



BROCK-GEORGINA PROBUS NEWSLETTER

PROBUS BUZZ

Your Management Team

President: Debra Lippay

Vice President: Irene Skinner

Treasurer: Nic (Nichola) Peterson

Secretary: Susan Caswell

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Social Co-Chairs: Lil Madden, Gloria Racine-Prosser

House Chair: Sheila Massey

Newsletter Editor: Lynne Davidson

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Member Ambassador: Gail Wright

Speakers Chair: Debra Lippay*

Interest Group Chair: Irene Skinner*

Website Administrator: Debra Lippay*

* Interim positions looking to be filled

Learn More about Us and Probus:

www.brockgeorginaprobus.ca

www.probuscanada.ca

Contact Us:

info@brockgeorginaprobus.ca

President's Message:

Greetings and salutations!

♪Rain drops on roses and whiskers on kittens♪... ok, maybe not roses yet, but certainly rain drops, and I am always a sucker for a kitten 😊.

Here we are in March, and yes, we are seeing those most welcome signs of Spring: melting snow is a big one, after so much again this Winter. Insects are waking up, the birds are stirring in the morning, buds are forming on the trees - ♪It is a beautiful day in the neighbourhood♪! As I write this, I can see a Bluebird in the back meadow - woohoo!

So, February and the meeting that wasn't. If we can go back to that month, just for a nanosecond. Thank you everyone for your understanding in us canceling our meeting. I know you look forward to getting out to socialize, even in a bit of snow. But it did get rather nasty in the afternoon that day - postponed by a few hours, but it did hit, and we wanted everyone safe at home and not on the roads. Better days ahead! Enough about February.

Our March speaker, Amina, is going to be fabulous and she is looking forward to meeting us! Remember to bring any old cameras you would like to donate to her "Cameras for Girls" organization. It doesn't matter if they aren't in working order (just make sure they don't still hold film!) - and where else are you going to be able to donate these things?

The skiers and snowshoers are trading in their equipment for hiking and running shoes, and we all look forward to some more outside time. It is really happening, after our long Winter wait.

And our potluck is going to happen after our meeting - a fun way to socialize and share food. There is still time to register!

All the latest here - enjoy the read! This is your reminder of our meeting next Wednesday. I'll see you at the Hall.

Debra

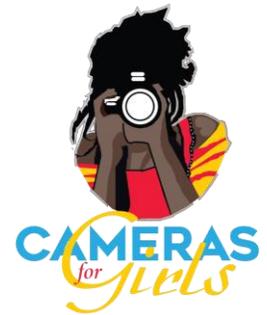
Upcoming Speakers

Wed. March 18, 2026 – “Cameras for Girls”

As mentioned at our last meeting, our March speaker, Amina Mohamed, is going to tell us all about the organization Cameras for Girls, and she would love to collect any used camera equipment that you may like to donate. Cameras for Girls provides and educates girls in Africa with the profession of photography, where they can obtain jobs in the field. New cameras go to the girls, to give them hands-on training in the field.

Amina Mohamed is the Founder and Executive Director of Cameras For Girls, a Canadian charity and Ugandan nonprofit that supports young women across Africa to build careers in photography, storytelling, and media. Since 2018, Cameras For Girls has trained over 200 women and distributed more than 200 cameras, helping graduates move into paid work in male dominated media spaces.

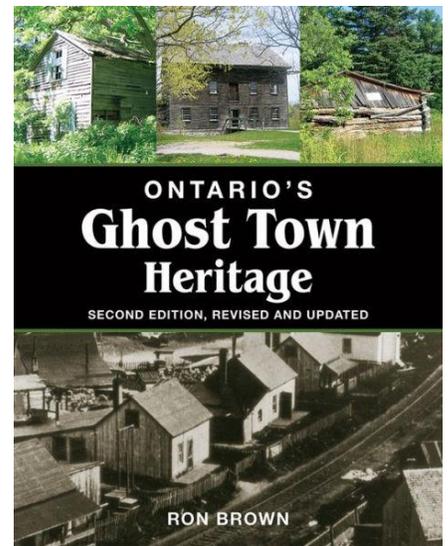
Amina began her career in film and television and has spent over 15 years working as a producer and production manager. Born in the UK, she arrived in Canada with her family as refugees from Uganda, in 1972. Her work today sits at the intersection of ethical storytelling, gender equality, and servant leadership. She is a sought-after speaker on ethical storytelling, global development, and the power of long-term community driven change.



