



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

www.theprobudclubofOakville.com



November 20, 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

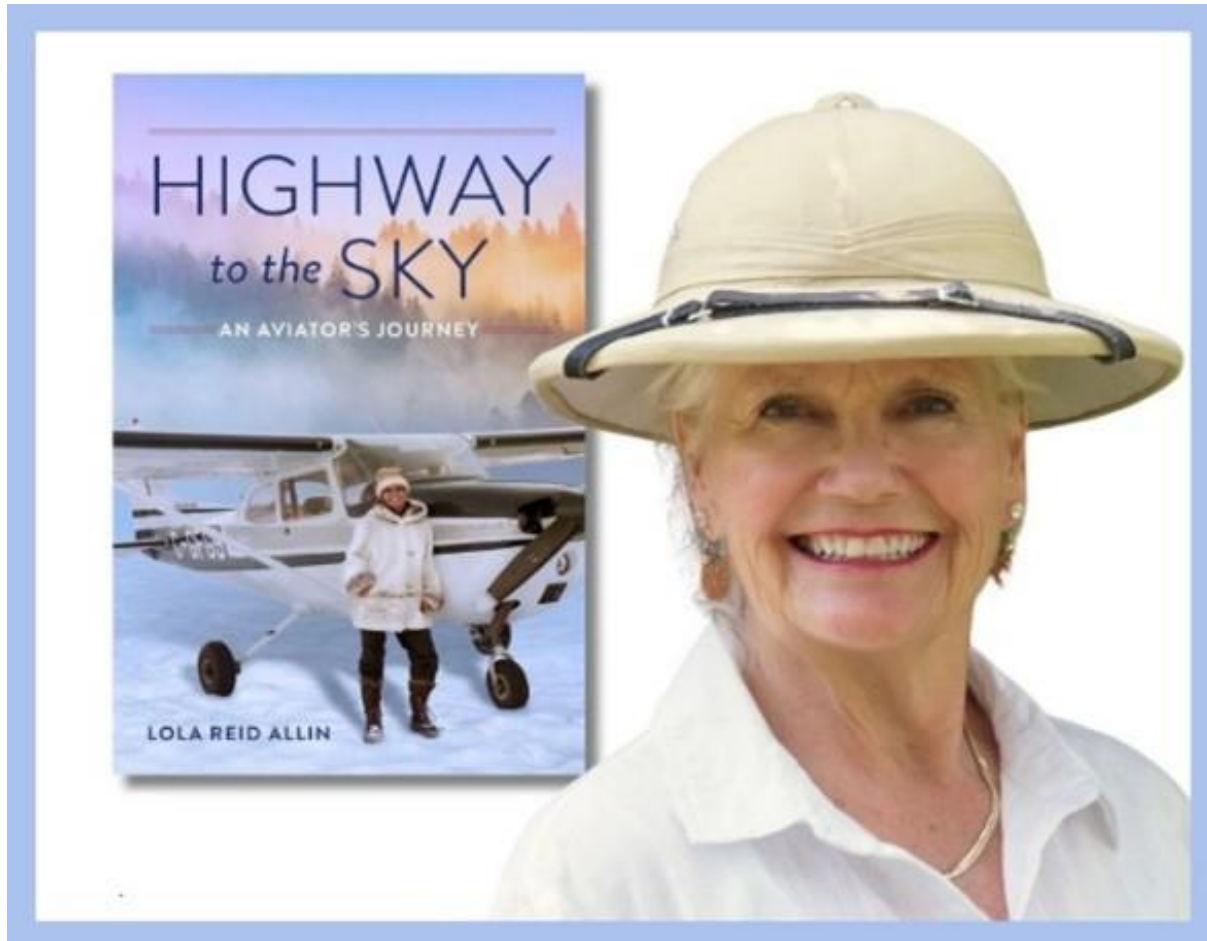
FEATURED SPEAKER – Lola Reid Allin



Probus Club of Oakville
Speaker Information
November 20, 2025

Highway to the Sky: An Aviator's Journey

We are delighted that Lola Reid Allin will be our speaker on November 20.



Lola Reid Allin is a former Airline Transport Pilot with 6,000 hours flight time, rated for wheels, floats, and skis. She worked as a pilot for the Ontario Government (DHC-6/300) and DeHavilland/Flight Safety (DHC-6/300; DASH8). She was also an examiner for Private Pilot Licenses, a Class I flight instructor, and the first female Chief Flying Instructor at Vanderhoof Flyers Mountain Airport, BC, and Waterloo-Wellington Flight Centre.

