



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

www.theprobudclubofoakville.com



July 16, 2026 – 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 - John Donohue



Probus Club of Oakville
Speaker Information
July 16, 2026

Our Quantum Present and Future

We are delighted that John Donohue will be our speaker on July 16.



Quantum mechanics shook the field of physics when it was proposed, dramatically changing our understanding of the world smaller than the eye can see. It has also dramatically shaped society, providing technology from lasers to MRI machines. In this talk, we'll discuss and demystify how we use quantum technology every day, how its implications shape our understanding of the world around us, and how research into future technologies like quantum

computing provide a new frontier in science.

John Donohue is the Senior Manager of Scientific Outreach at the Institute for Quantum Computing (IQC), a research institute at the University of Waterloo. John is responsible for making quantum science accessible for everyone by working with teachers on curriculum-appropriate material, running cutting-edge summer schools for high-school and undergraduate students, and bringing demos and exhibitions into public spaces. John earned his PhD from the University of Waterloo in 2016 for work in nonlinear and quantum optics, and studied nonlinear waveguide technologies during a postdoctoral position at Paderborn University in Germany.



PROBUS CLUB OF OAKVILLE

FELLOWSHIP • FUN • SHARED EXPERIENCES

MEN
CONNECTING
AND ENJOYING
LIFE TOGETHER



KEEP THE FELLOWSHIP GOING: RENEW YOUR PROBUS MEMBERSHIP FOR 2026-27 TODAY!



THERE ARE THREE WAYS TO RENEW:

1



**SEND AN
INTERAC E-TRANSFER**
as per the instructions
below.

**PREFERRED METHOD
OF PAYMENT**

2



BRING A CHEQUE
payable to the
Probus Club of Oakville
at our next meeting in
July or August.

3



MAIL A CHEQUE TO
Wolfgang Hartmann
2459 Herfordshire Way
Oakville, Ontario
L6H 7M8

if you pick the
Honours Coffee option
to cover coffee and Timbits
at 11 General Meetings.

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 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.



2026-27 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 General Meetings without depositing a Toonie).

*Such a deal!
Big Discount!*

THANK YOU FOR BEING AN IMPORTANT PART OF OUR PROBUS FAMILY.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

July 2026

I am pleased to be able to report that all is going well with The Oakville Probus Club.

We had an enjoyable meeting in June and the highlight, other than the speaker was having a cake to celebrate Gerry Sutton's 101st birthday which is actually in July.

Probus Canada is celebrating its 40th year. I will be sending out a request from **Probus Canada** as to how you can be involved in this celebration.

I understand that there was quite a storm last Thursday in Oakville. I hope that no one's home or property was damaged. I was not home at the time and am pleased that our home and property was not affected.

The activities Committee has been working hard to arrange some outings. The next on

is at the:

Waste Water Facility

On July 23, 2026

A message was sent to all members. Please let the Activities Committee know if you will be attending.

There are more activities in the planning such as:

- The Amazon Tour; Still working on this event
- The HMCS Haida Tour,
- Fall Train Tour;
- Quarterly Pub Lunches
- Hamilton Military Museum Tour in November

The activities Committee works hard to plan these events and it is hoped that you, our members, will participate in these outings.

Grant Swanson has arranged for excellent speakers over the next few months. Our last month's speaker was very interesting about the monarch butterflies.

Again I bring to your attention that we are looking into forming some small interest groups in addition to the Book Club and the Investment Club. Let us know if there are any groups that interest you. Thus far I have not had any response. Perhaps a wine club, a breakfast club, a dinner club etc..

Jay Kell, our Membership Chair, is still asking for assistance. If anyone would like to join Jay he would be most appreciative. It is not an overwhelming job however assistance is needed.

If you are vacationing this summer I wish you safe travels to wherever you are going.

Take care and enjoy the rest of the summer.

Roy Oldfield

President

Minutes of the General Meeting - Probus Club of Oakville

Oakville Public Library, Navy St.

June 18th, 2026

DENOTES ACTION REQUIRED

Roy Oldfield, President, having spent two nights outdoors in disguise as an apprentice butterfly catcher, opened the meeting at 10:00 hrs.

Roy was hoping to be an honorary assistant to Margaret, our keynote Speaker today, and was dressed to impress.

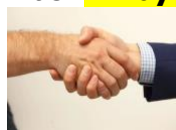


1. Membership and Guests

Jay Kell: There was one new inductee announced today...see below, pg.2;

(Updated)... 26 Members, from our full complement of 60, attended in person today; there was one (1) 'Zoomer'.

