**Robert Keith Thompson**

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| Keith was born and raised in Point Edward, near Sarnia, and educated there and in Michigan. He is the product of a World War One romance. His father hailed from Portland, Oregon, but joined the Canadian forces. He was wounded at Vimy Ridge, and while recovering in hospital met Keith's mother to be. She was a nurse and came from Greenwich, England. | E:\2013 12 Probus booklet Photos\Thomson, Keith.tif |

In the mid 1950s Keith began a career in the Public Service, his first job being in the Assessment office of the city of Sarnia. It was at that time he met his wife Marion whom he married in 1963. That same year he became Deputy Registrar of Deeds for Lambton County, a position he held for ten years.

In 1973 he was appointed Registrar of Deeds and Master of Titles for Oxford, thus becoming only one of seven Registrars of Land Registration to be appointed in the county over a period of 196 years. He is also the only one retire from the post, all others died.

Seven years later Oxford County was chosen by the provincial government as the site for developing a new, fu1ly computerized, land registration system, and Keith was put in charge. When completed, this sophisticated program turned out to be too expensive for the government to afford and it was sold to private interests. For his efforts Keith was appointed Deputy Director of Land Registrations for Ontario, awarded the Employee of the Year Award for developing the program, and charged with working closely with the private sector in its implementation both here and abroad. A brief description followed.

In 1996 Keith retired, but the development of sophisticated programs was not Keith's only interest. Over the years he has been a keen swimmer and a recognized stroke judge. Scouting has also been high on his list, becoming a Queen Scout in 1954, a participant in the World Jamboree in Niagara on the Lake the following year, and for a period of time an Assistant District Commissioner of Scouting.

Keith is married with two children, a boy and a girl, both now adult. He is a member of the Anglican Church, and has been associated with the YMCA. Currently he has taken up curling and golf in addition to gardening, woodworking and ancient cars, not forgetting, of course, his interest in Probus which be recently joined. Welcome, Keith Thomson.