



**THE PROBUS CLUB OF OAKVILLE**

Established in 1988, The Fifth Probud Club in Canada

[www.oakvilleprobus.com](http://www.oakvilleprobus.com)



**February 16, 2023 – 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**

**TYE FARROW – ARCHITECT**

**Tye is well known for his architectural accomplishments both within Canada and Internationally. Please make an effort to attend his presentation in person.**

## **Constructing health: the elements of enriched environments**

Working at the intersection of architecture and neuroscience, Tye Farrow is a world-recognized pioneer tackling how what we create either gives or causes health. With award-winning projects around the globe that enact salutogenic design - design that actively incites health - Tye's view is that we are living in what has been described as the 'golden age' of neuroscience research, which is leading to innovative ideas about how to reimagine healthful post-covid communities and the role our built environment plays in this equation. Tye will discuss cross-fertilizing knowledge between design and brain science which can lead to the conditions in which people can flourish, not merely survive; he will draw on example of the firm's architectural designs in Canada, Europe and Israel.

Tye is the first Canadian architect to have earned a Master of Neuroscience Applied to Architectural Design (NAAD), (University of Venice IUAV); additionally, Tye holds a Master of Architecture in Urban Design (Harvard University), and a Bachelor of Architecture degree (University of Toronto).

He is a sought-after speaker who has presented to respected organizations and universities in over forty cities on six continents, including PROBUS, Credit Valley, the Salk Institute, The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Mayo Clinic and The Cleveland Clinic; widely lauded, he has been called a global leader making "a significant contribution to health and humanity through the medium of architecture" (Stockholm World Design & Health Congress).

Please take some time to review Tye's broad accomplishments and inform your questions during his time with us on February 16

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**The President's Message**

Dear Fellow Probians,

Here it is mid February and so far, at least at the time of writing this, we have escaped the wrath of winter. I hope by saying that I haven't jinxed us?? We have had lots of threats (**a one day** cold snap with the scary title of a **Polar Vortex** hardly counts) so far so good. If you really want to know what it is like to be cold in the winter, please speak to fellow member Don Jack and ask him what it was like in Kincaid, Saskatchewan in the 1940's. You will think you live in Florida now.

As I have mentioned in passing and also made further mention of it at our Christmas Luncheon, we will be coordinating more activities in the future with The Old Oakville Probus Club. I met with Rick Schwartz, the President of The Old Oakville Probus Club and we agreed to integrate more functions so that members from either Club feel comfortable attending events of the other – including meetings – either by actually attending the meeting or through Zoom. Several of our members have already signed up for the coming golf season with Old Oakville. If you would like more information about the 2023 golf program, please speak to Jay, our Activities Chairman.

Jay has also met with his counterpart, Jim Davidson from The Old Oakville Probus Club and will be formally introducing "The Shared Activities" concept at our February 16<sup>th</sup> meeting. So that is another very good reason to attend the February meeting and learn first-hand about this exciting new development for our Club.

Why are we opening up our Club's? Because it's a **win/win** for both Clubs as joint activities will also allow for more socializing with others of a like mind. I can't emphasize enough the importance of socializing. Study after study has proven that having friends, lots of friends, is essential to a healthy life – and in fact friends are just as important for our well-being as healthy eating habits or a good night's sleep. Researchers have also found large social networks lower our risks more than exercise or dieting alone. So please reach out and join in our planned activities and the joint activities when they are presented. Joint activities will further enable us to offer more opportunities for new events and potentially reduce costs and improve transportation. We can't afford to take a bus with only

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20/25 people, but we have a much better opportunity if there are 45/50 people.  
As I said it's a win/win.

They say a picture is worth a thousand words ----

Here is our current mode of transportation to events for the 2 Clubs----



And this is the future-----



What would be your preference? Just let me know and we will go from there.