Our first guest of the '**Be a Friend – Bring a Friend**' initiative last month was **Kirby James** (Tim O'Shea). This is one of our key drives for membership whereby every **new guest at our monthly General Meeting** (max. 5 per meeting) will be treated to a **free lunch** at Monaghan's. Once we've snagged 100 hundred new members, we'll reassess! A reminder was sent to the full Membership recently.



DENOTES ACTION

Kindly give this initiative serious thought and confirm your guest's name to Jay Kell at: jaykell9@gmail.com, or (289) 407 3859.

Jay introduced new member **Larry Ladouceur** and welcomed him to the Club, which now has 60 members.

Membership dues (unchanged at C\$75) are on the horizon for the new year (September, 2026 to August, 2027). Jay will send out reminder notices, including the option for an extra \$10 to have free coffee & 'Timbits' for all 11 meetings. Payment by internet to the **Club's membership tab is preferred**, but other payment forms are acceptable.

Jay is also looking to have some help on the Membership Committee. **Let's 'be a friend' to Jay, too, and volunteer an occasional hour a month to help him.**

1.0 Minutes

Roy reviewed the May 21st, 2026 Minutes in Tim's absence which had been sent to the Membership in Word & Pdf formats. A motion to adopt and approve was passed unanimously by those present, having been proposed by Gerry Pielsticker and seconded by Mike Tweedie.

2.0 Members' Health

Mike Purcell

- Thankfully, Mike advised no new reports of any Member's ill health;
- Sadly, however, Mike reported the death of a **former guest from Australia, John Taylor**. John was a member of the Sydney, Australia Probus Club who, with his wife Joan, had been hosted by our former President John Beales (RIP) in 2013; [John W. Taylor](#)
- John reciprocated by hosting another former President, Mike Purcell and his wife, Verna, during Mike's first term as President;
- For over 20 years, John **shared the Sydney Newsletter** with our Club. We hope that kind gesture will now continue under another Sydney Club member's leadership.

And now for some **really** good news!



Gerry Sutton is about to celebrate his 101st Birthday.

Happy Birthday, Gerry!

The Members in attendance sang heartily and shared cake with Gerry, hoping to see him for many more happy occasions.

4.0 Reports from Management Committee Members

President

Roy led off the batting order...

- There may be room for additional interest groups to form within our Club to cater to our changing demographic; the demographic 'gap' between senior members and new members is ~12 years.
- Already-established Clubs (e.g. the Investment Club and Book Club) may be potential early sources of interest for newer and prospective members, but more intra-club activities may be useful in promoting our drive for members;
- A wine club, a breakfast club, a dinner club etc. may be of interest?; thus far, somewhat disappointingly, no Member has indicated any interest in creating additional Clubs;
- Roy will be absent from the July General Meeting; Ray Henrickson, our Vice-President, will preside over that meeting in Roy's stead.



Nomination Committee

Paul indicated that there has been an improved interest in members who have expressed interest in next year's slate of Officers to manage the Club.

If you are interested in offering your candidacy for a committee/support role next year (Sept to August), or to enquire generally, kindly advise Paul Nelson.



(pnelson1941@hotmail.com).



The pre-AGM Convention this year will be held in Hilton Head, SC Maple Creek, SK. Get your Greyhound Bus Ticket 'special' from Mike.

This is the social event of the year that you will want to miss.

Nominations will close in July in preparation for informing the Membership; voting will take place in August at the monthly meeting and finalized at our September AGM.

Vice-President

No new items to report from Ray; today's profiler was unable to attend. Ray will preside over July's General Meeting.

Treasurer



Wolfgang shared the May, 2026 transactions...our finances are in sound shape, and our current Bank Balance as of May 31st was **C\$6,456.82**. Keep those dividends rolling in, Wolfgang.



Speakers Report

Grant Swanson shared the forthcoming list of tentative speakers for today and for the next several months; some speakers' names/topics are being finalized already for our Fall/2027 meetings:

- Today – **Margaret Larson**, an **Oakville senior** who has been recognized for her efforts to support the survival of the **Monarch** butterfly; Margaret will be presenting with some hands-on exhibits; register your nets at the coat check, Gentlemen;



- July – **John M. Donohue**, PhD, Senior Manager, Scientific Outreach, **Institute for Quantum Computing**, University of Waterloo;
- August – **Kevin Matsui**, MBA, P.Eng., Managing Director, **Centre for Advancing Responsible & Ethical Artificial Intelligence** (CARE-AI), University of Guelph;
- September – **Ted Barris**, a **military historian** will speak about the stories of **Canadian aviators and ground crew in the Battle of Britain**, the **86th** anniversary of which is imminent.



