



SCUGOG-UXBRIDGE PROBUS CLUB

NEWSLETTER

Issue 12

JUNE 2025

MANAGEMENT TEAM

President:

Derrick Bond

Vice President:

Karin Fahey

Treasurer:

Craig McKee

Secretary:

Cindy Agnew

Membership:

Wendy Bond

Social Committee

Co-Chairs:

Anne Gauvreau

JoAnn Knight

Interest Groups

Co-Chairs:

Pam Norton

Lorraine Ward

Speaker's Chair:

Maureen Wood

House Co-Chairs:

Pete Kooger

Paul Heney

Member-at-Large:

Rob Messervey

Newsletter Editor:

Marilyn Card

Web Master:

Derrick Bond

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Scugog-Uxbridge PROBUS Club is about to celebrate our first anniversary. I would like to thank the Management Team, the Volunteers and our members for all working together to make this a very successful year. We have grown from the 140 founding members at the start to 200 members. As we celebrate our successes we will also "Celebrate Canada" the amazing country we live in.

We would like everyone to wear red and white to the June 5th, 2025 meeting. As we "Celebrate Canada" the speaker will be Roger Varley and the topic of his presentation will be "Searching for the Maple Leaf"

In accordance with the club's bylaws two of the Management Committee positions are up for election. The Management team has staggered their terms for the first year to be divided between one, two and three year terms. The Secretary and the Member at Large were set to be a one year term. These two positions are up for election and the terms will revert to be the normal length of two years.

In the May newsletter email, in accordance with the bylaws Wendy Bond invited any Club member to make additional nominations (with the nominee's consent) to stand for election for these two positions. No new nominations were received by May 14th, 2025. Therefore, the slate of candidates to be acclaimed during the AGM this year will be Cindy Agnew as Secretary and Rob Messervey as Member-at-Large.

I would like to thank a founding Management team member Anne Gauvreau for all her work during this past year. Anne is stepping down as one of the Social Co-Chairs. Anne looks forward to assisting Brenda Andrews of PROBUS Canada in her role as New Club Ambassador. They will assist with new PROBUS Club's set-up and support.

Anne's replacement will be Christine MacIsaac. Christine was appointed by the Management Committee as the new Social Co-Chair on May 15th, 2025. Christine will fill the balance of Anne's term as Social Co-Chair. Christine spent 30 years teaching Secondary School Science, Biology and as Head of a Library Learning Commons. Since her retirement she is enjoying being a member of her Condo Board and running the Volunteer Garden Club. Spending her entire working career in York Region, Christine has been taking great pleasure meeting people from the community through Probus. With her husband who is a retired teacher, they have two fabulous daughters making their way in the world.

A reminder that our 2025/2026 annual dues of \$40 can be paid via e-transfer to the Club Treasurer at treasurer.scugoguxbridgeprobus@gmail.com and under the comments section indicate your name and the reason for the e-transfer, Annual Dues.

Looking forward to celebrate with you at the club's first AGM on June 5th, 2025



Website: www.scugog-uxbridgeprobus.ca **Email:** info@scugog-uxbridgeprobus.ca

General Meetings

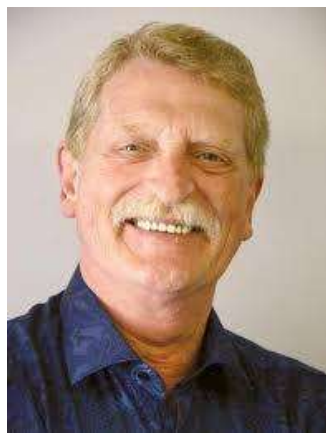
General Meetings are held on the first Thursday of every month

10 a.m. to 12 noon at Hope Church, 14480 Old Simcoe Street, Port Perry, Ontario

There is a 30-minute break at half time to meet people, enjoy refreshments, sign up for an interest group or social event, and look into volunteering.

The next General Meeting at Hope Church will be **June 5, 2025**.

