THE PROBUS CLUB OF OAKVILLE

Established in 1988 - The Fifth Probus Club in Canada

www.theprobusclubofoakville.com

October 15, 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 – Katherine Clark

Probus Club of Oakville
Speaker Information
October 15, 2026

Doctors Without Borders/ Médecins Sans Frontières

We are delighted that Katherine Clark will be our speaker on October 15.



Katherine worked with Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) for seven years. She began in the Toronto office in Donor Relations before moving into field work. Over five years in the field, she supported MSF missions in countries like Central African Republic, South Sudan, and Syria. Her primary role was in supply logistics, ensuring that medical colleagues had the supplies, equipment, and resources they needed to provide care in some of the world's most challenging settings.

Today, Katherine is a registered midwife working in Guelph, where she supports women and families through pregnancy, birth, and the postpartum period. Katherine hopes to one day return to MSF in a new role, bringing both her humanitarian and midwifery experience back to the field.

Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) is an international emergency medical humanitarian organization founded by doctors and journalists in 1971. Teams go where people’s needs are greatest to provide neutral, impartial, and independent emergency healthcare to people affected by disaster, disease, conflict and exclusion. MSF also bears witness, amplifying patient and staff experiences and speaking out to bring abuses and intolerable situations to the public eye. Around 68,000 people work for MSF in over 70 countries. More than 80 per cent of staff are hired in the countries in which MSF works. MSF offers basic healthcare, performs

surgery, addresses epidemics, rehabilitates and runs hospitals and clinics, carries out vaccination campaigns, operates nutrition centres, provides mental healthcare and offers training to local medical staff. MSF works with communities and often in support of local health authorities. Human connections are at the heart of its work, and medical staff are able to offer care to people in need of assistance thanks to a vast network of staff and supporters.

Check the Website:

About Doctors Without Borders | Our Mission & Work

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

OCTOBER 2026

As I begin my term as President I'm looking forward to working with our Management Team. We have a strong group in place and I'm confident that our talents and commitment will help us continue to offer the members of our Club interesting and rewarding opportunities to socialize, learn and participate.

A little bit of context. At the beginning of September, several members of our Club attended the Face to Face Probus District 3 meeting that was a forum to discuss the successes and challenges faced by clubs in the GTA. Probus Canada currently has 40,000 members in more than 260 clubs administered through 15 districts. Ontario District 3 has 6,000 members in 29 clubs. Several clubs have over 250 members with lengthy waiting lists for new members. As it turns out, we are one of the smallest clubs in the GTA.

At the beginning of each year, we typically experience a decline of membership for various reasons such as members finding they are no longer able to attend meetings, they move away or experience health issues. A priority for us will be to grow membership. But membership shouldn't be like television where we sit back and watch the action. Membership should mean participating in activities that stimulate interest and foster community. Our Management Team will be exploring new ideas while ensuring our speakers, activities and meetings stimulate members' interests.

I encourage all members to bring their ideas and feedback to me or the Management Team to help make this Club the best it can be.

2027 is the 40th anniversary of Probus Canada. There were 4 charter member clubs in 1987. Probus Club of Oakville was the 5th club in Canada when we were founded in 1988. Probus Canada will be asking all clubs to share in the celebration of this anniversary. We will be keeping you informed as events unfold so that we, too, can celebrate.

I'm looking forward to a productive and enjoyable year. Together we will continue being a welcoming, connected community where friendships grow, Club activities stimulate, and learning thrives.

Regards,

Ray Henrickson

Consolidated Minutes of the Annual General Meeting & September General Meeting – The Probus Club of Oakville

Oakville Public Library, Navy St.

September 17th, 2026

DENOTES ACTION REQUIRED

Roy Oldfield, Past President, (substituting today for our new President - Ray Henrickson) opened this first meeting of our new calendar year 2026-2027 at 10:20 a.m., following the Annual General Meeting which had taken place at 10:00 a.m.



The full AGM Minutes are attached; these will be reviewed again in September 2027 at the next AGM:

Official Minutes_AGM, Sept

Official Minutes_AGM, Sept

In keeping with past transfers of soft power, Roy left a secret envelope in the podium for Ray, just like 'Dief' did for Pearson in 1957. *'Undisclosed sources'* close to the MC speculate the likely content deals with:



- how to keep potash and diesel safe from the US;
- how to petition Ottawa for a *change of name* from Lake Superior to Lake Inferior;
- how to agitate for 'Timmies' to put 51 donuts in a carton instead of 50.