After graduation from the University of Waterloo, where she studied psychology, anthropology, and genetics, she became an award-winning photographer and author. Her work has appeared in national and international publications, including National Post, National Geographic, Smithsonian Magazine, Globe & Mail, Verge: Travel with Purpose, Toronto Star, Grapevine, and Santa Fe Centre for Photography.

She is the 2025 recipient of the Quinte Arts Council's **Arts Recognition Award** for her patronage and contribution to the arts scene.

November 2025 Newsletter

As a professional SCUBA Dive Master, she worked in Mexico. During this time, she traveled throughout Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula, Belize, and Guatemala, living with the Maya in their homes. These experiences are the subject of her next book, **Mayalum: Travels in the Maya Lands**. These are but a few of the sixty-five countries she has explored.

Her memoir, **Highway to the Sky: An Aviator's Journey**, was released Sept 2024 by She Writes Press/Simon & Schuster. In 2025, it became an Amazon bestseller in the Top 100 Dysfunctional Relationship and in Aviation & Nautical Biographies.

You can learn more by clicking the following link:

lolareidallin.com

President's Message

NOVEMBER 2025



Well, it is hard to believe that we have reached the second last month of the year 2025. Where did the year go?

This past month was a busy one. One of the activities I participated in was an on line seminar on technology as to how to attract and maintain members and keep them informed and advised as to what is going on in your Probus Club.

As usual we had a very informative speaker at the October meeting and the speaker of November will no doubt be one not to miss. Our speaker will have books for sale at the meeting.

Our **Christmas Lunch** is fast approaching, **Wednesday December 3, 2025** at the **Oakville Golf Club**. You have had many messages sent to you regarding the lunch. I hope that you have committed to attend and have let Peter McCormick know your food choice for you and your guest. If you are wondering why we are only accepting cheques for payment it is due to the fact that our Treasurer will be away and we will not be able to determine if you paid if

you use e-transfer to the bank. Thank you for your understanding. You can make arrangements at the November meeting if you have not yet done so.

Unfortunately we had to cancel the outing to Little Canada as there were not enough registered to attend. When the Activities Committee asked for a show of hands at a meeting there were at least 20 who indicated that they were interested in attending. Thus they went ahead and made the arrangements. As many of you know there is a lot of work, time and effort in making arrangements. When you have to cancel the event it was all for not. In future if you indicate that you are interested in an outing please ensure that you stand by your intention to attend.

We certainly got an early taste of winter a week ago. No doubt there was a mad rush to install winter snow tires. Be careful when driving in winter conditions. Safe travels to all who are travelling over the holiday season.

As we move into the holiday season, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your families a **VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS** and **A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR!!!**

Roy Oldfield

President



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Minutes of the General Meeting - Probud Club of Oakville

Oakville Public Library, Navy St.

October 16th, 2025

Prior to formal business, the President issued a **Call for a Minute of Silence** to reflect upon the recent passing of **Grant L. Gooding** and to recall his contribution as Club President and as a friend to many.

As advised previously, a celebration of life for Grant will be held at the **Oakville Club, 56 Water Street, Oakville on Friday, November 21, from 2 pm. to 5 pm.** Members & Guests are all welcome.

Roy Oldfield,

President, opened the meeting *twice* (once at ~~7:45 a.m.~~ when he misread the Auditorium clock and one was there) and later at 10:00 a.m., after Members (and the coffee) had arrived.



no-

Roy had already made Librarian-in-Charge to change our watches to the duration of the conclude the meeting before he'd actually started, nor begin before he had concluded and, more importantly, Monaghan's wouldn't be open for lunch.



a quiet, courteous call to the enquire whether we should all DLT (*Daylight Library Time*) for meeting as Roy did not want to conclude the meeting before he'd actually started, nor begin before he had concluded and, more importantly, Monaghan's wouldn't be open for lunch.

Either way, his **Circadian Rhythms** were now unfocused and 'shot' (*advanced medical term*) for the whole day.

Hmmm...if you are confused, so am I, but for a deep dive understanding of your Circadian Rhythms, not Roy's, visit the [Mayo Clinic](#) (*if not closed for the shutdown*); warning...bring your health card or **lots and lots of US\$**.

I digress, but am now back on track.

1.0 Membership and Guests

There were **38** Members present today, plus 3 'Zoomers', none of whom appeared to have cookies, plus Timmies Donuts, like we did.

We had two guests...

- Michael Dwyer introduced his brother-in-law from Orillia - **Barry Fawley**;
- Jay Kell introduced **Cristian Solari** who found us on our web site. Great to see you, Gentlemen.