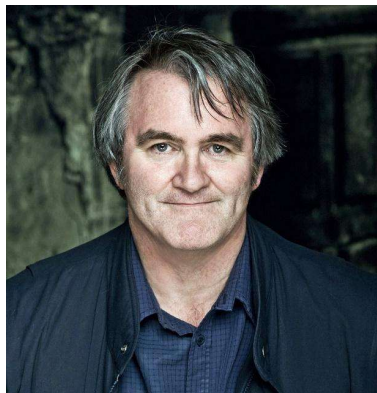
June 5 Guest Speaker:



Roger Varley: Topic Title: Searching for the Maple Leaf. Mr. Varley writes the “*Am I Wrong?*” column for The Cosmos newspaper and will expand on his adventures of searching for Canadian products in the grocery stores. Just because it has a maple leaf logo on it, is it a Canadian product? It’s confusing to discover which producers, manufacturers, and importers are really Canadian? Are we reading labels correctly? Are we supporting the Canadian economy? Are we supporting local businesses? In this troubling time of economic unrest, buying Canadian is more important than ever. Mr. Varley spent almost 30 years as a journalist with the Canadian Press and has interviewed prime ministers, party leaders, cabinet ministers, entertainment stars, and sports notables. After retiring, Mr. Varley started writing for community newspapers and was a co-winner of a Canadian Community Newspapers Association’s feature writing award. Mr. Varley has been writing the “*Am I Wrong?*” column for the Uxbridge Cosmos for the last ten years.



July 3 Guest Speaker:



Peter Edwards: Topic Title: “**Project 24K - The Pearson International Airport Gold Heist**”. On April 17, 2023, 20-34 million dollars of gold bars and cash were stolen from the Air Canada cargo bay at the Pearson International Airport in Toronto. The heist was covered by news outlets around the world. To date, 9 have been arrested, and other warrants have been issued. There is a great deal of speculation as to what happened to the gold, where it ended up, and what it was used for. To date \$5.3 million has been spent on the investigation, and expectations are that the amount will exceed \$10 million. As a crime writer for the Toronto Star, Mr. Edwards covered the story of the heist code-named by the police, **Project 24K**. **Peter Edwards** is the organized crime beat reporter for the Toronto Star and the bestselling author of seventeen non-fiction books and one young adult novel. His works have been published in four languages. Edwards is an executive producer for the Citytv series *Bad Blood* aired on Netflix. His book *One Dead Indian: The Premier, the Police and the Ipperwash Crisis* was made into the Gemini Award-winning movie. His book *Delusion* (published in Europe as *The Infiltrator*) is on the CIA’s recommended reading list for staff and agents.



General Meetings

August 7 Guest Speaker:



Presentation title: Jest for the Health of It. Dr. Ken Shonk is best known for his book *Laughter from Womb to Tomb* and his other presentation, *Laughter is the Best Medicine*. As a medical doctor for 40+ years, he has many amusing stories and anecdotes to get us through some tough times. Dr. Ken Shonk believes that laughter is a universal uniter and wants to educate everyone on the importance of laughter and leading a joyful life to maintain health and well being. After close to 1000 speaking engagements, he has entertained diverse audiences and brought his wisdom from a 40 year medical practice to share humorous anecdotes and the science of laughter, as he challenges audiences to actively find humour in order to increase their well being.



September 4 Guest Speaker:



Presentation title: Thrive and Survive with Humour. Tim Westhead's presentation will increase your morale and leave you feeling energized! Try Tim's powerful and practical suggestions to bring some fun to your life; increase motivation, resiliency and productivity; and reduce stress. **W. T. (Tim) Westhead, OCT (Ret.), BA, MA, Bed.** Tim Westhead is an award-winning Canadian educator, author, actor and popular conference presenter. With a dynamic style and humorous delivery, Tim's entertaining and inspiring sessions have made him a keynote speaker with an international reputation. Tim's educational background includes three university degrees, with a Master of Arts in English. He has taught for the Faculty of Education at Ontario's Queen's University. A nominee for the Prime Minister's Awards for Teaching Excellence, Tim received OPSBA's award and was acknowledged by actor Mike ("Austin Powers") Myers, one of Tim's former students, during Myers' induction into

Canada's Walk of Fame. Tim was also honoured with the Faculty of Arts Alumni Achievement Award from Ontario's University of Waterloo.



**REMEMBER TO WEAR RED
& WHITE IN SUPPORT OF
OUR CANADA DAY THEME
AT THE JUNE 5TH MEETING**

AT EVERY GENERAL MEETING

there is an optional

"Share the Wealth" Draw

1 for \$2 ~ 3 for \$5 ~ arms length for \$10

(exact change is appreciated)



Social Committee

Event Review - Wednesday, May 14 – Ajax Downs Racetrack

We spent the day watching the Quarter Horse races at Ajax Downs—six thrilling events full of excitement, hope, and the occasional heartbreak. Some of us had a knack for picking the winners, while others... not so much.

We all gathered near the post at the finish line, eyes glued to the track, cheering and hoping our chosen horse would be the first to cross. For a few of us, that hope rarely turned into reality—but that didn't stop us from trying.

