



THE PROBUS CLUB OF OAKVILLE

Established in 1988 - The Fifth Probud Club in Canada

www.theprobudclubofOakville.com



June 19, 2025 – **In-Person Meeting**. *Meeting begins at 10:00 AM. Featured In- Person Speaker at 11:00 AM. **No Zoom because of copyright requirements.***

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

Plenty of Parking on Water St with Elevator to Second Floor

FEATURED SPEAKER – Adam Shoalts - June 19, 2025

From Lake Erie to the Arctic Coast: A 3,400 KM Solo Canoe Journey



We are delighted that Adam Shoalts will be our speaker on June 19. Professional adventurer and bestselling author Adam Shoalts shares with us the story of his solo canoe journey from Lake Erie to the Arctic, including practical tips to help with the planning of your next 3,400 km canoe trip.

Adam will be present in person. Plan to attend in person since Adam's presentation will not be available to be viewed on ZOOM nor posted to the Probus website. Adam will bring books for sale, which he will sign.

"Declared one of the "[greatest living explorers](#)" by *Canadian Geographic*, and named "Canada's Indiana Jones" by the *Toronto Star*, Adam Shoalts is a professional adventurer and the author of five national bestselling [books](#).

His career has included mapping rivers, leading expeditions for the [Royal Canadian Geographical Society](#) and [Mountain Equipment Co-op](#), archaeological digs, tracking endangered species, and completing a nearly [4,000 km solo journey across Canada's Arctic](#). On his expeditions he sometimes goes months without seeing another person. In 2022, he canoed and hiked [from southern Canada to the Arctic](#).."

This story is now a best-selling book, *Where the Falcon Flies*. You can learn more about Adam at www.adamshoalts.com.

President's Message

**Pub Lunch at Royal Windsor
Pub coming up on June 26**



Sign up to attend at the June 19 Meeting. Free lunches will be raffled off for members and guests based on attendance.

**Members and Guests visited the
Canadian Warplane Museum on**



**May 22 and were treated to
enthusiastic and knowledgeable
guides.**

And some of our members have reported they have been connected

to our old web site. If this happens, try typing in the full name of the new web site:

theprobusclubofoakville.com. You should be directed to the right place. If not, please let me know.

Ted Gorski, a member of our Probus Club for almost 20 years passed away on May 17. We have made a donation in his memory to the YMCA.

Dave Patterson has arranged for an AMICA representative to give a brief presentation of AMICA services at our upcoming June meeting.

I had the pleasure of playing golf with members of the Old Oakville club at the Oakville Executive Course on June 11 . Beautiful day and great people. They play on Wednesdays. Contact Hugo Kammerling at hukamerling@gmail.com if you are interested in participating.

And remember to plan on Monaghan's for our post meeting lunch on June 19. Monaghan's continues to be a great venue for food and fellowship.

Best regards,

Paul Nelson



the royal windsor

✂ PUB & EATERY ✂

**Looking for a Summer treat?
Out Probus Club has
scheduled a Pub Lunch at the
Royal Windsor Pub on June 26
at 12 Noon!**

**The Lunch is open to members,
spouses, significant others,
prospective members, friends,
relatives, and other guests.**

***And remember! If we turn out 25
members and guests the Pub will
provide a free meal to one of our
diners. And if we have 5 more
Diners, another free meal with
added free meals for every 5 diners
up to 40!***

So, if you want a fun time, email Paul
Nelson at
pnelson1941@hotmail.com or sign
up at our June 19 General Meeting.

No cost to sign up.

Don't wait too long. We have to
provide the Pub with a guest
estimate on June 24.



**The Royal Windsor Pub is located
at 610 Ford Drive in Oakville**



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Minutes of the General Meeting - Probud Club of Oakville

Denotes action item

Oakville Public Library

May 15th, 2025

Paul Nelson, President, rang the official bell to open the meeting at 10:00 a.m.

There were 32 members present, plus 3 'Zoomers'.