Jay now has one of his spare luggage trackers attached to Cristian's bike so he can hunt him down and deliver a Membership Application Form. Infectious dedication, Jay!



2.0 Minutes:

Alex Murphy moved that the Minutes of the **September 18th, 2025 regular meeting** be approved. **Jim Tonner** seconded the motion. The motion was approved by the Probus members present.

3.0 Members' Health

Mike Purcell - another **nil report** of a member in ill-health...the best kind!

4.0 Reports from Management Committee Members:

President

Our re-focused President mentioned that some Members would like to have a copy of the **full** new list, if approved by would have personal available to the public, of a positive unanimous circulate a new list, via



Membership List. A the Membership, data, not generally omitted. As a result vote, Tim will our Club g-mail,

showing only name & surname; telephone contact number; and e-address. Tim will also have a **hard copy of the new list** available at the next meeting for any **member who does not have ready access to a printer**.

Vice-President

Ray apologised for wearing his new chain of office (VP-Grade 4, 2nd Class) which many had noticed was held together with a paper clip. (What next, Ray? We have standards.)



Following an **admonition from the Podium** by our Circadian-restored President, Ray did however rectify that sartorial oversight as an **on-call dial-a-blacksmith** ('Igor') had matters fixed by

To his credit, **sign up the** apparently we ago who and ate more value of his (unpaid) Dues.



Jay attempted to blacksmith, but had one a while drank more coffee donuts than the

Aside from all that, Ray indicated he would be introducing today's 'profiler' **Aivy Reinfelds** later in the meeting.

Treasurer

Wolfgang animatedly described the continuing healthy state of our Club's finances. Our current Bank balance is **\$8,301.35**. Thank you, Wolfgang.

Speaker's Report

Grant Swanson shared the forthcoming list of speakers for today, November and, tentatively, Q1, 2026. **Great line-up, Grant.**

- **October, 2025** - **Virginia Heffernan**, Principal at GeoPen Communications and an exploration geo-scientist, who will talk to us today about **Ontario's Ring of Fire**;
- **November, 2025** - **Lola Reid Allin**, a **pioneering aviator, an award-winning photographer and author** whose work has appeared in national and international publications, including National Post, National Geographic, Smithsonian Magazine, Globe & Mail, Verge: Travel with

Purpose, Toronto Star, Grapevine, and Santa Fe Centre for Photography;

- **December, 2025 – no meeting/speaker...Christmas Luncheon**
- **January, 2026 – Emergency Management, Ontario;**
- **February, 2026 – Quantum Industry Canada;**
- **March, 2026 – Ermanno Pascutto – Club Member;**
- **April, 2026 – George Takach** (July, 2025) returns with an AI update and his recent trip to Taiwan amid global tensions with China.

Remember, Members, if you have an idea for Grant to pursue, please let him know at: gswanson@cogeco.ca

Investment

Nothing additional to report beyond what was presented in detail last month at the AGM. This paper tiger Club continues to do well and has **earned superior returns since it began** 23 years ago!

Dave is desperate to dump the Club's **vast holdings of gold and swap for washing machine parts** which he figures is *the* place to be, post USA shutdown and pre-Gaza reconstruction.



If you know where (**non-USA**) parts are located and if you are interested in joining and have some fun, call **Dave Patterson at 'Junk is Us' (905) 844-5894, or davepatterson@sympatico.ca.**

But I digress, again...

Technical

Gerry P. was away today; his band techie musketeers ably substituted in stead. Thank you, **Hal & Doug**. Great Hallowe'en costumes, Gentlemen.



of
his

Activities Committee

- **Peter McCormick** advised that our Christmas Luncheon for Members & Guests will be held again at the Oakville Golf Club (Sixth Line, L6H 6M1).



Mark your calendars for **Wednesday, December 3rd.**

Further details to next meeting including how to choice of salmon; the trimmings, or wieners.



follow at our (Nov 20th), preselect your turkey, plus all beans and

- A tour of **"Little Canada"** is now planned for **November 6th**. This will involve taking a 'GO Train/subway to Toronto, unless you want to travel by car! Urgh!;

A show of hands last month indicated that **22 members, and partners**, would be interested. Please be sure to purchase your train & subway tickets at your preferred station **in advance of your actual travel**.

Wolfgang **will not cover fines, or bail**, if you are caught by the train cops. [Before you travel...](#) & [All About Presto](#). Peter provided some additional relevant logistical event updates for the event;

Peter also advised the following events which are in the planning process and some of which will be dependent upon winter weather:

- A tour of the **Amazon, Brampton**

fulfilment/warehouse facility is planned for 2026, with details to follow;



early

- A tour of **Dundern Castle National Historic Site** - [Dundern](#);
- **Oakville Transit** Facility Control Room;
- The ever-popular **Pub Lunch at the Royal Windsor**

Great energy, Guys. Well done!