Wed. April 15, 2026 – “Ghost Towns in Ontario” with Ron Brown

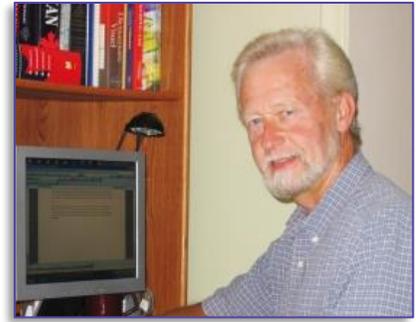
“Nobody knows Ontario like Ron Brown” is how the CBC once described this author, geographer, and travel writer. Best selling author Ron Brown has long had a love affair with the landscapes of Canada and has included his vast knowledge in his many books.

His travel pieces have been published in the **Toronto Star**, the **Globe and Mail**, the **Canadian Geographic Magazine**, and **VIA Rail Magazine**. His 5000 image stock shot inventory includes views of Ontario's lesser-known landscapes, with a specialization in historic buildings, main streets, railway stations and ghost towns. He has provided consulting services to advertisers and film makers, including a **History Channel** series, seeking unusual locations at which to film. He has participated on **TVO's Studio Two** panels to determine Ontario's "most historic town," Ontario's "prettiest town," and Ontario's "best main street."



Following a 27-year career as a writer and community planner, including his role as an advisor to BIA's, with the Ontario government, Ron Brown now lectures on, and leads tours to ghost towns and heritage landscapes across Ontario. Ron is a member of the **Travel Media Association of Canada**, and is past chair of **The Writers' Union of Canada**.

In 2015, Ron received the **Writers' Union of Canada Freedom to Read Award** for his ongoing promotion of freedom to read and write in Canada.



Wed. May 20, “The Future is Now: AI (Artificial Intelligence)” with Rob Smythe

Google, Alexi, and Siri are mere infants compared to today’s AIs. Discover the ways AI is being used by seniors every day. You’ll see how AI works, the features of the most popular AIs, and how to get started. Amazement guaranteed!

Rob Smythe was a secondary school teacher of science, mathematics, computer science, and music, with a special fondness for physics.

He has written several textbooks, including the astronomy unit for Ontario Grade 9 science, and six novels that, he says, few people have read.

He has performed in such musical stage productions as *Damn Yankees*, *West Side Story*, and *The Marriage of Figaro*. He has directed close to a dozen high school musicals, and conducted bands and choirs.

He is an enthusiastic movie lover, enjoying thrillers, musicals, mysteries, historical epics, and science fiction.

Rob has hosted multimedia presentations to audiences in venues ranging from homes, to auditoriums, to cruise ships, and during COVID, on Zoom.

We enjoyed Rob’s presentation last year on movie nostalgia, and we now get to enjoy his presentation on AI - something we need to know more about!



Interest Groups Update

TO SIGN UP FOR ALL INTEREST GROUPS:

1. Visit us in person at the Interest Groups Table during General Meetings or-
2. Email by clicking on this link: [Interest Group Chair](mailto:interestgr.brockgeorginaprobust@gmail.com) (interestgr.brockgeorginaprobust@gmail.com)

Typically, there is no charge to join an Interest Group (although some groups may have a fee to pay for the use of the venue and/or instructor). You must be a member in good standing of Brock-Georgina PROBUS Club to join an Interest Group. If you have an idea for a new group or want to join one of the existing groups, please contact us.

There is no limit to the types of Interest Group activities organized by members! All it takes is a coordinator. Some new interest groups have started and there will be signup sheets at the Interest Groups table at the February meeting.

Currently Active Interest Groups:

The Page Turners (Book Club)

When: Meets 4th Thursday of each month at the Beaverton Public Library. Next meeting is Thursday March 26th from 2:30pm to 3:30pm

Books: March read is "Firefly Lane" by Kristin Hannah.