President's Report

Roy's report was previously sent out in the September Newsletter. He reiterated how much he had enjoyed the Presidency and appreciated the support and comradeship of the Membership during his term. **Thank you, Roy**!

Additionally, Roy reported that he, Grant Swanson, Ray Henrickson and Gerry Pielsticker had attended a District 3 'face-to-face' meeting on September 11th. Details to be shared at a subsequent meeting.

Committee Chairs' Reports

1. Membership and Guests

Jay Kell indicated that there were no new members to introduce; our Club has 51 members to start the new Club year.

38 Members (75%) attended in person today; there were four guests, two of whom are now pending members – Tommy Walsh & John Elliott. 🙂

Ray H.'s brother-in-law, Dennis Lemon, came all the way from Saskatoon as part of family reunion and joined us for the meeting and lunch. Dennis was given the names of several Probus Clubs in Saskatoon if he wants to progress his interest in membership there. Hopefully, we'll hear more from the last guest, Brad Balance.

1.0 Minutes – August 25th, 2026

In the scramble to finish on an accelerated time schedule to allow sufficient time for today's Speaker, approval for the Minutes was overlooked! The Minutes will be presented for approval at our next monthly meeting, October 15th.

2.0 Members' Health

Mike P. Mike reported that **Fred MacLennan** was undergoing tests after a recent incident**.** Thankfully, there were no other reports of Members' ill health.

On two brighter notes, Dr. Ernest Ewaschuk, who had been undergoing Cancer treatments for 2 years joined us again. After chatting with Mike, Ernest has agreed to share his journey with the Club at some future date.



Great to see you again, Ernest!



Mike also acknowledged Gerry Sutton's contribution to the Club over the past quarter century. At the notable age of 101, Gerry will be leaving Oakville next month for Gananoque to be closer to family. **Safe travels, Gerry!**

4. Reports from Management Committee Members

In order to give our keynote speaker, Ted Barris, as much time as possible today, reports were limited to the Treasurer, Activities and Speaker Chairs.

Treasurer



Wolfgang shared the August, 2026 transactions…our finances are in sound shape, and our current Bank Balance, as of August 31st, was C$9,209.74. Thank you, Wolfgang, for your stewardship.

Speakers – In addition to sharing forthcoming guests, Grant Swanson introduced **Ted Barris C.M**., today's guest. Ted has shared his stories and applied research with us on several prior occasions.

- Coincident with the timing of the Battle of Britain's 86th Anniversary, Ted shared the often-unknown stories of men and women who quietly went about their fearsome duties







without fuss or fanfare in this (his *22nd) book*. The engrossing details inform us about our Canadian Air Crews' service amidst the ever-present dangers of aerial warfare and their team accomplishments during WWII, particularly in September/October, 1940. As Churchill said…

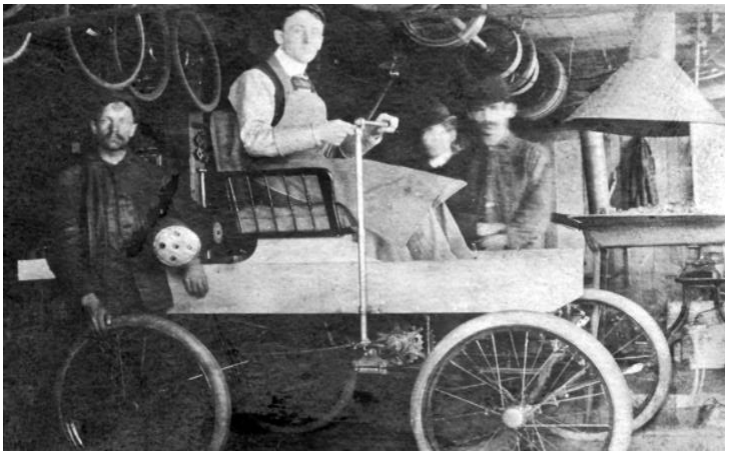
"Never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few".