- October – In process... arrangements being finalized;
- November – **Advocacy Center for the Elderly**; arrangements being finalized;
- December – no general meeting – Annual Christmas Luncheon;
- January – In process.

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

Investment Club

Jack Rugg substituted for Dave Patterson and presented some impressive stats for the Club's performance over the last **24 years, beginning May 07, 2002**:

- Starting from a notional **C\$200,000**, Jack & his Club colleagues had parlayed that sum to **C\$1,929,238**, incl. dividends, as of April 30th, **2026**;

- Jack calculates that the Club has averaged an annual compounded return of **9.91%**, including dividends and distributions, over the life of the Club;
- Bear in mind that many major Institutional Indices reported negative returns during this period;
- **This quarter**, the Club is playing a little catch up (-1.26%) and changing the stock compilation of some sectors to rebalance the portfolio and chase the TSX's Composite Index returns to May 31st of 9.64%;

Tim has updated the approved Investment Club page on our web site for reposting onto the Probus site by Gerry P.; thereafter, we can update the Investment Club page semi-annually.



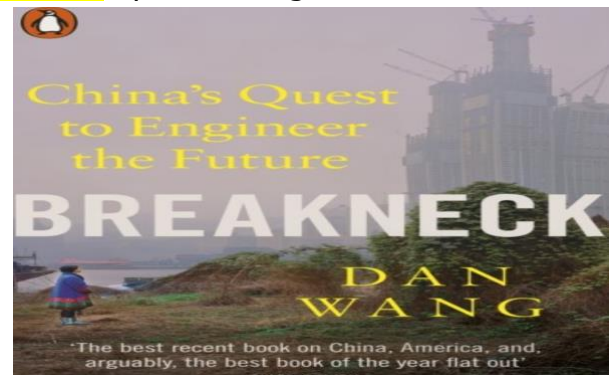
If you would like to join the Club, call Jack or Dave to start the ball rolling.

The Club meets monthly. It is keen to invite new members who may be interested also in expanding the breadth of the Club's activities.

No money down, Gentlemen; just bring your interest and have some fun.

Book Club

Cam Davreux reported that the group is thriving and currently reviewing "Breakneck": China's Quest to Engineer the Future by Dan Wang. For close to a decade, Dan Wang has been observing China's tumultuous and astounding growth. The state has constructed towering bridges, gleaming railways and sprawling factories to improve economic outcomes in record time. But rapid change has also sent ripples of pain throughout society. China has grown so quickly in part by beating America at its own game...capitalism and harnessing the restless energy of a vast population. Here, Wang blends political and economic analysis with reportage into a provocative new view of what might emerge.

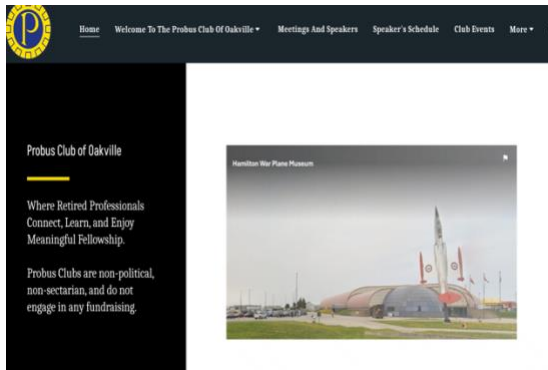




Check in with Cam Davreux if you are interested in becoming a member (camdevreux@gmail.com). New members who do not like a sherry apéritif in a pint glass are welcome to bring a case(s) of **fine single malt whisky** to reinvigorate current stocks and sharpen vigorous debate over cheese and crackers.

Technical

Gerry and his team have removed the traffic cones and yellow tape around the gizmos that adorn the 'front of house' space, sharply reducing our trip hazard premium with our Insurer. A **new & improved wireless microphone system** now allows us to call Hobart, Tasmania's **Probus Club** for only **8¢ per minute** with supreme clarity.



Other marketing changes have been made to our site to link the Club by Facebook, Instagram and 'Linked In', thus promoting our profile.

