



THE PROBUS CLUB OF OAKVILLE
Established in 1988 - The Fifth Probuc Club in Canada

www.theprobucclubofoakville.com



July 17, 2025 – In-Person and Zoom Meeting. *Meeting begins at 10:00 AM. Featured In- Person 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

FEATURED SPEAKER – George Takach



Probus Club of Oakville
Speaker Information
July 17, 2025

Cold War 2.0 and Artificial Intelligence: What it Means for Canada, and the Trump Administration

We are delighted that George Takach will be our speaker on July 17.

With wars in Ukraine and the Middle East, and rising tensions around Taiwan, come hear author and geopolitical analyst George S. Takach explain the artificial intelligence dynamics that tie all these events together.

George believes we are in a new cold war, and that artificial intelligence will be key to whether the democracies or the autocracies win this struggle. He will also address what it all means for Canada specifically. In addition, George will have thoughts on the Trump Administration in Washington. After his presentation, there will be a chance for questions and discussion.

George has undergrad and law degrees from the University of Toronto, and an MA from the Norman Paterson School of International Affairs in Ottawa. He is a former partner and national Technology Industry Leader at the McCarthy Tétrault law firm, where for 35+ years he represented Canadian and international technology companies like Constellation Software (with financings, M&A and commercial matters) and traditional companies



and governments with their sophisticated technology transactions and projects (he acted for Waterfront Toronto on its transaction with Sidewalk Labs/Google several years ago). During his legal career he was also an Adjunct Professor at Osgoode Hall Law School for 22 years, a columnist for Lexpert Magazine, and wrote three books on tech/law topics.

Since his retirement from the law a few years ago he writes books on technology and geopolitics for a general audience, including ***Cold War 2.0: Artificial Intelligence in the New Battle Between China, Russia and America***. George will bring copies of this book for purchase and signing.

George's honorarium and all proceeds from the sale of the book will be donated to a registered charity, Lake Scugog Camp, an overnight camp for kids, youth and moms in difficult circumstances

President's Message

Dues for the 2025-2026 fiscal year should be paid by July 31



Your Management Committee voted to hold annual dues at the current level of \$75. But there is also a new option. Putting in a Toonie for Coffee and Timbits at meetings causes confusion for a number of reasons, so we are offering members the opportunity to join the **Honours Coffee** program and add \$10 to their annual dues for a total of \$85.

Honours Coffee participants will not need to pitch in a Toonie for coffee at all 11 General Meetings.

Members who elect not to participate can simply pay regular dues and continue to put in a Toonie when they have coffee.

Members can pay their dues online (A reminder of the online process follows) or pay Ray Henrickson at the July 17 Meeting.

Members and Guests enjoyed a tasty and friendly Pub Lunch at



the Royal Windsor Pub on June 26.

And because we were able to provide 26 Members and Guests, Royal Windsor management raffled off 2 free lunches for our group!

The Activities Committee has selected The Oakville Golf Club as the site for our Annual Holiday Luncheon in December. Stay tuned for more details.

Peter McCormick will be presenting more Activities ideas at the July 17 Meeting.

We were sad to hear about the passing of Ivi Patterson, wife of our long-time Investment Club Chair and Past-President, Dave Patterson.

Our sincere condolences to Dave. We all wish him well.

Paul

Dues Payments 2025-2026

For Probus members wanting to make payment to the Club by Interac e-transfer, do the following:

- 1) Access the e-transfer area of your bank's online banking screen.
- 2) Set up the Oakville Probus Club as an e-transfer recipient. Use oakvilleprobusno5@gmail.com as the club's email address. You will only need to set up the Club for the first e-transfer. After that the Oakville Probus Club will be included in your personal e-transfer directory.
- 3) Identify the account from which you want to send the transfer and amount of the payment that you wish to send.
- 4) In the message area specify the purpose of the e-transfer payment. **Do not create a security question/password.** This will prevent the autodeposit from happening.
- 5) Click on "Send". You will receive an immediate response that your payment has been sent and deposited into the Club bank account.

All e-transfers are automatically encrypted and are highly secure. No personal or bank data that is attached to the e-transfer can be hacked or stolen by a third party.



2025-26 Dues are \$75 or \$85 for those who wish to participate in Honours Coffee (participants will be entitled to coffee and Timbits at all 11 Geeneral Meetings without depositing a Toonie). Such a deal! Big Discount!

Members can also pay dues directly to our Treasurer, Ray Henrickson, at our July 17 Meeting

Gerry Sutton, President of The Probus Club of Oakville 2012-13, will be celebrating his 100th birthday on July 23. Happy Birthday, Gerry





THE PROBUS CLUB OF OAKVILLE

Established in 1988 - The Fifth Probud Club in Canada

www.theprobudclubofOakville.com



Minutes of the General Meeting - Probud Club of Oakville

Denotes action item

Oakville Public Library

June 19th, 2025


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

There were 33 members present in person....'Zooming' was not available in order to accommodate the Speaker's copyright arrangements with his Publisher.