1.0 Minutes

- (a) Unfinished business from April, 2025...a motion to formally adjourn the last meeting – Secretarial oversight - was formally proposed (Jack Rugg) and seconded (Mike Purcell); the Secretary was awarded 10 demerit points unanimously and was required to retrain at the Royal Windsor Pub's new Academy for Delinquent Secretaries for 30 consecutive days;
- (b) Mike Purcell had been tasked with crossing the border to ask the White House if the cost of the Gordie Howe bridge (**C\$6.4bn**) could be added on to our 2026 Defence Budget to appease the current incumbent. Mike was turned back by the US Border Patrol for expressing bigly unsavoury opinions about the state of play on Pennsylvania Avenue; result...Canada's [Defence Spending](#) contribution still lags those of its Allies;
- (c) The Minutes for April, with two amendments noted, were proposed for adoption by Alex Murphy, seconded by Mike Tweedie and approved without objection.

2.0 Membership and Guests

(a) **Pat Brennan**, new Member, will be introduced at our next meeting as he was unable to attend;

(b) **Hal Buller**, a proud Manitoban, with a career in Health Services and a 20-yr member of our Military was inducted with his Probus Pin and introduced to the Membership. Hal has been honoured for his volunteer work with the Army Cadets and the 'Warrior's Day Parade Council' which opens the Canadian National Exhibition annually;

(c) Ray introduced his brother, **Dave**, who was visiting from the rolling Plains of **Medicine Hat**, where:

... 🎵 the buffalo and F-150s roam 🎵
... 🎵 where never is heard a sep-ar-a-tist word 🎵, and
... 🎵 they shampoo in beer with no foam 🎵.

Stay in the Federation, Alberta, we need each other.

Welcome, Hal, with thanks for your service! We now have **58** members!

3.0 Members' Health

Mike Purcell indicated that he had no current knowledge of any member in ill-health. Mike asked the Membership to be alert for any knowledge of a member in distress (and to pass any reports to Mike), in order that the Club could offer best wishes and support, as necessary.

4.0 President's Report

- (a) Paul noted that our Club visit to the **Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum, Mt. Hope, nr. Hamilton** (9280 Airport Rd, Mount Hope, ON L0R 1W0) was approaching quickly. Mike Tweedie (Activities) has already circulated details (see e-mail of April 10th); **guests are welcome**;
- (b) The Club has received an invitation for interested Members to attend the **Festival of Authors** at Appleby College, May 24th. 3 members expressed immediate interest; details have been circulated already (see e-mail of May 16th);
- (c) Paul recently attended an on-line District 3 Meeting of Probus Clubs in the GTA. There are **~5300 members in 26 Clubs**. The main points of discussion included how to attract membership & management leadership engagement more effectively and whether a member can also belong to multiple clubs at the same time (no apparent reason against, currently). Some 'poaching' of members has been reported. Two new Clubs were certified in April

in response to growing waiting lists. Hopefully, the waiting list situation may apply to us soon!

5.0 Reports – Management Committee and Chairs

Vice President

Roy encouraged members to offer their Profile orally to the membership-at-large during a forthcoming meeting; Mike Purcell offered to share his background in order to encourage new members as well as more 'seasoned' members to see how informal and interesting it is for a member to share his life's story. See below.

Secretary

No further comments to add.

Treasurer

Ray presented the recent account activity; cash on hand is **\$5,442.55**; the financial stewardship of the Club is in good hands. Thanks, Ray.

Speakers

Grant Swanson shared the currently scheduled speakers for the next several months, beginning May, 2025. He acknowledged that Adam Cappelli had stepped forward to share his expertise at very short notice because our planned speaker from Ontario Corps, Emergency Management, had to re-schedule at short notice because of real time emergencies in Canada's North:

- **May** – Adam Cappelli, a co-founder of a Burlington law firm that has grown to 30 employees and certified by the Law Society of Ontario as a Specialist in Estates and Trusts Law ([Cappelli](#) .pdf résumé in **6.0** below);
- **June** – Adam Schoalts, explorer and wildlife biologist, will present his book "Where the Falcon Flies", the story of his solo canoe journey from Lake Erie to the Arctic, including practical tips to help with the planning of your next 3,400 km canoe trip!;
- **July** – George Takach, a retired lawyer and adjunct professor at Osgoode Law School, Cold War 2.0 and Artificial Intelligence: What it Means for Canada, and the USA's Administration;
- **August** – in progress;

- **September** – CAF/DND - themed to coincide with the end of World War II and **Canada's storied contribution in various war time theatres**. Details are being finalized;
- **Oct/Nov** – Ontario Corps – Emergency Management - Nina Diaz, Director, Emergency Management Programs and Partnerships

Activities/Memberships

Mike Tweedie confirmed the membership's interest in the **Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum**, Mt. Hope, nr. Hamilton...~**22 members** expressed interest. The **confirmed date is May 22nd**. Ulrich is taking the cost of entry (\$14) from members by cheque or via the Probus website; **see recent e-mail**. **Members & guests welcome.**

Bus rental costs are excessive; as such, members are free to offer carpooling services to each other.

Please let Ulrich/Mike T. know if you can take a member in your vehicle.

Another popular **event** for **Members & Guests** will be held at 12 Noon on **Thursday, June 26th** at the Royal Windsor - [Pub Lunch, June 26th](#). Remember, for every additional 5 attendees above a minimum of 25, the Pub offers a free lunch (food only). Ask **Ivor B.** to tell you about his great winning experience in the draw! 😊

Peter McCormick is also circulating suggestions on a slate of additional activities to determine interest. **Thank you, Peter.**

Website, Technical Services

Work continues in ironing out the wrinkles amongst the host, Zoom and the Library. Over 100 hrs in labour have been invested in the new website.

The Library is not participating in efforts to broaden our Club's outreach on the OPL website; Gerry P. has attended three classes at Sheridan in which he has solicited ideas from the students with respect to expanding our outreach; Gerry will also approach the YMCA to solicit outreach interest. **Thank you, Gerry/Doug P.**

Book Club

Alex Murphy mentioned that the Book Club now has **8** members.

The next book for review and discussion is 'Agent Zig Zag', a true story of a UK double agent in WW2 who won an 'Iron Cross'. See [Eddie Chapman & Triple Cross Film, 1966](#).

Don Jack read this non-fiction thriller last month and was last seen wearing dark sunglasses in Moscow's Kremlin while completing an application form with a Sharpie in invisible ink. Don't take any wooden rubles, Don!

Investment Club

Jack Rugg substituted for Dave Patterson and took the opportunity to pass the hat to cover a recent unplanned shorting débâcle on the Congolese Mining Exchange.

Q1, YTD is approximately 2.1% (beating several Indices), when taking into account the effects of the market upheaval recently in response to fluctuating tariffs and the prospects of continuing uncertainty. 😞



There's no cash requirement to join, just a lot of 'bull' these days...hopefully, but stay tuned in these uncertain times.

Jack is re-sitting his Broker exams (again), so things are looking up.

Profiler:

Today, Mike Purcell shared his heartwarming story of being adopted at a very young age in Saskatchewan. He was born in Regina (1941) and was cared for temporarily by the Grey Nuns before being adopted by his 'new' parents.

Fortunately, Mike had a very positive experience with his parents in Maple Creek where he worked locally around a retail garage and toiled at other jobs before joining the Bank of Montréal. Mike had postings/assignments in rural Alberta, Northern Canada, Edmonton and Calgary before transferring to Ontario/Head Office, from which he retired in 1998 as a Senior Manager, having accumulated a huge wealth of business acumen, a sterling reputation as a Leader and a large Rolodex of contacts.

Not long after retiring, Mike combined his love of photography and travel by acting as a travel guide, traveling around the world, hosting groups of tourists to faraway places.

He had often wondered about his birth parents and, with his wife Verna's encouragement, eventually came to realize from his dogged research and 'Ancestry.com' that he had siblings with whom he has been able now to re-discover his background and early family circumstances.