On a more serious note, Gerry is offering his time to treat **former member Brian Noble**, who is in declining health, to a periodic ride in the country and an ice-cream when his health allows.



Great way to help Penny, Brian's wife. If you want to join Brian & Gerry some day for a country jaunt, let Gerry know. **Way to Go, Gerry**...what an unselfish Guy!

Activities Committee

DENOTES ACTION REQUIRED

Peter McCormick brought us up to date on planned activities:

- June 23rd...Howard Iron Works, Oakville - a world class, family-owned printing museum;
- A confirmed visit to the Amazon Facility in Brampton is like getting cut-price tickets to a FIFA game; suffice to say that we are disappointed with the front desk's shenanigans; Amazon has one last chance to give us a date for September; Doug Peebles is on the chase;
- Attempts are being made to resuscitate the trip to Dundurn Castle as a result of the Castle Administration changing its group tour protocols;
- July 23rd...Waste Water Treatment Plant Wellies & Smellies; more details to follow from Ulrich W., including exact location of the facility;
- August...Hamilton Waterfront Trolley & HMCS Haida visit;
- October...South Simcoe Railway Trip;
- November...how about we suggest a few ideas to Peter & Team?;
- Good variety, Guys. Keep up the good work!



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

3.0 50:50 Draw & Luncheon Count

Ray H. announced a haul of \$39, which was won by Peter McCormick.

There were 14 attendees for lunch at Monaghan's.

4.0 Speaker

Just prior to Grant using the new microphone and introducing Margaret Larsen, three (of the estimated 72.5bn Monarch Butterflies in the world) escaped from the holding container and flew into the library's rafters. 'Fuzzy, Woozy, and Dopey', as nicknamed by Margaret, were not sensitized to the anticipated decibel output and their sophisticated gyroscopes reacted accordingly.

Temporary panic ensued with multiple offers of help to recapture the 3 Monarchs 'on the lam':

- **One of the Mikes** (surname withheld on account of embarrassment) offered Tim's border collie (Finn) to corral the miscreants. 'Finn' was away in Vaughan-Woodbridge chasing parked 8-Cyl Honda Civics and deemed unavailable. Keep taking your medicine, **Mike P.**;
- **Keith** was seen on his phone again furiously dialing either his bookmaker or the Entomologist -R-Us Helpline for assistance;
- **Hal** offered to ramp up one of his many gizmos to stun the critturs, but Margaret said 'no way' as it was tantamount to 'mon-slaughter';
- Roy leapt up rose presidentially to use his net, but Don had driven over it in 4th gear and the net was in shreds;
- Eventually, Margaret found her trusty laser whistle and and 'Fuzzy, Woozy, and Dopey' fluttered back into their container and all ended happily, as **Beatrix Potter** would say.



When order was restored, Grant introduced today's speaker **Margaret Larson, Oakville's "Butterfly Lady"**.

Margaret is an award-winning local conservationist recognized for her **life-saving work with Monarch butterflies**. She dedicates her time to collecting monarch eggs from milkweed, raising the caterpillars, and releasing them safely back into the wild once they emerge from their cocoons.

Her grassroots conservation efforts and outreach have transformed backyards and green spaces across Halton Region. Margaret provided a fascinating presentation on the life cycle of this 'Lepidoptera' about which more can be found here [Monarch Facts](#). Amongst other achievements, **Margaret has been recognized** for:

- **Community Conservation:** She actively encourages residents to protect monarchs by planting local milkweed and native flowers, drastically increasing the survival rate of the endangered species;
- **Public Outreach:** She regularly partners with local organizations like the Oakvillegreen Conservation Association and the Oakville Public Library to host educational seminars for adults and youth about the butterfly lifecycle;
- **Local Recognition:** Due to her relentless dedication, she was honored with the prestigious **Ontario Senior Achievement Award**. **Way to Go, Margaret!**

5.0 Adjournment

Roy adjourned the meeting at 12:00 p.m. to allow time for Margaret and her two helpers (Rose & Jennifer) to do a ~~headcount~~ wing count audit of the remaining Monarchs which fluttered quietly, in situ, and to release the Members to wing their way to lunch at Monaghan's.



Our next General Meeting here in the Auditorium will be **July 16th, 2026.**

Respectfully,
Tim O'Shea,
Secretary,
June 29th, 2026

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

Meeting Technical Coordinators	Hal Buller Andy Vavasour	
Marketing Technical Coordinators	Doug Peebles Mike Tweedie	(905) 842-1819 (905) 338-1281
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