BOLTON AND DISTRICT PROBUS NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2026



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

HAPPY, NEW YEAR,

I'd like to begin by wishing everyone a year filled with happiness and good health. Thank you to all who attended our January Annual General Meeting, and a special thank-you to those who have stepped forward to serve on the management committee for the next twelve months. We're fortunate to have several returning members, along with two new additions to the team.

Ron will be taking over from Trevor, who has served as our exceptionally efficient treasurer for fifteen years. We are deeply grateful for Trevor's dedication and delighted to welcome someone with Ron's extensive experience into the role. Another long-time committee member, Larry, will continue with us until June. His contributions have been invaluable, and I am personally very appreciative of the way he extended his presidential duties during a time when I was unable to do so.

Our President-Elect, or Vice President, Ian, will be stepping in during February and March while I am away on vacation. Fortunately, our ever-reliable speakers committee has arranged two excellent presenters for those months.

February Speaker: John Steckley – Local Professor and Author

John Steckley teaches at Humber College and has spent more than thirty years studying the Huron language. He holds a doctorate in Education from the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education at the University of Toronto.

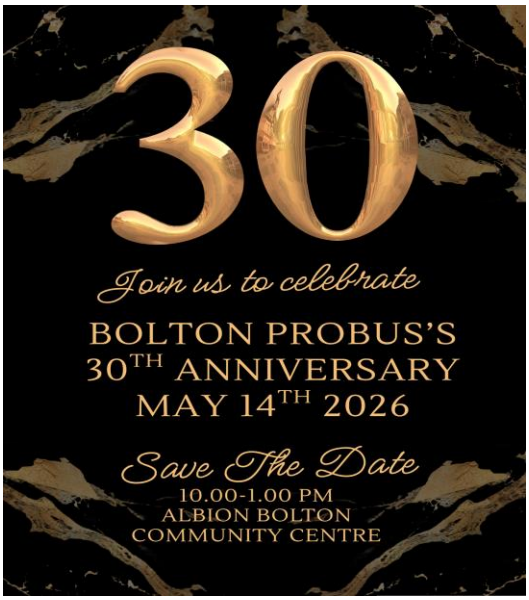
March Speaker: Dr. Jim Cairns – Former Deputy Chief Coroner of Ontario

Born in Northern Ireland, Dr. Cairns immigrated to Canada in 1972 and established a family practice in Brampton. Appointed a coroner in 1979, he later became Ontario's Deputy Chief Coroner in 1991, a position he held until his retirement in 2009. During his tenure, he was involved in several high-profile investigations, including the death of a military cadet and the discovery of mummified remains.

Congratulations to our lucky 50:50 winner, David Martin, who took home $105. And thank you to Andrée-Ann for organizing the draw.

I appreciate each of you for the energy and goodwill you bring to our group. Enjoy the wonderful speakers lined up for February and March, and I look forward to reconnecting with you when I return.

Graham Ferguson, President www.boltonprobus.ca gferguson222@outlook.com



This Year is going to be a great year… at least for our Probus Club. We have a "big birthday":

30 years of:

Fellowship, Friendship and Fun

Make sure that you put the May 14th meeting in your diary.

At the Annual General Meeting, the following were approved for the 2026 Management Team:

President Graham Ferguson 	Vice President Ian Kittle 	Secretary Laura Fleming 	Treasurer Ron Morrison 
Events Coordinator Grace Allison 	Events and Refreshment Debbie Courneya 	Communications With Membership Fionna Ferguson 	Past President Larry O'Donnell 

Please let Graham know if you would like to volunteer and help. Our club leaders and volunteers are making the club vibrant and fun, and we know everyone is enjoying the friendship. Our refreshment and treats organiser Debbie, does a fantastic job of organising the great goodies each month and the room and tables are always beautifully decorated. She appreciates those who sign up to bring treats and to help.