Coordinator: Janet Bedford

Cross Country Skiing/Snowshoeing

When: Wednesdays, 10AM weather permitting or Monday on a Probus meeting week

Where: Coordinators will advise

Coordinators: Lillian Lahe and Judy Prophet

On Monday Feb. 16 we went to Beaverton Lagoons at Nine Mile Road, ending with coffee and a treat at the Shortiss Café. On Wed. Feb. 25 we went to the Lagoon City Trail in Lagoon City. Wed. March 4 we went to the Pefferlaw Tract off Highway 23, then lunch afterward at Lucy's Diner n Pefferlaw to celebrate the end of the skiing season. Due to the mild temperatures and rain, no further skiing is currently planned, and this may be the end of a great winter of skiing.

Dinner Club

When/Where: Thursday April 9 at 6pm at the Twisted Fork in Mount Albert.

Coordinator: Don Wilson

"Lunch Bunch"

When: After our general meetings. No "Lunch Bunch" on March 18th.

Where: Belvedere in Pefferlaw

Coordinators: A show of hands at the General Meeting

Lunch Group

When: No lunch scheduled for March due to Potluck after the March meeting. Next lunch scheduled for April 23th at noon at Golden Dragon Restaurant in Jackson's Point. On Tuesday May 26th, lunch is planned at High Street Bistro in Sutton.

Coordinator: Susan Caswell

Eleven members of the Lunch Group met at Colala Authentic Asian Restaurant in Beaverton in February and had a great time. The food portions are large. Everyone enjoyed the quality of the food and the service was very good. There will definitely be a repeat performance at this restaurant in future.

“Crafty Crafters” (Handicrafts)

When: Our next meeting is Tuesday March 24, 2026 from 10-noon. We will be doing some Easter crafts.

Where: Home of Coordinator

Coordinator: Lynne Davidson

Interest Groups Resuming Soon:

Hiking/Walking

When: Tentatively scheduled to resume on April 4, weather pending.

Coordinators: Sheila Massey

Cigar Group

When/Where: Resuming in May 2026

Coordinator: Wesley Delnea

“Birdie Juice” (Golf)

When: See you in the Spring.

Coordinator: Don Dalzell

“Pedal Pushers” (Cycling)

When: See you in the Spring!

Coordinator: Karen Penfili

“Wine Not” Book Club

When/Info: Next meeting will resume in May 2026.

Where: Coordinators home (members will receive an email from the Co-ordinator with the address)

Coordinator: Karen Hewitt

Latin Dance Lessons

When: Classes will resume April 13, 2026.

Where: Udora Hall

Cost: \$15 per session and \$20 per person per month for hall rental.

Coordinator: Jennifer Watson

“Kutie Cubes” (Rummikub board game)

This is a fun tile-based game, combining elements of the card game rummy and mahjong.

When: Temporary hiatus

“Smooth Moves” (Tai Chi)

When: Resuming in May

Where: Udora Hall

Coordinator: Suzy Weatherston

Coordinators NEEDED!!

Do you have an idea for a new interest group and want to be a coordinator? Bridge, euchre, board game, gardening, pickleball, pole walking, photography, theatre, explorers, movie night ... so many ideas and opportunities.

Let's Get Social –Events

TO SIGN UP FOR ALL SOCIAL EVENTS you must sign up to reserve your spot by one of two ways:

1. In person at the Social Events Table during General Meetings,
2. By emailing social2.brockgeorginaprobust@gmail.com

Next - you must pay either

- a) by e-transfer to social2.brockgeorginaprobust@gmail.com or
- b) by cheque payable to “Brock Georgina Probus Club” at a meeting,

NO CASH PLEASE - Cheques & E-Transfers Only!

You must be a member in good standing (or guest of a member) of Brock-Georgina PROBUS to attend.



FRIENDLY REMINDER! IF YOU SIGN UP FOR A SOCIAL EVENT AND CANNOT MAKE IT, PLEASE NOTIFY THE SOCIAL COMMITTEE. WE OFTEN HAVE BOOKED A RESTAURANT AND HAVE HAD SEVERAL NO SHOWS.

