

Probus Club of Burlington



Newsletter

May 2024

Speaking at our May 16th meeting will be **Shahzi Yasmin Bokhari** who is the Community Engagement Lead with **Connection in Action** and **Halton's Older Adult Isolation Action Table**.

Topic: *The Value of Social Connections and Introducing Connection in Action*

You will learn about the value of social connections, the impacts and outcomes of isolation and loneliness, and how you can help promote social connections within your communities. You will also gain an understanding of Halton's older adult (55+) population and how Connection in Action supports older adults in Halton.

Connection in Action is an information and referral hub for adults aged 55 and older living in Halton who want to increase their connections within the community. Shahzi has been the Community Engagement Lead with Connection in Action for 3 years. She has co-developed the initiative's outreach strategy and information materials with older adults and through an age-friendly lens. As a relatively new and unknown initiative, Shahzi helps to raise awareness about Connection in Action to service providers and directly to older adults by presenting to community groups, tabling at community events, and distributing postcards and other resources.



Supporting vulnerable and marginalized communities through knowledge and information sharing, capacity-building, and advocacy has been a life-long passion. Shahzi holds a Master of Social Work degree from McMaster University. Her professional experience includes community engagement, community-based research, working with population data for community profiles, and program evaluation.

Upcoming Speakers

June 20 - Jamie Williams, Norm Foster Festival

July 18 - Ryan Uytendewilligen, Going to the (Canadian) Movies

August 15 - Daniel Aonso, Dolly Parton (Beyond the Rhinestones)

September 19 - John Boyko, Canadians in the Civil War

October 17 - Paul Sharman, Deputy Mayor of Burlington and Halton Regional and Burlington City Councillor

November 21 - Chris Leworthy from, England joined us by Zoom to talk about the Dam Busters

President's Message

As promised, a quick recap of the meeting two weeks ago of the Burlington PROBUS Clubs.

The clubs agreed to share information about speakers and coffee sponsors in order to ensure that members are seeing/meeting the best of the best.

We also agreed to possibly opening up certain activities to all PROBUS members that would fall under a "mixed" event (eg theatre and plays) where we might benefit from a bigger discount with a larger group attending.

Other groups are seeing a boost in membership numbers by spreading news of PROBUS at members golf leagues or curling clubs. New members are the key to ensuring sustainability of our club. Thank you to everyone for your efforts in bumping up our numbers by inviting friends and neighbors to our meetings or referring people to our website.



A special thank you to our April speaker Jason Stitt. He certainly opened my eyes to the endless number of scams we seem to face on a daily basis.



And a shout out to Bob Ritchie for his fantastic rendition of Happy Birthday on the bagpipes. Thank you, Bob!

Keith Dobson President Probus Club of Burlington

Are you a social media whiz? Do you have an hour or two a month to offer? Would you like to help your Probus Club reach out? If you answered yes to these questions, please contact Keith Dobson, President.

New Members



BRIAN TREGUNNO

Born 1953. Raised on Market Gardening farm on Maple Ave, Burlington ON. Attended Univ of Guelph BSc (Agr) 1975 McMaster University (CIM) 1982. Recently retired from a vegetable seed company that sold directly to farmers throughout Canada and the US. Prior to this I was the Manager for a Flower Seed Company with headquarters in Mississauga and Chicago. Started career as a Field Manager in Norfolk county for Canadian Cannors (Aylmer/ DelMonte) Married with two adult children and 4 grandchildren.

A longtime resident of Burlington. Interests include classic (old) British cars and an active participant at our local Y. He has also served on Museum board in this city.

Edward Anthony Wrobel

Ed was born in 1946 in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan. Two years later he moved to St. Catharines, Ontario, where he completed high school. Ed had interest in electronics so chose to go to Ryerson University (Toronto Metropolitan University) graduating in Electronics Engineering in 1968.



In 1981 Ed joined Sola Electric, as VP Marketing & Sales. Six years later was promoted to General Manager. Sola manufactured lighting ballasts and other electrical products, employing 160 people. In 1993 Ed lead a successful leverage buy-out of the ballast business with his management team and outside investors. Now as CEO, Ed relocated it to Nova Scotia, and renamed it Ballastronix Inc. Executing this buy-out was the most exciting, challenging and rewarding part of Ed's career.

Following a successful first year growth, Ballastronix was awarded "Manufacture Of The Year" by the Canadian Electrical Manufacturers Representatives Association" and In 1995 Ed was named a "Finalist" for the "Entrepreneur of the Year Award" for Atlantic Canada.