The racehorses had some unforgettable names that added to the fun—Hot to Trotta, Winning Okie, Jezzabella, Upandover, and my personal favorite: Rr l'llbeurhucklebery.

It was an afternoon filled with cheers, groans, laughter, and a few dramatic sighs—one of those days you don't forget anytime soon.



Wednesday, May 28 - Cold Springs Alpacas - 8480 Cold Springs Camp Rd, Campbellcroft. Cost \$27.00, 1:30 – 2:30. The private farm tour will bring us up close and personal with the herd. During the tour they will halter an alpaca so we can get up close, walk them around and take pictures —making the experience special. They will tour the farm with us; answering any questions we may have.

Tuesday, June 14 -Thomas Foster Memorial Tour - 9499 Durham Regional Rd 1, Uxbridge Cost \$8.00. More than just a mausoleum, the Foster Memorial is a remarkable tribute to the life and legacy of Thomas Foster—a local farm boy who rose to prominence as a Member of Parliament and Mayor of Toronto. His story is one of ambition, achievement, and generosity, and the Memorial he left behind is an artistic gem tucked away in the scenic countryside of Uxbridge. Often called a hidden treasure, the Foster Memorial combines stunning architecture with rich local history. If you've never experienced this Uxbridge landmark, now is the perfect time. The guided tour lasts approximately 30 to 45 minutes, depending on the number of questions and curiosity of our group. Since the Memorial is only open on select dates, this tour guarantees you access—and afterward, you're welcome to join us for a great coffee or lunch at one of Uxbridge's cozy local spots!

Social Committee

Monday, June 16 - 17 – Niagara on the Lake – Wine/Dinner
tour with Crush Tours. We will be visiting four wineries:

- Château des Charmes - tasting with small snack pairing
- Between the Lines - tour & tasting
- Reif Estate - tasting
- Bella Terra - tasting

Crush Tours will have restaurant recommendations for dinner.
Cost: Tour \$165 pp + tips + meals + hotel – The Colonel
Butler, \$233.10.



Saturday, June 21- Strawberry Social, Applewood Farm

2055 Saintfield Rd, 11:00-5:00. No Cost. Get ready for a fun-filled day the whole family will love—celebrating all things strawberry! Enjoy live music, refreshing drinks, and irresistible strawberry-inspired treats. Browse a curated selection of local vendors offering unique goods and handmade treasures. Take a stroll through our strawberry patch and pick your own fresh berries, say hello to our friendly farm animals, wander the wildflower meadows, and relax with a drink on the patio while soaking in the summer vibes. It's the sweetest way to kick off the season—we can't wait to see you there!

Monday, June 23 – Nine & Dine - Sunnybrae Golf Club, 1430 King St, Port Perry; 10 AM Tee Off. Cost for 9 holes of golf plus cart \$45.00. BBQ lunch after, \$25.00 + tax on food only. Payment to be made at the Golf Club. Come and join us for a morning on the links, followed by a BBQ. We are joining forces with the Uxbridge and Port Perry Probus clubs to enjoy socializing, food and drinks of course!

Friday, July 4 – High Tea; The Tea House at Parkwood – 270 Simcoe St N, Oshawa. Cost \$68.00 plus tax. Nestled in front of an exquisite 200-foot fountain, The Tea House is a tranquil outdoor restaurant, perfect for enjoying lunch, afternoon tea or a refreshing drink.

Thursday, July 10 – Wutai Shan Buddhist Garden Tour – 708 Ski Hill Rd, Cavan-Monaghan Cost is \$20.00 per car so carpooling is recommended.

Saturday, July 19 – Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation Powwow – 22521 Island Rd, Port Perry. Seniors are free. The Powwow is an annual gathering of Indigenous culture. It is a variety of traditional ceremonies, dances, songs.

Here are more events we are considering in **2025**:

- Ghost Walk in Pickering in October
- Great Blue Heron Casino
- 1000 Island Gananoque tour
- Uxbridge Walking Tour September/ October
- Pickering Museum Escape Room
- Octoberfest

The Social Committee has an email address that can be used if you need more information on events. Drop us a line if you have suggestions for activities that you would like us to explore. As always, we are on the lookout for new Social Team members. The email address is:

socscugoguxbridgeprobus@gmail.com

Don't forget, you can always use the online sign up:
bit.ly/ProbusSocialsignup

N.B. If you sign up for a Social Event or an Interest Group and you change your mind or are unable to attend, could you please let the co-ordinator or committee chair know so they can plan accordingly.