His forthcoming trip across Canada to the West this month will allow him and Verna to rekindle old memories with his surviving family & special friends.

Best wishes, Mike/Verna, and thanks for sharing your personal story.

50:50 Draw & Luncheon Count

Today's draw was won by **Alex Murphy** (\$52); a further draw for a bottle of wine (kindly donated by Gerry Sutton) was won by **Doug Peebles**.

6.0 SPEAKER



Today's speaker was **Adam Cappelli**, introduced by Grant, who alerted us to the bizarre (but all too real) case of **Banton vs. Banton**. This case illustrated the perils of not updating a Will when there are material changes of circumstances within a family and/or updating a Will without regard to **three requisites**, particularly in the case of elderly Testators.

The case of **Banton vs. Banton** makes Charles Dicken's 'Bleak House' (and *Jarndyce and Jarndyce*) look simple! The fact situation in **Banton v Banton** underscores the risk to the elderly of being victimized by financial predators who look to marry a vulnerable person for his/her own benefit. As the presiding Judge said:

"I have no doubt at all that this influence was deliberately exerted to enable her to obtain control and, ultimately, the ownership of his assets.... After she consented to marry him, her influence became overwhelming and irresistible. The speed with which she was able to procure a will and a power of attorney in her favour is testimony to this as well as to his weak and vulnerable mental condition. ...Thereafter, he was held incommunicado as far as his family were concerned.... I believe George Banton was a mere puppet, when he was not simply a bystander, during the guardianship proceedings".

*In finalizing his award, the Judge looked back to the wisdom of the day (**Queen's Bench, England, 1870**) where **three elements** needed to be present when changing a Will under unusual circumstances:*

- (i) the testator shall understand the nature of the act he is performing; and*

- (ii) *he shall understand the extent of the property which he is disposing; and (very importantly)*
- (iii) *the testator shall not be afflicted with any disorder of the mind which shall have the effect of poisoning his affections, pervert his sense of right; make him do something he would not do if he was of sound mind (i.e. the moral consequences).*

This was an entertaining case used as an effective teaching aid. **The moral of the story:** it's **easier** to get married in your dotage when a sweet young creature appears by your bedside after a vacation (e.g. to the Caribbean, or to Flin Flon, or to Puvirnituq, or to Phuket) to attend to your every need, but **less easy** to change your Will legally in certain circumstances without careful guidance.



Note: There's a test on this next meeting, so start studying now.

Grant thanked Adam for the case study and the lessons that should be learned therein for any Member, recently returned from vacation, with 'new friends'. 😞

7.0 Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was proposed by Jack Rugg, seconded by Doug Peebles. A deafening scraping of chairs and rush to the exits for lunch confirmed a hurried, but unanimous, acceptance. There were 19 members/1 guest for lunch at Monaghan's. Great to see such fellowship, Gentlemen. Safe trip home, Dave.

The next formal meeting will be **June 19th, 2025 at the Oakville Central Library, 2nd Floor Auditorium.**

Respectfully,
Tim O'Shea,
Secretary,
May 19th, 2025

;

2024-2025 Management Committee

President	Paul Nelson	(905) 631-2390
Past President	Alex Murphy	(905) 337-2924
Vice President	Roy Oldfield	(905) 847-2062
Secretary	Tim O'Shea	(905) 842-5133
Treasurer	Ray Henrickson	(905) 469-0158
Speakers	Grant Swanson	(905) 510-8202
Activities	Doug Peebles	(905) 842-1819
	Mike Tweedie	(905) 338-1281
	Ulrich Wickhardt	(905) 465-0641
Newsletter	Paul Nelson	(905) 631-2390
Membership	Jay Kell	(289) 407-3859
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	Mike Purcell	(905) 845-4097
Auditor	Tony Pinchen	(289) 837-1086
50/50 Draw	Roy Oldfield	(905) 847-2062
Investment Club	Dave Patterson	(905) 844-5894
Greeter	Mike Purcell	(905) 845-4097
Book Club	Alex Murphy	(905) 337-2924