In 1997 Ed sold Ballastronix to a Cleveland Corporation and became Group President and he moved back to Ontario. Ed decided to take early retirement and did consulting and real estate sales afterwards.

Ed and Bev have been married for 56 years and have three children, Craig, Colin & Christine, and 5 grandchildren. All three children live in southern Ontario and work in the electrical industry.

Throughout their marriage Ed & Bev enjoyed travelling. One of Ed's favorites was taking trips in their motorhome. Both enjoyed golf, tennis and Bridge. Ed now plays Pickleball and Duplicate Bridge.

Passings



We regret to inform you that Ken Gibson one of our Charter members passed away on April 14th. The visitation and funeral are on May 9-10.

Click this [link](#) to go to Ken's obituary.



Stan Rogers passed away on April 29th. He has been a member since 1992 and will be missed. The visitation and funeral will be on June 1.

Click this [link](#) to go to Stan's obituary.

Membership Chair Position

We are looking for someone to lead our Membership Committee. This is not a recruitment role, but rather an administrative team that manages members' information and keeps numbers up to date. The committee is not responsible for finding new members, but is there to ensure that new members are welcomed and have the answers they need to onboard successfully

The Committee currently has 2 excellent members, Ian MacIntyre and Ray Paquette who are active in keeping records accurate. The Committee needs a voice at the Management Committee level and as such is seeking someone to accept the role as Membership Chair.

Please see Keith Dobson if you are interested.

Greeters (always) wanted!

Are you new(ish) to the Probus Club? Do you see a lot of faces that you would like to get to know better? Then you will enjoy becoming one of our greeters! All you need to do is arrive at 9:30 and shake hands! (No test afterwards!) Contact Keith Dobson kdobson1257@gmail.com to get your name on the list.



Coffee Sponsor in April

Mary Dilly is the owner of Downsizing Solutions, a full-service downsizing and moving company. Mary's team specializes in working with seniors who are downsizing to smaller accommodations or retirement living. Mary supports Halton Women's Place with donations of furniture that her clients can't take with them to their new homes.



Social Events arranged by Dave Rokosh

PROBUS CLUB OF BURLINGTON BREAKFAST



All club members welcomed

HARVEST TABLE
3350 FAIRVIEW AVENUE
THURSDAY May 2nd at 8:30am

Join us for lunch at The Squire, 3537 Fairview St., Burlington, after our Probus Meeting. Members and guests welcome.

Annual Golf Tournament - **REGISTRATION DEADLINE**
IS EXTENDED TO MAY 2ND The annual interclub Golf Tournament with the Lakeshore Probus Club is scheduled for May 17th 2024 Details are provided in the LINK below.

Thomas L. Evans Email: "tomevans1933@gmail.com"



Full details of the Golf Tournament can be read by clicking [HERE](#)

List of Your Probus Club Executive

President

1st VP

2nd VP

Past President

Secretaries

Treasurer

Communication Chair

Website

Membership Chair(acting)

House Chair

Events Chair

Golf Chair

Speakers

Marketing Chair

Keith Dobson kdobson1257@gmail.com

Bill Williams charles.williams@sympatico.ca

Your name could be here

Chris Walker mcdwalkers@sympatico.ca

Tom Evans tomevans1933@gmail.com

John Bembenek jb1@cogeco.ca

Mike Binder mbinder@cogeco.ca

Gary Hindley GHindley1@gmail.com

Bill Valcour bvalcour@bell.net

Keith Dobson kdobson1257@gmail.com

Bob Dickison rgdickison@gmail.com

Dave Rokosh rokoshda@gmail.com

Tom Evans tomevans1933@gmail.com

Kevin Harraher kharraher@sympatico.ca

Neil Berger neilberger25@gmail.com

Technology Interest Group



We are a joint, Burlington and Lakeshore Probus Club group, who get together to discuss current developments in technology including but not limited to computers. We help solve each others technology and computer related issues. We meet the 4th Thursday of the month at 10 am (one week after our regular Probus meeting) at the Burlington East Presbyterian Church on Walkers Line and have an option to join via Zoom. The cost is \$5 per meeting. If you would like to join us please email Bob Dickison at rgdickison@gmail.com and he will add you to our email list.

Do you enjoy being a member of Probus?



If you do, then, no doubt you have friends who would also like Probus. Do them a favor and invite them to join you as a guest at one of our meetings. We have many interesting speakers over the next few months!

Should you need an application form for friends who would like to join us this year, you can visit our website at <https://www.probusclubofburlington.ca/> or email Keith Dobson at kdobson1257@gmail.com

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