1.0 Minutes

- (a) Tim perused the Minutes of May 15th, 2025. He noted the interesting case last month, which was discussed by our speaker, Adam Cappelli, on the general subject of Wills & 'tarmac' marriages of convenience. Of further note, was a very recent case in Vancouver...[BC Widow & Male 'Companion' - Family allowed to challenge the Will](#)...wherein a widow was (allegedly) subject to undue influence by a (much) younger man. Hmmm...read on for additional interest. 🤔
- (b) However, I digress. Jim Toner offered a motion to approve the Minutes, seconded by Peter McCormick. Motion passed unanimously, without discussion. (Phew!)
- (c)

2.0 Membership and Guests

- (a) Several guests were introduced by Members (Andy Vavasour; Brock Hobbs; Martin Swales (who was last seen signing a membership form and handing over 7 x \$50 bills for his first month's dues. Way to boost the pot, Ray!). This is great to see, especially when we were able to showcase a great Canadian Explorer today as our speaker. We hope that our guests will be inspired to join us and to also consider active involvement in the Club. The timing is relevant as our new slate of Management Committee and other Officers will be presented in August for confirmation and additionally at the September 18th, AGM. There is an opportunity for everyone! Express your interest now!
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- (b) Pat Brennan, a recent new Member whom we were hoping to introduce to the Membership, sustained a broken leg in an accident this week. We hope to see you soon, Pat, on crutches or otherwise! Best wishes.
- (c) Jay did introduce a new Member however – Alex Thomas. Alex is a recently retired executive with an educational focus on Technology and Food Science. His former Company in which he maintains an active interest, [New Directions Aromatics](#), retails a wide variety of essential oils and other ingredients, particularly for those in the aromatherapy and natural product industries. Welcome, Alex! We note that one of your interests is investing. Watch out for Dave Patterson who is always on the prowl for [investment club](#) talent!

Club Membership is (still) 57.

3.0 Members' Health

Paul reported that Ted Gorski, a long-time member, passed away mid-May. The Club has contacted Liz, Ted's wife, to convey our condolences. With Liz's agreement, a donation in Ted's memory has been made to the YMCA, Oakville.

Paul substituted for Mike Purcell, a former President, who is en-route from Nanaimo, BC on his annual 'Save the Orca' expedition. Mike is wingman for his best buddy David Suzuki ('Suks') and he has accumulated 75 kgs of Orca waste to nourish the phytoplankton for his killer fish and the roses in his yard. He's taking the Canadian route home

to avoid explanations to US Customs. Hopefully, he won't have to unpack the cargo in the event of a flat.

Not to be outdone by today's guest, Adam Schoalts, stay tuned for Mike's latest documentary..." *From BMO to Bella Bella, BC & Beyond – How Suks and I discovered Hunlen Falls – Canada's Highest Free-Falling Waterfall*"...(hmmm – don't they all fall down?)

Safe trip home, Mike. Grant has scheduled a full account your Orca accumulation activities as back up in the event of need.

4.0 President's Report

Paul noted that our Club's visit to the Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum, was a great success. Mega kudos to the Activities Team (Mike T.; Ulrich W.; Doug P; Jay K.)

- (a) Paul recounted a summary of a true tale of a particular C-47 Dakota...a poignant event at a key exhibit at the Museum. Read on...

During the tour, one of the Museum's Guides, Mike Tabone, shared the story of a wounded British Serviceman Charles Stanley Pryer (Royal Army Service Corps) who was flown out of the combat zone by a Canadian 437 squadron C-47 Dakota, one of the same planes that dropped British paratroopers into Normandy on D-Day, 1944. This Dakota medevac'd 300+ Servicemen during 1944-1945.

On Pryer's way back to the United Kingdom he signed his name, the date (April 3rd, 1945), and his hometown location in pencil¹ on the inside of the plane, a message that went unnoticed until 2015 when the plane was donated to the Museum and restored. Tabone was instrumental in tracking down Pryer's next of kin. His daughter, Jenny Harrington, came to the Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum in Hamilton from Dorset, England in 2021 to see the signature of her now-deceased father for herself. [C-47's WWII 'hidden' story revealed at Warplane Museum](#) (¹ Editor's Note... no bigly Sharpies then, just stubby pencils!)

Tabone also located the next of kin of another Serviceman TPR (Trooper) Wright who lived in Leeds whose evacuation details were found in the same Dakota. Who said we don't need passionate Volunteers! Thanks Mike.

- (b) Paul also informed the Membership that we are receiving a preferred discount on our meeting facilities from the Oakville Library, such that our **monthly meeting costs are now reduced to \$26!**

5.0 Reports – Management Committee and Chairs

Vice President

some members to encourage them to offer their Profile orally to the membership-at-large during a forthcoming meeting.

