

Message from the President

October 19, 2023 Newsletter



President's Message

Happy Probus month. I know many of you will have seen the banner at Town Hall or read about it in Collingwood Today. This is a great month to celebrate the many wonderful opportunities Probus offers to all of us: friendship, activities, and opportunities for learning... We have begun our annual membership renewal - our new website platform is hopefully making this quick and efficient for all of us. If you decide not to renew, please let us know. We are sorry to see you go.

As we switch over to Fall and Winter, you will have been receiving e-mails from us inviting you to express your interest and be included on distribution lists for upcoming activities. I encourage you to sign up for all that are possibly of interest to you – these lists are to include you in FYI, not to commit you to attend.

However, once you have committed to attend a particular event or date (eg. Guess Who's Coming to Dinner, Euchre, a hike) it is important to meet your commitment. Out of courtesy and respect for the time of others, and to open a spot to a member on the waiting list, if you are not able to attend it is ESSENTIAL to provide notice of this. There is a red cancel button – if you cannot attend, please use it. If your cancellation is last minute, please notify the event or activity leader. Failure to notify the activity leader of your inability to attend could result in your removal from the distribution list for that activity.

I am very excited about our speaker at our October meeting. Please check out the speaker bio in this newsletter – this is one not to be missed. Dr. Mayhew's book will be available to purchase at the meeting – the cost is \$27.30 including GST which can be paid by Debit, Credit, or cash.

I look forward to seeing you at the October meeting at the Legion on October 25. Don't forget to bring your own mug for a free 50/50 ticket!

Betty



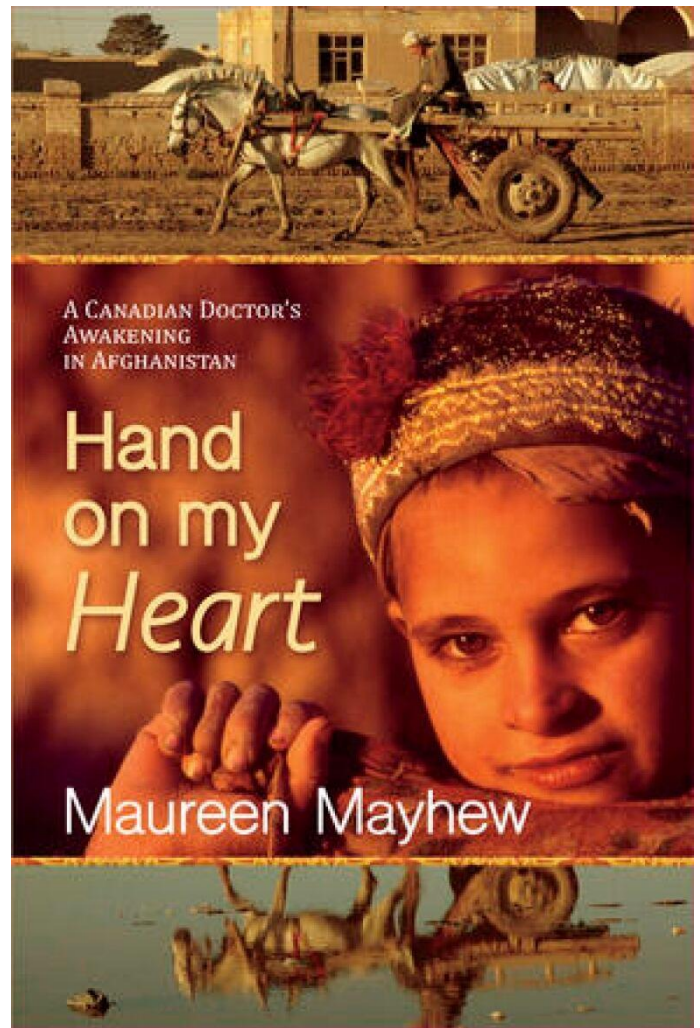
October Speaker

Maureen Mayhew

Maureen Mayhew is a family doctor, a clinical professor at UBC, and a certified leadership coach. For 3 decades she provided primary care and led public health programs across Canada, Asia and Africa.

In 2000 she began working in Afghanistan with Doctors Without Borders and spent the next decade rebuilding their shattered healthcare system. In *Hand on My Heart: A Canadian Doctor's Awakening in Afghanistan* she reflects on surprising moments of disorientation, fear, wonder, joy and personal growth.

Maureen will have copies of her book available at the meeting via credit card or cash for \$27.30 (\$25.00 + 5% GST)



A WIN – WIN...