Interest Groups

Sequence, Arts & Craft, and Puzzle Groups Coordinator Maureen Wood

Our Tuesday May 27th **Arts & Crafts** will be at a different location. We will be making 'fidget blankets' for our own future use...or for persons with Dementia, Alzheimer's, Autism, and Sundowner. The Port Perry Hospital is very keen to receive any blankets we make. Please contact Maureen@mr-radon.ca if you are interested in participating in this ongoing project.

Our Tuesday, June 24th **Arts & Crafts** will be back at the Greenbank church location. It will be hosted by group members as the coordinator is away. At our April meeting we made Fidget Blankets for persons with Dementia, Alzheimer's, Autism, and Sundowner. .

Sequence Group - June 25th is cancelled – see you July 23rd.

Puzzle Group finished the tree puzzle featured in the last newsletter. We made quick work of 1000 piece of the “City Market Place” (see below). Our next meeting on June 3rd will be a surprise choice from a puzzle group member.



Interest Groups

Wine Club – Coordinator Lorraine Ward

The Wine Group is meeting once a month in the spring months for some delectable wine tastings and comradery. Kellea and Mike Passmore hosted the event on May 22nd. We tasted Canadian wines and appetizers, in support of our economy. Upcoming June and July Wine at Home events - to be advised. We will be visiting local wineries once we have nicer weather.

Group Travel – Coordinator Lorraine Ward

Here is one of the proposed exciting travel ideas, offering a mix of adventure, relaxation, and exploration.

- **February 2026:** Winter Retreat to Aruba. For those who want to escape the cold, a winter retreat to Aruba offers sun, sand, and relaxation in the heart of the Caribbean.

Sign up for the Travel Group at the next meeting if anything here piques your interest.

BUNCO GROUP (Progressive Dice Game) – Coordinators Sue and Bob Armitage

The Bunco group is growing! We are always looking for more players so if you want to be added to the list call Sue or Bob Armitage at 416.271.5139; or sign up at the next meeting.

Hand and Foot Canasta (card game) – Coordinator Amber D'Aguiar

Hand & Foot is a fun and challenging card game played in groups of four. We play on the 3rd Tuesday of the month in the afternoon. We host lessons from 1-2pm for new players and for those who need practice, and then we continue to play from 2-4pm. Our next game day is June 17th. All are welcome

BOOK CLUB – Co-ordinator Maureen Wood

The Book Club is presently reading The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society and will be discussing it on June 11th. **The Book Club is now full**, feel free to sign up on the waitlist. For further information please contact maureen@mr-radon.ca.

YOGA – Coordinator Donna Williamson

Jill Watsons Schedule for June

June Drop-in outdoor/barn classes at the Farm,
\$25 per class, cash or e-transfer
Monday Mornings, 9:15AM, June 2, 9, 16, 23
Tuesday Afternoons, 2PM, June 3, 10, 17, 24
Thursday Evenings, 7:30 PM, June 12 & 19
Bring a friend! All are welcome. Email
jillwatson3@gmail.com

Laurie Kennedy

Spring classes continue to run until June
at 58 Brock St W Uxbridge

Contact Donna for more information
yogidonnalee@gmail.com

Membership Renewal 2025/2025 Reminder

We continue to grow and it is time to renew your 2025/25 Scugog-Uxbridge Probus membership. The 2025/2026 membership fee will remain the same at \$40.00. We ask you to pay next year's fee by the June General Meeting. The Club is accepting e-transfer to the Club Treasurer at treasurer.scugoguxbridgeprobus@gmail.com. Under the comments section indicate your name(s) and the reason for the e-transfer i.e. Membership Fee. Membership volunteers will also be available to accept a cheque or cash at the upcoming June meeting.

Thanks to those who have already renewed their membership.

If you have decided not to renew your membership, please send a quick email letting us know to membership.scugouxbidgeprobus@gmail.com

Membership Chair, Wendy Bond

Interest Groups

Lunch Group – Coordinator Zana Maksimovic

The next lunch outing is June 10th, place to be determined. Please continue to sign up for lunch at : <https://tinyurl.com/SUP-Lunch-Signup> “

Hiking & Outdoors Group – Coordinator Pam Norton

We are always looking for additional weekly hike leader volunteers. They can be any day of the week and can be short urban hikes or longer woodland hikes. We've been hiking this winter in Walker Woods, the Rouge Urban Park and Durham Forest. Looking forward to some nicer weather.