Given the recent and worrisome warmongering chatter bombings in the Middle and the US, Paul had if **Ivor Barlow**, a former Armaments Expert, be interested in sharing experiences working and redesigning (ICBMs) Inter Continental Ballistic Missiles. **Stay tuned!**



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Whoa!

Secretary

No further comments to add...already said too much.

Roy will be contacting

Treasurer

Ray presented the recent account activity; cash on hand is **\$5,176.53** (and better than budget – YTD); the financial stewardship of the Club is in good hands. **Thanks, Ray.** Bon voyage with member-to-be Martin's dues! 😊

Speakers

Grant Swanson shared the currently scheduled speakers for the next several months, beginning July, 2025.

- July – **George Takach**, a retired lawyer and adjunct professor at Osgoode Law School will speak about the **implications of**

the new world order for Canada and the role of artificial intelligence in modern warfare. He has written a book: *Cold War 2.0 and Artificial Intelligence: What it Means for Canada, and the USA's Administration*;

- August – George Chisholm, President, Oakville Historical Society, will speak about the history of Oakville and the role and activities of the Society (it was surprising to know how few of our Membership were born/reared in Oakville);
- September – coincident with the end of WWII in the Pacific theatre 80 years ago, Lieutenant-Colonel (Retired) Shelagh Stevens, will speak about her extensive experience in Canada's military and Canada's role since the end of World War II;
- October/November – Ontario Corps – Emergency Management - Nina Diaz, Director, Emergency Management Programs and Partnerships. (Nina was scheduled to join us last month, but had been diverted to help with flood evacuation and forest fire containment in Northern Ontario and elsewhere);
- November – in progress...stay tuned. Great work, Grant.

Activities/Memberships

If you have not already done so, please let Paul/Ulrich/Mike T./Doug P. know if you will be attending

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 share 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

Hal Buller, a recent new member, has been added to the Technical Services group (Gerry; Doug P.).

This week's presentation went off without a hitch. Great job, Gentlemen.

The next piece in the technical puzzle is a location enhancement to the speakers/sound system within the audience. Seems like you three are all having fun!

Book Club

There was no book/meeting scheduled for this month. The Club is on a short furlough...just like our Canadian Parliament...except way shorter. The Club would like to see 1 or 2 more members join. Please talk to **Alex Murphy or Jay Kell** for your discount coupons booklet and free introductory '2-4' case of beer.

Investment Club

There were no new comments from Chair, Dave Patterson. The Club continues to look for new talent. It could be that new Member, **Alex Thomas**, could be persuaded to lend some expertise?

Tim noted that **Jack Rugg**, the Congolese Mining last month was absent for. However, Jack *did* show up several iron ore samples said were absolutely, possibly copper, or depending on the angle of sun....honest! 😊 There were few takers, mercifully, and Jack sold no more than 10 copies of his Bre-X memoirs.



who featured in Exchange débâcle the meeting. for lunch carrying and some rocks he bigly, **pure gold**, or chromite the equatorial

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

Profiler:

There was no Profiler scheduled today as we had a special guest, **Jade Williamson**, Community Relations Director, from **Amica, Bronte Harbour** ([Amica](#)).

Jade is also featured on a popular Halton TV Show with Mary Dilly - [Savvy Seniors](#), Oakville. She provided an interesting summary overview of the facilities at Amica, which can be accessed above. Amica also provides the Investment Club with free meeting facilities. **Thank you, Jade & Dave Patterson.**

50:50 Draw & Luncheon Count

Today's draw (one of the highest ever, \$59.00) was won by **Cam Davreux** - congratulations; there were 19 people for lunch, many vying to sit next to Cam, who immediately donated his prize winnings to the Orca Fund.

Excellent interest, Gentlemen! G-r-e-a-t conversations at lunch.

6.0 SPEAKER

Grant introduced today's speaker, Dr. Adam Schoalts, a renowned cartographer, biologist and 'Explorer-in-Residence' at the Royal Canadian Geographical Society.

See Adam's web page for greater detail [Solo Explorer](#).

Wow...what a presentation!

Focused primarily on **"Alone Across the Arctic, 2017"** & **"Lake Erie to the Arctic, 2022"**, Adam showed us some stunning slides of the privations and triumphs of solo exploration. Hard to put the achievements into words when you see the evidence!

Adam will also be seen over Canada Day as one of 10 Canadians whose contributions are being featured in *The Toronto Star*.

Adam was also Canada's No. 1, non-fiction best-selling author last week, with his re-discovered 2017 book **"A History of Canada in 10 Maps"**.



Cam Davreux thanked Adam for a thoroughly stimulating presentation.

7.0 Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was proposed by Don Jack and seconded by Alex Murphy. A noticeable number of members queued to purchase one of Adam's books.

There were 19 for Monaghan's. Great to fellowship,

The next formal **July 17th, 2025 at Central Library, 2nd Auditorium.**



lunch at see such Gentlemen.

meeting will be **the Oakville Floor**

Respectfully,
Tim O'Shea,
Secretary,
June 24, 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

