



President's Message

As I was mulling over what message I wanted to convey this month, of course, Remembrance Day came to the forefront. Naturally, along with this important day in our world history, is the symbol most associated with Remembrance Day, the poppy! In researching the iconic poppy, I learned that it prospers on rubble and in places where the soil is frequently disturbed. Such was the battlefield of Flanders, covered by thousands of shells and churned up soil and mud. A perfect growing medium for poppy seeds to germinate and grow – becoming a sea of deep-red flowers, usually the only spots of colour on an area of mud, bomb craters, death and ruination. The Dutch call the poppy “slaapbol” or sleeping ball, a fitting reference to John McCrae’s famous poem , “In Flanders Fields”. The story goes that, on May 3rd, 1915, in Ypres, Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae, an officer of the Canadian army, while sitting on the rear step of an ambulance and grieving for his friend and brother-in-arms, Alexis Helmer, who had been killed the day before, noticed the masses of red poppies among the graves in the burial ground. Thus, began his poem. It was rumoured that he jotted it down in seconds, but the actual truth is he spent some months perfecting it, then sending it off to the London Spectator, which rejected it. It was later published in Punch, the British satirical magazine, albeit anonymously.

Colonel McCrae died of meningitis on January 28th, 1918, unaware that his poem, “In Flanders Fields” would become world famous and an international symbol of remembrance. As we proudly wear our poppies, we must remember the many, many lives that were given and lost so that, today, tomorrow and in the future, we enjoy freedom. The poppy and this famous poem are tokens of our appreciation for their sacrifice. We must never forget!

Claire Albright
President, PROBUS Club of Alliston

October 2025 PROBUS Meeting

10 Year Service Pins



Claire Albright, Carol Borg, Charlie Borg, Sam Ghosh, Trudy Gosh, Mary Laing, Josee MacIntyre, Barbara Ramm, Dave Randell, Linda Randell, June Seago, Ruby Thomas, Chuck Waterman, Sue Waterman, Mary Willard and Cathy Wolfe

15 Year Service Pins



Midge Faccioli, Roger Whittle

October 2025 PROBUS Meeting

Show & Tell Speaker – Roy Snipe

My Golfing Life

Roy told us about some amazing places he has golfed all around the world, including Monte Mayor Golf & Country Club, near Marbella, Spain, where the course had a spectacular mountain setting and a challenging layout hitting the ball from one mountain peak to another.



Main Speaker - Allyn Willard

New Zealand & The Cook Islands

Allyn participated in a group trip to New Zealand & the Cook Islands in 2018 and has made a travel video of the trip.

New Zealand “Aotearoa” (Māori name meaning land of the long white cloud) because these formations were a navigational landmark for the early Polynesian explorers.

Click [here](#) for a few location photos of the trip.

October 2025 PROBUS Meeting

37th Birthday Celebration

The PROBUS Club of Alliston, established September 20, 1988, was the 8th club registered in Canada.

PROBUS Canada has only been in existence for 38 years.



Chuck Héroux, PROBUS Canada Director, Ontario District #2, was on hand to help us celebrate.



Lunch at Swiss Chalet



Photos submitted by Bev Hughes. For more click [here](#)

Dinner at Danny's Fish & Chips in Barrie on October 27th



Photos submitted by Bev Hughes. For more click [here](#)

Upcoming **PROBUS** Meetings

Our meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month
at 10:00 AM in the Nottawasaga Inn.

Next Meeting – Nov 11

Lunch: Piper Arms

Main Speakers

Nov 11	Frank Cerisano CEO, SMH Foundation	“Because of You Campaign” Relaunch for Stevenson Memorial Hospital
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Dec 9		PROBUS Christmas Luncheon
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Show & Tell Speakers

Nov 11	Allyn Willard	D-Day Video (75 th Anniversary)
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Upcoming Events

PROBUS Christmas Luncheon



PROBUS Club of Alliston Christmas
Royal Canadian Legion
111 Dufferin St. South, Alliston, ON
\$50 person

Traditional Christmas Dinner

12:00 Noon Arrival & Social

1:00 pm Dinner

Share-the-Wealth

Announcements

We are in need of volunteer(s) to serve on the Show & Tell committee. This entails the recruitment of Show & Tell speakers and the introduction of them at the meeting.

Our club can only continue to thrive with the help of volunteers. Please consider helping out.

If you are interested joining the committee, contact anyone on the Executive.

Important Links



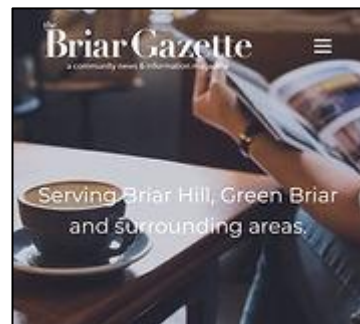
PROBUS Club of Alliston Website



PROBUS Canada Website



PROBUS Canada Newsletter



2025/2026 Management Committee

President	Claire Albright
Vice President	Allyn Willard
Past President	Gerry Ross
Secretary	Jo-Anne Hunt
Treasurer	Ruby Thomas
Membership Coordinator	Mary Willard
AV Team	Allyn Willard, Peter Krol, Ron Wise
Communications/Webmaster	Mary Willard
Events & Excursions	Wendy Masters, Mary Willard, Joan Fellows, Jill Winter
Special Events (Golf)	Eugene McEleney
Luncheons	Midge Faccioli, Bev Hughes
Meeting Coordinator	Dave Randell
Membership	Mary Willard, Sheila Garriock
Photographer	Bev Hughes
PROBUS Reporter	Allyn Willard
Share the Wealth	Diane Haynes, Barb Murney
Show & Tell	Roy Snipe
Speakers Committee	Shirley Irvine, Catherine Robbin, Gerry Ross
Sunshine and Clouds	Sue Waterman

If you have moved or changed your email or phone number, please notify Mary Willard at probuscluballiston@gmail.com so that we can keep our records up to date.

If you have pictures or stories you would like to share with your friends at PROBUS, please email to Allyn Willard at: allynwillard@rogers.com