Wednesday March 18, 2026 – Spring Potluck

There is still time to sign up for our Spring Potluck, featuring soups and stews. This will take place after our meeting. E-transfer \$5 to social2.brockgeorginaprobust@gmail.com and indicate in the message your name and what you will be bringing. The \$5 will cover paper bowls/plates, cutlery, buns and refreshments.

If you are unable to e-transfer you can bring your \$5 to meeting.



The graphic features a light yellow background with a repeating pattern of white rabbits, carrots, and pink flowers. At the top right is the Probus logo, a blue circle with a yellow 'P' and the word 'PROBUS' below it. The main title 'Spring Potluck' is written in large green and blue letters. Below the title are two bowls of food: a brown bowl of beef and vegetable soup on the left, and a grey bowl of orange soup with green garnishes on the right. Three pink rectangular boxes with white text are overlaid on the food: 'Soups, stews' over the first bowl, 'Salads' over the second bowl, and 'Desserts!' over the bottom right of the second bowl. A large blue oval with white text contains the date and time: 'March 18 after the meeting'. Below this, bold blue text reads 'Etransfer \$5 by March 16 indicating what you are bringing to:'. At the bottom, a pink rectangular box contains the email address: social2.brockgeorginaprobust@gmail.com.

Wednesday April 15, 2026 – National Film Day

Come join us at the Ramara Library (Ramara Centre) to watch “Score: A Hockey Musical”, a 2010 Canadian coming-of-age musical comedy that blends ice hockey with song and dance, following a sheltered teen who becomes a star in a violent junior hockey league. Movie was written and directed by Michael McGowan and stars Noah Reid (from Shitt’s Creek), Allie MacDonald, Olivia Newton-John, Marc Jordan, and Nelly Furtado. We will have an early dinner (4pm) before the movie at Wild Wing in Brechin.

**NATIONAL
CANADIAN
FILM DAY**

**WATCH WITH US A
GREAT CANADIAN
FILM**

*National Canadian Film Day
(CanFilmDay) is a massive,
coast-to-coast salute to
Canadian cinema!*

APRIL 15TH

**RAMARA LIBRARY
(RAMARA CENTRE)
@ 6PM
SCORE: A HOCKEY MUSICAL
EARLY DINNER AT 4PM
WILD WINGS BRECHIN**

PROBUS

BROCK-GEORGINA PROBUS CLUB

Tuesday May 12, 2026 – Richters Tour and Lunch at Annina's, Goodwood



Join Us

Brock-Georgina Probus Club

Richters Herbs Tour
10 am

Enjoy a cup of herbal tea and a behind the scenes experience of how they sew seeds and propagate plants.

 **Lunch 12:15 pm at Annina's, Goodwood**

Tuesday May 12, 2026

Free Tour. Registration Required

Thursday June 11, 2026 – OPP Museum Tour and Lunch at Kelsey’s in Orillia



Brock-Georgina Probus presents



MUSEUM TOUR

777 MEMORIAL AVENUE, ORILLIA

JUNE 11 - 10:00 AM FREE ENTRY
LUNCH (12:15 PM) AFTER TOUR
AT KELSEYS IN ORILLIA



Other Brock-Georgina Probus News and Information

❖ **PHOTO RELEASE NOTICE** – When you become a member of our Club you are giving consent to the Brock-Georgina Probus club to use your image, either alone or with others, on our web site, other social media and in our newsletter. If you would like to revoke this consent, please let us know.



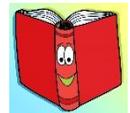
❖ **MAKING CONNECTIONS** - Do you know a member who has been experiencing an illness and/or is hospitalized? Please reach out to our Membership Chair, Jeanette. Member respect and privacy will be first and foremost.



❖ **MEMBER AMBASSADOR** – Have a question about our club and Probus? Reach out to Gail who will be at the Ambassador table at our meetings. Pick up one or more of our new “bookmarks” advertising our club and give to friends/neighbours/family etc.



❖ **BRING A BOOK ... TAKE A BOOK!** – Books should be current and in good condition. They should be the kind of books that you have enjoyed reading and would like to share with a friend. If you bring a book, please take another book home! Puzzles are also welcome.