My wife, Verna and I have travelled to Portugal, taking groups of people, 15 times over the past several years. After getting caught there in 2020 during the

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outbreak of COVID I swore that I would never, ever do it again. But time has a way of erasing bad memories, so we have decided to return again **next year** for a month (option 2 or 3 weeks) from February 27<sup>th</sup> to March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024. This is a “Stay-Put” type vacation, which means we fly directly to Faro, Portugal from Toronto and transfer to our hotel in the nearby city of Albufeira where we spend a month. This allows people to do as much or as little as they please during the stay. Portugal is a very safe, inexpensive place to visit. Several members from our Club have joined us in the past. Pricing is not available at this time, but if you are at all interested and would like more information, please let me know and I will share it as soon as it is available. I currently have 30 people interested, several friends and some members of the Mississauga South Probus Club.

See you at the meeting.

Cheers

Mike

PS: Just to let you know the 2 old school buses featured were drawn by a good friend and member of the Credit River Probus Club in Mississauga. His name is George Howell. He took up sketching in later life and is now a very young 92 year old.



## **The Probus Club of Oakville**

# **Minutes of the General Meeting of the Probus Club of Oakville**

**January 19th 2023**

**Oakville Public Library**

### **1.0 Minutes**

A motion to accept the minutes of the November General meeting was made by Alex Murphy and seconded by Paul Nelson. The minutes of the last meeting were unanimously accepted.

**2.0 Members Health** – No report on the health of members but Alex Murphy did make a request for volunteers for management positions to come forward. All positions have been filled for the year but looking for additional support for Gerry on the technical side and a back-up for the club secretary.

### **3.0 Treasurer's Report**

Ray Henrickson said that the amount on hand is \$9738.34 but we have yet to receive the final bill for the Christmas Lunch.

### **4.0 Speakers**

Tim O'Shea said that day's speaker will be Roy Oldfield who will talk about The Masons and his role as District Deputy Grand Master of the Hamilton District of Freemasons. In February, we will be hearing from Tye Farrow, an architect and in March, Nicholas Pender, Vice President of Operations of the Ontario Power Generating plant in Niagara. Speakers are booked out as far as the August with Lorena Mallinson of Halton Police, Caroline McGuire of Air Canada, Olympic rower Larry Cain, and Barbara Dixon who wrote about the Bomb Girls of WWII

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Tim will be away in February and Paul Nelson will be filling in for him.

### **5.0 Past and Upcoming Club Activities**

Jay Kell was on holidays but Jim Tonner recapped what Jay had presented at the Management Meeting regarding future events. Jay's survey showed that members liked daytime events, anything within an hour's drive, and with a cost of less than \$100 per person. In that regard, Jay is looking at Shaw Festival, (drive yourself or bus from Burlington) Grand River Cruises, and a pub lunch in the near future.

### **6.0 Membership.**

No new members or guests this month

### **7.0 Website/Newsletter.**

Paul Nelson suggested that everyone visit the website and see the most recent improvements and view the great Christmas Lunch video that Gerry has edited and added to the site.

Paul floated the idea of using the website for members to sign in and pay for membership or events by using their credit card much like you would do for an Amazon purchase. A show of hands showed that the majority would consider it so he will research further.

There was no profiler but Helmut Erxleben was on Zoom and talked about his arrival in Canada and traveling by train into Ontario. Along the way, he spotted a rail car that was a school on wheels. The rail car was equipped like a school and was moved around Northern Ontario to give children in remote areas a chance to learn. The teacher, Fred Sloman and his wife Cela lived in the car with their five children and between 1926 and 1967. The rail car moved around, staying one week in each location to teach the children in small communities along with rail workers who worked on the line.

The video Helmut had planned did not work but you can follow-up by googling "Sloman Rail car" and get the complete history and location in Clinton, ON where the car is currently on display.

The 50/50 draw was won by Keith Bird

There was a count of the numbers for lunch at Monahan's and the meeting broke for coffee.

**Today's Speaker** -Tim O'Shea introduced our speaker this month, Roy Oldfield.

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Roy has been a member of the Freemasons for 54 years and he is following his father who was also a member. We all know or have heard something about the Masons but it was great to hear all the facts from Roy.