- Read the full story within Ted's book at: Extraordinary Canadian Men & Women.
- October - Katherine Clark, who has extensive and chilling experience with 'Médecins Sans Frontières' *(Doctors without Borders)*, both in Canada and in faraway countries including Chad, Central African Republic, and South Sudan, will share her stories;



- November - Advocacy Center for the Elderly – Ermanno's daughter is a lawyer there. They represent seniors who have been scammed or subject to elder abuse. Grant is in the process of finalizing arrangements;

- December – no general meeting – Christmas Luncheon, **December 3rd**;
- January – Ron Foss, who is the grandson of the inventor of the 'Fossmobile' which was arguably built *before* Henry Ford's car will join us. He has stories about its creation and use and has built a working replica of that car. Canada's own Fossmobile, 1897



Remember, Members, if you have an idea for Grant's successor (Paul Nelson) to pursue, please let Paul know at: pnelson1941@hotmail.com. You have passed on a great line-up, Grant! **Great work**.

Activities

DENOTES ACTION REQUIRED
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Peter McCormick brought us up to date on planned activities:

- ✓ A Pub Lunch was scheduled for September 24th at the Royal Windsor Pub; we were expecting 22+ members. (**Editor's update**…another successful event with **25** attendees! The Ruggs scored two free lunches; Peter McC. & Rory Mahon won a Coor's Light – Royal Windsor hoodie. Peter also won the draw! See the AI-assisted, Heineken-drinking, *Coor-zi Twins* below! Brand memory is short these days!



- ✓ ~~A Train Tour is being planned for the South Simcoe Railway on October 17. Senior tickets ($14) and 'Other' tickets ($17); these are expected to be available on September 8 and **will require sign ups**~~; **since cancelled;**
- ✓ A Toyota tour (Cambridge Plant) is being planned, November 5. The Tour will be free, but government ID will be required for security purposes. Bus rental is being investigated;
- ✓ And finally, the Christmas lunch is scheduled for December 3rd at the Oakville Golf Club, Sixth Line.

*** Peter & the Team have asked each of us to offer 3 suggestions for an Activity which can be considered by the Team. If we don't participate, then we can't complain! ***See the e-mail sent last week***.

Two submissions have already been received, but we would like to see more.

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

5. 50:50 Draw & Luncheon Count:

Wolfgang. announced the winning ticket was held by **Hal Buller who won $37.50.**

Ted Barris also provided a free copy of his book. Kudos, Ted…much appreciated! The winner in that draw was Peter McCormick ~~again~~! *Hmmm…is this guy lucky, or what? Steward's Enquiry may be warranted?* 😉

There were 21 attendees for lunch at Monaghan's.

6. Adjournment



Roy officially welcomed our new President, **Ray Henrickson**, at the Podium. Ray thanked Roy for his tenure and then Ray adjourned the meeting at 12:05 p.m.

Our next monthly General Meeting will be here in the Auditorium, **October 15th, 2026.**

Respectfully,
Tim O'Shea, Secretary,
September 25th, 2026

2026--2027 Management Committee

President	Ray Henrickson	(905) 469-0158
Past President	Roy Oldfield	(905) 847-2062
Vice President	Grant Swanson	(905) 510-8202
Secretary	Tim O'Shea	(905) 842-5133
Treasurer	Andy Vavasour	(709) 727-8180
Speakers	Paul Nelson	(905) 631-2390
Activities	Peter McCormick	(905) 827-9274
Newsletter	Paul Nelson	(905) 631-2390
Membership	Jay Kell	(289) 407-3859
Website	Gerry Pielsticker	(905) 338-9829
Technical Co-ordinator	Hal Buller	(905) 825-3231

Key Support Positions

Meeting Technical Coordinators	Hal Buller Andy Vavasour	(905) 825-3231 (709) 727-8180
Marketing Technical Coordinators	Doug Peebles Mike Tweedie	(905) 842-1819 (905) 338-1281
Auditor	Alex Murphy	(905) 337-2924
50/50 Draw	Grant Swanson	(905) 510-8202
Coffee Pickup	Tim O'Shea	(905) 842-5133
Investment Club	Dave Patterson	(905) 844-5894
Greeter	Mike Purcell	(905) 845-4097
Book Club	Cam Davreux	(905) 338-1974