If you have any follow-up questions, please contact Peter at:
petergmccormick@hotmail.com

5.0 Profiler – Aivy Reinfelds

Fully revitalized with his new Chain of Office and replacement links, Ray led off the profile event with a rousing chorus of [Let's Go, Blue Jays, Let's Play Ball](#) followed, appropriately, by an acappella rendition of Verdi's 'Anvil Chorus'.

Our hero dial-a-blacksmith (Igor) was back on the road attending to another emergency paper clip call at the Mayor's Office and unable to conduct or beat out time with his hammer. Go, Igor, Go!

Aivy Reinfelds was our guest profiler and did a great job of recounting how he arrived at an early age in Canada with his family which had escaped the pressures of the regime in Latvia during the Cold war.

Following the completion of his university education in Forestry and Business, he started his career at Rogers Cable. A notable piece of history is that he installed the first Pay TV Box for a customer. Aivy's career grew over time, and after two decades at Rogers he moved to Yellowknife with his wife Sally and two young kids, where he became GM/VP Bell's cable operations in the north.

He eventually returned to Toronto and Rogers Communications to keep generations of family close, in one province. In time, Aivy did switch tracks to join Rogers Media, where his role was to grow the revenue of Rogers' sports business given newly added NHL rights and the company's acquired stake in MLSE.

In addition to being a Probus member, Aivy's active in curling, gives his volunteer time to a Friendship program for shut-ins and enjoys the retired life!

Great job, Aivy. Your comfortable and informal chat with us should inspire others to step up to the podium and share their story. Thank you.

6.0 50:50 Draw & Luncheon Count (16)

Today's draw (\$57) was won by Dave Patterson. Healthy drinking, Dave... this should buy you a sniff of a gold bar,



or a re-conditioned water pump from a 1956 Kenmore side loading washer!

7.0 GUEST SEAKER

Grant introduced our featured speaker, Virginia Heffernan, author, field geologist and journalist. Virginia is the author of the book *Ring of Fire: High-Stakes Mining in a Lowlands Wilderness*, which explores the complex business and engineering conflicts surrounding the Ring of Fire mineral deposits in Ontario.

Finding Virginia is another coup for Grant as it is rare to find one person with an accumulated wealth of facts around this unknown, but hugely impactful topic.

Virginia's presentation and her book examined the challenges of developing the region's rich, critical mineral deposits, which are essential for green energy, while also considering Indigenous rights and environmental protection. Heffernan, who has a background as a field geologist, offers a hopeful but balanced perspective on the potential for responsible resource development in a vast, isolated and hitherto under-developed area.

Given the competing interest of Ukrainian, Russian and Chinese governments on the emerging needs of industrialized powers for critical minerals like nickel, copper, and chromium (amongst others), Canada/Ontario is sitting on high concentrations of these hard to find and hard to mine minerals in the Hudson Bay Lowlands. The presentation gives us cause to pause for the future as initiatives finally appear to be gathering form in what has been an area of potentially hidden treasure.

Grant thanked Virginia for her illuminative presentation; it was clear that there was great interest in her book which was also available for purchase.

8.0 Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the general meeting was made by Jack Rugg and seconded by Paul Nelson. The motion was approved by the Probus members present; Roy Oldfield adjourned the meeting at 11:55 a.m.

Our next meeting here in the Auditorium is **November 20, 2025**. There were **16** members for lunch.

Respectfully,
Tim O'Shea,
Secretary, October 21st, 2025



2025-2026 Management Committee

President	Roy Oldfield	(905) 847-2062
Past President	Paul Nelson	(905) 631-2390
Vice President	Ray Henrickson	(905) 469-0158
Secretary	Tim O'Shea	(905) 842-5133
Treasurer	Wolfgang Hartmann	(905) 257-6811
Speakers	Grant Swanson	(905) 510-8202
Activities	Peter McCormick	(905) 827-9274
	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	Alex Murphy	(905) 337-2924
50/50 Draw	Ray Henrickson	(905) 469-0158
Coffee Pickup	Tim O'Shea	(905) 842-5133
Investment Club	Dave Patterson	(905) 844-5894
Greeter	Mike Purcell	(905) 845-4097
Book Club	Alex Murphy	(905) 337-2924
	Cam Davreux	(905) 338-1974