It all started in about 1350 when Masons formed guilds for the practice of their trades. In the 1600s, they let non-operatives into the guilds in part to help with the rebuilding of London after the Great Fire of 1666. Throughout the 1700s, the number of lodges grew in England, Scotland and Ireland and then the troops took it to the colonies. In 1733, a Grand Master was appointed in Massachusetts and soon after, in St. John's (1738), Halifax (1750) and Niagara on the Lake. (1782)

- Freemasonry is a fraternal organization that arose from the loose organization of medieval masons (i.e. stone workers) working in the medieval building industry (13<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup> Century)
- In addition to being the world's oldest fraternal organization, Freemasonry is also the world's largest of such organization, boasting an estimated worldwide membership of some 6 million men.
- As the name implies, a fraternal organization is one that is composed solely of men who gather together for mutual benefit, frequently for professional or business reasons.
- Although Freemason mythology traces the group's origins to the construction of King Solomon's Temple, historians identify its origins in English medieval stonemason guilds, which formed among the skilled craftsmen who built cathedrals, castles and other stone structures
- The term "Masonic lodge" derives from the working quarters that masons built next to construction sites
- These guilds, especially active during the 14th century, were responsible for constructing some of the finest architecture in Europe, such as the ornate Gothic cathedrals of Notre Dame in Paris and Westminster Abbey in London
- Initiation for new members required a long period of training, during which they learned the craft and were often taught advanced mathematics and architecture
- Their skills were in such high demand that experienced Freemasons were frequently sought out by monarchs or high-ranking church officials
- The guilds provided members not only with wage protection and quality control over the work performed but also important social connections
- **1855** – The Grand Lodge of Canada is formed in order to separate colonial Masons from the Mother Grand Lodge in England.



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- **1859** – The Grand Lodges of Upper Canada and Lower Canada amalgamate.
- **1887** – Previously named Grand Lodge of Canada, located in Ontario, officially changes its name to the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada in the Province of Ontario.

### **Making Good Men Better...**

- The members share a common goal of helping each other become better men
- Their body of knowledge and system of ethics is based on the belief that each man has a responsibility to improve himself while being devoted to his family, work, faith, country, and fraternity
- Freemasonry is not a religion...members choose their own denomination
- In a lodge religion and politics are not discussed
- Freemasonry is a secular movement, although new members are expected to acknowledge a belief in a supreme being, often called the 'Grand or Great Architect of the Universe'
- They do have lodge-based initiation ceremonies
- They are not a cult, secret religion or secret society in the modern use of the words
- Many of the members are well-known leaders in society, business and community leadership
- They engage in community outreach as well as tend to the well-being of our members (giving of 'relief')
- Members wear clothing at ceremonies reminiscent of its founding (e.g. cloth and lamb skin aprons representing leather masonry aprons of yesteryear)

#### **The common incentive the members have in joining is:**

- Brotherly love (of one another)
- Relief (of those disadvantaged) and
- Truth...the courage to live and be true to high standards of morality

Roy was thanked by Gerry Sutton for giving such an informative and personal talk about such an important part of his life.

Mike Purcell closed the meeting.

Jim Tonner

Secretary - January 25, 2023

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### 2022-2023 Management Committee

President	Mike Purcell	(905) 845-4097
Past President	Alex Murphy	(905) 337-2924
Vice President	Alex Murphy	(905) 337-2924
Secretary	Jim Tonner	(289) 337-6693
Treasurer	Ray Hendrickson	(289) 469-0158
Speakers	Tim O'Shea	(905) 842-5133
Activities	Jay Kell	(289) 487-3859
Newsletter	Paul Nelson	(905) 631-2390
Membership	Peter Pretty	(905) 338-5583
Website	Paul Nelson	(905) 631-2390
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	Charles (Chuck) O'Neil	(905) 825-0054
50/50 Draw	Roy Oldfield	(905) 847-2062
Photographs - 1	David Johnson	(905) 338-6076
Photographs - 2	Peter Pretty	(905) 338- 5583
Greeter	Jack Rugg	(905) 820-1973