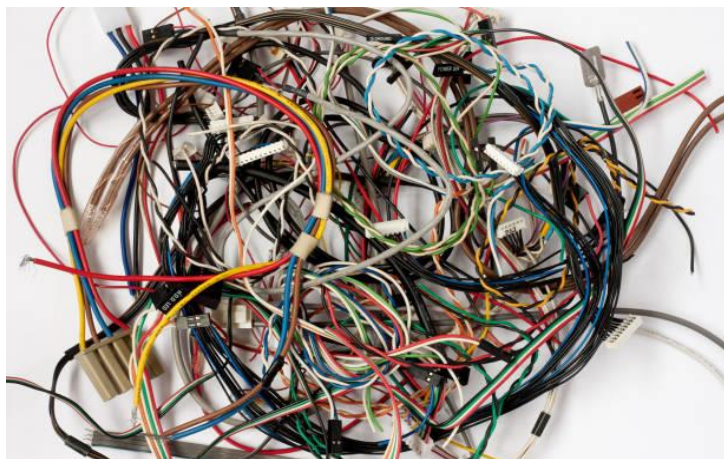
Why Nuclear Reactors are Superior:

- **Efficiency:** Nuclear reactors provide a highly efficient and consistent source of electricity, with minimal greenhouse gas emissions.
- **Reliability:** Unlike intermittent renewables like wind and solar, nuclear power is reliable, providing a stable source of baseload power.
- **Low Carbon Emissions:** Nuclear energy emits significantly lower carbon dioxide compared to fossil fuels, contributing to climate change mitigation.
- **Energy Density:** A small amount of nuclear fuel can produce a vast amount of energy, reducing the need for large fuel supplies.
- **Energy Security:** Nuclear power reduces reliance on fossil fuel imports, enhancing energy security.
- **Minimal Land Use:** Nuclear plants require relatively small land areas compared to large-scale renewable installations.
- **Safest** when compared to any other source of electricity.

Helmut Erxleben thanked the speaker.

Alex Murphy declared the meeting closed.

Wires and Other Stuff



Our Club has been disposing of old electronic equipment.

It so happens Mike Purcell knows a young fellow, Carlo Citron, who lost most of his eyesight in a motorcycle accident. To make a little money to support himself he takes old electric equipment apart and sorts the parts out into the different piles. He strips the protective covering off wire and sorts that as well. In the end he gets quite a pile of metal that his uncle helps him take to the scrap yard.

It occurred to Mike that there are probably lots of guys wondering what to do with old equipment - not huge tv's, but most everything else - phones, computers, printers, DVD players, etc.

Carlo also takes hard drives totally apart. Apparently, there is rare metal in all this stuff, and he sorts it all out.

He is an accredited Apple Service Technician. He has a whole range of things he can do with a computer in case people are interested. Mike and Peter Pretty have been using him for years to keep their Apple equipment running. He also makes all of Mike's holiday DVD'S.

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Mike is willing to pick up and deliver if people can't do it themselves, but he would also suggest that folks could drop off the equipment directly to Carlo as he lives on Cedar Springs Road in Burlington. If folks were to do that they should email or text him before they go to say they are coming. Here is the name address and email address if you are interested:

Carlo Citron,
3368 Cedar Springs Road.
Burlington
Phone number 905 - 520 - 4234
E-mail address - supercbr@mac.com



Presentation – Feb 15, 2024

Sunrise of Oakville

Shea Myers – Director of Sales

Shea Myers is the Director of Sales at Sunrise of Oakville. She has had the privilege of working for Sunrise for the last 17 years, in various departments in both the Oakville and Burlington locations. She has learned a lot of valuable information pertaining to the world of senior living over the years. And Shea is looking forward to sharing her knowledge with all of you and happy to answer any question you have along the way.

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2023-2024 Management Committee

President	Alex Murphy	(905) 337-2924
Past President	Mike Purcell	(905) 845-4097
Vice President	Paul Nelson	(905) 631-2390
Secretary	Jim Tonner	(289) 337-6693
Treasurer	Ray Henrickson	(289) 469-0158
Speakers	Tim O'Shea	(905) 842-5133
Activities	Jay Kell	(289) 407-3859
Newsletter	Paul Nelson	(905) 631-2390
Membership	Peter Pretty	(905) 338-5583
Website	Gerry Pielsticker	(905) 338-9829
Technical Co-ordinator	Gerry Pielsticker	(905) 338-9829

In addition, the following Key Support Positions have been filled by appointed Members.

Key Support Positions

Equipment	TBD	
Member Welfare	Alex Murphy	(905) 337-2924
Auditor	Bryan Noble	(905) 319-1864
50/50 Draw	Roy Oldfield	(905) 847-2062
Investment Club	Dave Patterson	(905) 844-5894
Photographs	Peter Pretty	(905) 338- 5583
Greeter	Jack Rugg	(905) 820-1973