" Do your part for sustainability - bring your own reusable coffee mug or water bottle to our monthly meetings. Not only will you be doing your part for the environment but - bonus - you'll be entitled to one free 50:50 draw ticket for every three tickets that you purchase. Pro tip: leave your name tag near your mug so that you don't forget either one! Thanks for helping."





Fall Events and Activities

Recent Events

Toronto Blue Jays vs Boston Red Sox! September 17

We were able to enjoy two baseball games this year at the Rogers Centre in Toronto.

The first was on April 26th with the Toronto Blue Jays playing the Chicago White Sox.

We were right near the first base line and very close to the action! The Blue Jays dominated the game and won 8 to 0!



The second game was on September 17th with the Jays playing the Boston Red Sox. We were on the 3rd baseline and again, were close to the action. After a nail biter game, the Blue Jays pulled it off and won: 3-2. The last inning was riveting as Boston tied it at the top of the 9th and in the bottom of the 9th Toronto scored a run to win the game!

Alpaca Farm Tour and Lunch October 13

A great lunch was had by all in Markdale at the Marilynne Restaurant. Beautiful antiques from the grandparents local home (of the owner/chef) adorn this quaint spot. Housed in the former Firehall it includes small sitting areas and a large bar.



The group then headed to the Kickin' Back Alpaca Farm for our tour. We learned all about the males, females and babies. Females are pregnant for almost a year before giving birth! There is a small store on site where you can buy alpaca socks, mitts, toques, scarves and wool.

Trivia is Back - Monday September 25 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. \$12.00 per person

Come out for a fun afternoon and play Team Trivia for Fun at the Collingwood Public Library. Upon arrival, you will be assigned to a team to collectively determine appropriate answers to skill testing questions. May the best team win! Space is limited, so sign up by September 18, on the 4Seasons Probus Club Website!

Activity Fair September 27

We had a great turnout at the monthly meeting and members had the chance to talk to volunteers about activities being organized by fellow members.

Hopefully members were inspired to volunteer and offer helping hands for activities such as:

Golf, Hiking, Biking, Paddling, Dinners-in, Dinners-out, Bingo, Trivia, Bowling, Local Winery Visits, Spectator Sports, Museum tours, Theatre Events etc..

Volunteering is not time consuming and can be fun. As they say, 'many hands make light work'.

After the Fair, **Happy Hour began next door at the Legion. We will be doing another Happy Hour at the Legion after the October 25th Monthly Meeting.** Legion prices are very reasonable.

UPCOMING EVENTS - Reminders

Please register for all events online at Website. Here is the link <https://probus49.wildapricot.org>

Oktoberfest Dinner Celebration - FULL wait list only

Once again, celebrate everything October with friends and sparkling conversation at the Alphorn Restaurant.

Monthly Meeting Happy Hour - Wednesday October 25

Join us next door at the Legion to meet fellow members over refreshments after our monthly meeting.

Bowling - Thursday November 23, 1:45 p.m.

Looks like folks want another chance to win the honour of having their picture taken with the coveted turkey hat, so we are organizing another bowling day! We need a minimum of 10 registered and paid members to make this a go. So check your calendars and make it a date!



Trivia - Monday November 27 2:00 p.m.

Come out for a fun afternoon and play Team Trivia for Fun at the Collingwood Public Library. Upon arrival, you will be assigned to a team to collectively determine appropriate answers to skill testing questions. May the best team win!

Christmas Dinner Dance - Saturday December 2, 6:00 p.m. - 11:30 p.m.

The Christmas Dinner Dance is finally all organized - location, food and entertainment! Tickets are limited to the first 150 paid registrants. Guests are invited as well as people on Membership Wait List. **Tickets are \$70 per person - all-in.**

This event will be held at the lovely Alpine Ski Club in The Blue Mountains.

Doors open at 6:00 p.m. with a reception followed by dinner, and dancing with live dance music provided by **The gGroove5**. The **gGroove5** features a stellar lineup of five talented musicians with a wide range of musical experience and pedigree. They love to get you up dancing and moving to the music!

The band members are Fran Webster (vocals and guitar), Gary Diggins (vocals, trumpet, percussion), Paul Mifsud (tenor sax), Fyl Bennett (bass) and Bob Woodburn (percussion). Their musical tastes and repertoire is wide ranging, from classic blues and rock, to folk and jazz standards.

They have individually played with a number of well-known bands, including Shania Twain, the BareNaked Ladies, David Clayton, Thomas, Gordon Lightfoot, Celtic, Blue, The Blues Brothers and rock and roll revues across the US and Canada. They've also opened for artists such as Alice Cooper, Sly and the Family Stone, and Stevie Wonder.