The Events and Social Committee are led by Grace Allison

EVENTS AND OUTINGS COMMITTEE

Grace Allison jhgallison@rogers.com

Edna Clark boltonclarks@gmail.com

Linda Thomas lindathomas08@gmail.com

2026 JANUARY TO MARCH – ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS REQUIRING SIGN UP

JANUARY

Monday 19th Monday Night Movie 4:30pm Orangeville

Sunday 25th Blackhorse Village Players Theatre 2:15pm

FEBRUARY

Monday 2nd Monday Night Movie 4:30 Orangeville

Monday 23rd Monday Night Movie 4:30 Orangeville

Thursday 26th British Legends - Gibson Centre Alliston

Date tbd - 'Ignite the Night' at Terra Cotta Conservation Area Sat Feb 14 or 21 or 28

MARCH

Monday March 2nd Monday Night Movie 4:30 Orangeville

Sunday March 8th Caledon Concert Band 2 pm

***Sunday March 22nd John McDermott 2 pm Gibson Centre Alliston

Convenor: Christine Williams

Remember to look at the information table and sign up for the socials which interest you.

On going ones are:

Monday Night at the Movies https://www.theatreorangeville.ca/

There will be sign up sheets at the meetings for MNM in Orangeville.

Monday Night Movies. Orangeville Galaxy Theatre Monday January 19 and Monday February 2

$10 cash at door. Movie at 4:30. Dinner at 6:30

The films are usually excellent, and we socialise over a bite to eat afterwards.

Nathan told us about the Caledon Historic Society on February 9th at a new location: Caledon Seniors Centre on Rotary Way.

Book Club Number 1

The Wednesday after the probus meeting … ie the third Wednesday of the month at the library.

Run by Evelene Chapman and Micky Gravenish

January 14/February 18/March18/ April15/May 20/June17

Readamendations Book Club

For information: Tina Daalderop daalderopmt@gmail.com

Next meeting: January 27th hosted by Tina.

Provisional dates: 24th February/24th March/21st April/26th May

Please contact the convenors if interested as space is limited.

The Speakers Committee - if you have any ideas…

John Palmer - johnnelvin.jp@gmail.com

Larry O'Donnell - lodonnc516@rogers.com

Graham Ferguson- gferguson222@outlook.com

Nathan Hiller - nhillerphoto@bell.net

Ron McNaughton- macnaughton@rogers.com

Fionna Ferguson- rotaryfionna@outlook.com

Ruth Hunt organises our lunch venue and social. In January we went to Swiss Chalet

Look at: https://www.probuscanada.ca/

Our January Speaker

On Thursday the 8th of January, the speaker was Kim Delahunt bringing us up to date with the Headwaters Hospital, Orangeville.



Kim Delahunt – President and CEO Headwaters Health Care Centre

What an interesting and informative presentation. The room was very quiet while we were given the past, present and future of our local hospital. One of 150 hospitals in Ontario, it is a medium size (category 2 out of 5) and was opened 27 years ago. There have been several additions since the original build and more are planned in the future.

Growth is imperative because projections show:

- That by 2040 more than 3.1 million Ontarians will be living with one or more chronic disease.
- The current emergency department was built to accommodate 23,000 annual visits, at present its 37,000 and within 10 years 50,000 are expected.
- The local population is expanding so rapidly more Obstetrics and Pediatrics are required
- The population is aging, especially in Caledon, so it is the fastest growing area of need especially with Caledon residents.

Building partnerships is an important part of providing the excellent care that the hospital is getting a reputation for. Groups like:

- Therapeutic Pets of Canada
- Bethell Hospice
- Toronto Metropolitan University

Community outreach programs are important:

- Teddy Bear Clinic
- Mammathon

Fundraisers for equipment are important (because the province only builds buildings) such as for the new MRI machine

The hospital struggles to hire new staff, but one success has been receiving Dufferin Funding for emergencies, so the EMS staff are actually Headwaters employees.
The strategic plan in place for 2024-2029 aims for:

One community, caring together, to provide excellent care, close to home.