Live Music Group – Coordinator Pam Norton

Probus members have been meeting up at several live music venues, including Jazz nights at the Historic Leaskdale Church and the Greenbank Folk Music Society monthly music series. Group members are encouraged to share live music opportunities through email and the WhatsApp group.



Euchre Group – Looking for a co-ordinator for this group.

If you're interested in joining this group, please email interestgr.scugoguxbridgeprobus@gmail.com or sign up at the next meeting.

Genealogy – Coordinator Neil Kilmartin

This group is currently full, but you are welcome to check out a meeting and find out what it is all about!

We meet the first Wednesday of each month from 10am to noon in the Scugog Library's Board Room, September to June. We are currently at our capped number of 16, but if anyone wishes to visit us, you're welcome to attend. Our group is now a hybrid group, with members from the Port Perry and Scugog Uxbridge Probus Clubs. We welcome people with any degree of genealogical experience, right from the newbie to the seasoned family historian. Our focus tends to be on "sharing our individual family history experiences". Guidance and help in researching are always available. We're planning to have a guided tour of the Uxbridge Library's Genealogy room in the spring, with an explanation of the resources available there. Again, if you wish to drop in for a meeting to see what we're all about, send me an email, and we'll be happy to see you!

Contact Neil Kilmartin via email at neilmkilmartin@gmail.com if you would like more information.

Travel Information – Coordinator Tim Casey

The Travel Information Interest Group is being well attended. We exchange information within the group about recent travel experiences and upcoming travel plans. During the April meeting we discussed a wide variety of travel tips and the French Riviera. The May presentation was on Yacht-style Multi-day Cruises. The meetings are held in the Sunroom of Colonel Mustard's Pub in Port Perry. All Club members are welcome. If you're interested in joining this group, please email interestgr.scugoguxbridgeprobus@gmail.com or sign up at the next meeting. Hope to see you there.

Member-abilia

-abilia - noun suffix: items of interest relating to specified persons or things (in our case PROBUS) e.g. Elvis-abilia

Members celebrating birthdays in June

<i>Carolyn M.</i>	<i>Christine M.</i>	<i>Ron M.</i>
<i>Amber D.</i>	<i>Elizabeth F.</i>	<i>Marg M.</i>
<i>Anne M.</i>	<i>Dawn Ewart C.</i>	<i>Jim C.</i>
<i>David T.</i>	<i>Christian L.</i>	<i>Peter A.</i>
<i>Kelly W.</i>	<i>Patricia S.</i>	<i>John D.</i>
<i>Susan L.</i>	<i>Elgin K.</i>	<i>Diann P.</i>



FYI

Please sign in when you arrive
Wear your PROBUS name badge
Members' guests are allowed 2 visits
Remember to "Lug a Mug"
Bring cash to buy draw tickets
This is YOUR club ~ ENJOY!!!

TO SIGN UP FOR ALL INTEREST GROUPS:

- ✓ At General Meetings, there will be Interest Group sign-up sheets in the lobby or break room.
- ✓ If you are interested in joining any of the groups, add your name to the sign-up sheets! Please print!
- ✓ All joining an Interest Group must be a Club member
- ✓ Please wear your PROBUS name badge to interest group meetings and events.
- ✓ There is usually no charge to join an Interest Group, but some may have a minimal fee to pay for using the venue.
- ✓ Contact interestgr.scugoguxbridgeprobus@gmail.com

We'd love to hear from you.

Members are invited to share photos from our Probus club events, personal success stories, proud moments, exciting trips, etc. in the newsletter. This is a great way to get to know one another and to make our newsletter more interesting. Email your articles in Word format to the newsletter editor, Marilyn Card, at: marilyncard@gmail.com. (In the subject line of your email, please put "SUP Newsletter".)



NEED MORE INFORMATION?

Join our new **FACEBOOK** page!

Inclement weather and wondering if a meeting is still happening? We will post information here:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1063170235479624>



OR....

You can also head to our **WEBSITE!**

We will also post notices here (example cancellation message shown below):

www.scugog-uxbridgeprobus.ca



Joyce E. Perrin spoke at our May 1st General Meeting about her book *Ants in my Pants: One Woman's Unexpected Adventures Across Seven Continents*. The lure of adventure unleashed her undying curiosity about the world and about people as she crisscrossed the globe for over twenty years and visited 156 countries on all seven continents. Not just as a tourist, but as an ambassador for adventure, working for the World Health Organization, touching (and changing) lives in healthcare settings in the Middle East, Africa, and South America. It was very interesting and enjoyable.