❖ **LUG A MUG** – Don’t forget to bring your mug to our meetings. Refreshments will be served. Donations appreciated for refreshments.



❖ **FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK:** Ctrl +Click to follow the link! [Brock-Georgina Probus Club | Facebook](#). Then click **Join Us!**



❖ **BRING A GUEST/FRIEND** - Tell your friends to come check us out! Guests are always welcome. If you bring a friend in April you can win a prize!

BRING A FRIEND TO APRIL MEETING

**MEMBER GETS ENTERED TO
WIN A PRIZE!!**

**IF YOUR FRIEND JOINS
THEY PAY \$25 FOR A ONE
TIME MEMBERSHIP FEE
PLUS \$23 (50% OFF ANNUAL
RENEWAL RATE) = \$48**

**BROCK-GEORGINA
PROBUS CLUB**

From Your Management Team

In order to continue growing and providing exciting events and activities, consider being a volunteer. A strong and vibrant club is built on volunteerism. You can get involved in many ways such as helping set up for our meetings, making refreshments, being a coordinator for an interest group, joining the Social Committee to help plan our social events, or even stepping in a role on our Management Team. Whatever your interest or availability, there is a place for you to contribute and to help make a difference in the continued life of our club.

A warm welcome to Lil Madden who is replacing Suzy Weatherston on the Social Committee.



Get connected by volunteering! Lend your time, share your talent, and help build our club.

Community News

Do you have an upcoming event in the area you would like to share! Let us know and we can include in our newsletter!

- Saturday March 21, 9am – 2pm – Seedy Saturday at the Pefferlaw Lions Hall. Free Admission.

SEEDY SATURDAY

MARCH 21 2026

Vendors

Preserving Traditions
Brock 2020 gardens
Sunset View Pottery
Designs by Diane
Mikee's Gourmet Mushies
School House Flower Farm
Handley Acres Metal Creations
Lavender Hills
Swallowtail Native Plants
Blossom Hill Nursery
A Simpler Time
Timberscapes Inc.
Foggy River Farm
Our Little Wormery
Happy Tomato
Gaia Organic Seeds
Caillins Garden
The Glen Road Organics Inc.
Mary Living Outside
Cloverhill Flowers
Meadow View Nursery
Blossom & Stone
Rolling Hills Studio
Forest View Native Plants
Lora's Lovables
The Mad Mudder
Mitchells Honey
Sugar & Spice Catering

Non Profit

Beaverton Garden Club
Cannington Horticultural Society
Georgina-Brock Garden Club
Georgina Public Library - Pefferlaw Branch
Little Forests Durham Land Trust
Lake Simcoe South Master Gardeners
Durham Master Gardeners
York Region Food Network

9am to 2pm

Pefferlaw Lions Hall, 38 Pete's Lane, Pefferlaw

Free admission

Co-Hosts: Cannington & Georgina-Brock Horticultural Clubs

- Monday March 30, 2026 7:30pm - Doors open 7pm - 'The Art of Garden Design' with Laura Lowe, Cannington Baptist Church, 60 Cameron St. W. Cannington, Guests welcome!
- Monday April 13m 7:00pm – “Creating Habitat for Hummingbirds and Orioles” with Paul Oliver from Urban Nature Store, Pefferlaw Lions Hall, Guests welcome!
- Friday April 24-25 – Quilt Show Tea and Sale, Trinity United Church, Cannington

East Lake Simcoe Quilters



Also, check out these event lists for Georgina, Brock and Uxbridge by clicking on the link:

- Events in Georgina - [Events Calendar | Town of Georgina](#)
- Brock Township Events - [Events – Choose Brock](#)
- Events in Uxbridge - [Events in Uxbridge - Discover Uxbridge](#)

Meet new people, make new friends, discover new interests!

HOPE TO SEE YOU ON WEDNESDAY MARCH 18!

DON'T FORGET TO LUG A MUG FOR REFRESHMENTS, BRING YOUR OLD CAMERA EQUIPMENT AND SIGN UP FOR THE POTLUCK!

Donations for Refreshments Always Appreciated.

Thank you 😊

Happy St. Patrick's Day

Spring is on its way!



Photo Credit: Lynne Davidson