Enjoy hors d'oeuvres, plated turkey or vegetarian dinner, apple crumble dessert, and tea or coffee service. Cash bar service will also be available. Prices all-in and non-refundable, first come, first served. A guest is also welcome for the same low price. Cut-off date is Friday November 28th, or until we sell our maximum number of tickets.

Reserve the date and register now with payment!

N.B. Ticket Sales are non-refundable! So please check your calendars before registering. If you are unable to attend, it is your responsibility to find a replacement and have the replacement refund you for the ticket price.

ACTIVITIES SEPTEMBER 2023

Fall is upon us, but we are still busy participating in activities led by our intrepid leaders.

CYCLING

Despite the sometimes uncooperative weather, we had 3 rides in September and one in early October. There were rides around the Collingwood trails as well as a ride from Craigeith to Thornbury.



PADDLING/CANOEING

In September and early October our paddlers were out on the Beaver River for a leisurely paddle. On October 2 an adventurous group paddled from Edenvale Conservation Area to the Minesing Wetlands, then returned to the Conservation Area for a picnic.

It looks like a fun day for everyone.



HIKING

Also in September our hikers were out for a walk along the Margaret Paul side trail. We need to enjoy these areas while the weather is good!

EUCHRE

Once again we are playing Euchre at the Legion Hall with our latest evening being October 3. If you would like to participate, ensure you have "Signed Up" so you will receive the invite to register for the next night, November 7. It is a fun evening, with card playing skill not a requirement...desire to socialize and have a good time is the only thing you need.

BOWLING

While we were meeting at Georgian Bowl on a monthly basis last year, we have decided to make this an "Event" which will be promoted at irregular intervals. Watch for it on our website, and if you have signed up as interested, you will receive the emails to register. The next date is October 12, be followed by a date in 2024.

KNITTING

Now that cooler weather is coming, we will be doing more indoor activities including the always popular Knitting. You can sign up for day knitting or for evening knitting. Meeting is the last Tuesday of the month at 1:00 for day knitting and 7:00 for evening knitting. The location will vary, so when the email to register comes out, make sure you register, and note where you will be meeting.

DARTS

Another of our fun indoor activities that we hold on a monthly basis is Darts. We will meet at the Collingwood Legion on the 3rd Friday monthly to begin play at 1:30 and arrive at 12:30. There is no charge, but the Legion offers an affordable lunch and beverages for sale if you want to come early and socialize. Please bring your own darts.

GUESS WHO'S COMING TO DINNER

Diane Fitzgerald is again organizing this, one of our favourite activities. These dinners will be the first Monday every other month, with the first one being November 6. It is a great way to socialize with other 4Seasons Probus members and the perfect opportunity to meet people you do not know, especially new members. Sign up, and register for the dates you would like to attend.

BOOK CLUBS

At this time, our book clubs both Fiction and Nonfiction are fully subscribed and meeting as per their existing schedules.

BOARD GAMES

Dust off your Monopoly, Scrabble, Ticket to Ride, Sorry, Clue, any games you have. Sorry, I don't think Twister is really the best game for our age group. Sign up if you are interested, and register when an event is scheduled. Any one can host, participation is only limited to the number of players a host can accommodate.

SKI LEGENDS

For those who are not familiar with this group, it is an organization that is for all Probus Members. Sign up is on the Probus Ski Legends website. For an annual fee you are offered social events, discounts at local ski shops, the opportunity to ski at private clubs in the area, and the option to join in the exciting ski trips organized by Probus Ski Legends. In addition, our Ski Legends group meets regularly at Blue Mountain for ski days, so if you are looking for a group to ski with locally, this is it.

CROSS COUNTRY SKIING

Bruce Clark will once again be leading this activity group to meet every Friday at Scenic Caves. An "Interested in Cross Country Skiing Sign Up" will be coming out shortly. If you were on the email list last year, you will need to sign up there to be on the updated list.

HAPPY HOUR

The activity you all look forward to each month! Following our monthly meetings, we gather to enjoy some social time with our club members. This is very informal, with each person purchasing beverages and food/snacks for themselves. We plan to hold this at the Collingwood Legion each month after our meeting.

TRAVEL GROUP

Lina Novsky will host the next group gathering. Meetings are the first Tuesday of the month, and start at 4:00 pm via Zoom.



NEW ACTIVITIES

As we have said many times, if there is an activity you would like to have happen in our club, please contact myself Joanne Ruthven at activities4seasons@gmail.com, or any member of our management team. For example, we have members wanting to start a Ukulele group. The "Sign Up" was sent out, and we have 12 interested parties!!

What else do you have in mind for us to do? Our club is the funnest one in Collingwood because of our members.