



## **PROBUS Club of Guelph & District**

*Our Strength is Fellowship, Our Success is Participation*

<https://www.probusguelph.ca>

### **NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2022**

We invite you to join our Monthly PROBUS program via Zoom on Thursday, February 10, at 10:30 a.m. Please refer to the Speaker's Support section for login details.

In honour of Black History Month, Marva Wisdom, Founder and Principal of Wisdc Consulting will talking to us about "Securing our Collective Heritage".

#### **President's Message**

I hope this message finds everyone well as we work our way through the latest COVID-19 challenge. The decline of Omicron variant may well be in sight, but it is prudent to be cautious, so our February 10th will be a Zoom meeting. In the meantime, we are hopeful, so we are planning and preparing to resume the hybrid meeting format in March (available in person at the Arboretum or via Zoom). Our AV expert, David Churchill and our Webmasters Judy Carrick and Kathryn Greenaway are up to the challenge. Thanks to our Program Committee, chaired by Kathy Stephens, our recent meetings have been excellent. February will continue that pattern with another special speaker addressing a very important and timely topic. Marva Wisdom will be addressing us on Black History month. As her name suggests, you can expect some well thought out insight into a critically important topic.

I look forward to seeing most of you on Zoom next week. In the meantime, please take the time to read the reports in this newsletter as your Management Committee is striving keep our club vibrant and active.

Be well,

Fred Dawkins  
[probusguelph133@gmail.com](mailto:probusguelph133@gmail.com)

## **Membership Committee**

PROBUS Club of Guelph and District is at 152 members and counting!

This month we would like to welcome Donna Ritch to Probus Guelph. We look forward to meeting her “live” on Zoom Thursday February 10th. We also look forward to hearing from Raija Sakarya and Marlene Haywood as they deliver their Who Am I talks. Probus is growing and we currently have 154 members!

Please share my email with a friend who would enjoy all the community and connection that PROBUS brings.

Jacque Geall Seabrook  
[probusmembership@gmail.com](mailto:probusmembership@gmail.com)

## **Program Committee**

Our speaker for February, Black History Month, will be Marva Wisdom, whose talk is entitled "Securing our Collective Heritage". Inspired by the Underground Railroad as a living history, Heritage Hall, at 83 Essex Street in downtown Guelph, stands as a metaphor of cultural self-determination that can be shared with immigrant and culturally diverse peoples living in Guelph. Today the Guelph Black Heritage Society preserves the historical significance of this important building by creating a cultural, historical, and social centre within Guelph and Wellington County.

Marva Wisdom, M.A. (Leadership) is a Senior Fellow at Munk School of Global Affairs & Public Policy (U of T) and a Fellow of the Environics Institute for Survey Research. She is a senior equity, inclusion and leadership practitioner, keynote speaker, researcher, and the City of Guelph’s external lead advisor with a goal to set the community standard for eliminating systemic racism. Marva is also one of the founding members and director of outreach for the well-received Black Experience research project – a 7-year study, led by Environics Institute and partners, and she directs Musagetes Foundation’s international Arts Everywhere Festival.

Marva, through her company Wisdom Consulting, continues to provide her

clients - local, national, and international, the support that they need to build leadership capacity for immersive equity and inclusion.

Her more than 30-plus years of volunteerism, include: Rotary Club member; past Canadian Museum for Human Rights campaign cabinet member, past 15-year YMCA/YWCA engaged leader, co-chair of 2003 & 2006 federal election policy platforms and current member of the Black Canadian Fundraisers Collective and Operation Black Vote Canada Advisory, to name a few.

Among her many recognitions is the Queen's Diamond Jubilee medal, the YWCA's Woman of Distinction award, Guelph Police and Toronto Police Services Leadership award, and University of Guelph's Lang Business College's Alumni with Impact Award, where she earned a Master of Arts in Leadership.

Marva co-authored the newly released book, *Collecting Courage – Joy, Pain, Freedom, Love* <http://collectingcourage.org>

Our January presenter was Mike Daley. Everyone enjoyed the Zoom presentation "Elvis." He was introduced by Beth Harris and thanked by Keith Conrad.

Kathy Stephens  
[probusguelph133@gmail.com](mailto:probusguelph133@gmail.com)

## **Activities Committee**

It's confirmed. Our 3-game package to cheer on our Guelph Storm Hockey Team is on! The Sleeman Centre has now re-opened for in-person fans with restricted attendance, but we will be there! Our first game is February 21, Storm vs Sault St. Marie Greyhounds; February 27, Storm vs Kitchener Rangers; and March 6, Storm vs Flint, Michigan Firebirds. Transportation is provided to the Sleeman Centre via Red Car, and everyone receives a special gift from the Guelph Storm Hockey Club. GO STORM GO!

-We trust you are anticipating our monthly TED TALK. What will it be this time? You will be getting the link in the next few days. (I aim for the first weekend of the month). We like to choose something interesting for discussion, and, if you wish, I love to receive a brief feedback. Whether it's praise or criticism, I welcome your comments. Just click on the link when you receive my email – so easy!

-Linda and I continue to lead the Walking Group on local trails within Guelph. We walk every other Monday afternoon 1:00 to 3:00ish. This coming Monday, February 7, we will be walking the trail along the Speed River between

Speedvale and Woodlawn Road, then return to the parking lot on Speedvale. Anne Bradley and John Holt lead our biweekly Hiking Group for more experienced hikers. The Walkers and Hikers meet on alternate Mondays. This way members can join in either group at their convenience. Hikers, contact Anne Bradley at [mab310848@gmail.com](mailto:mab310848@gmail.com).

-The plan is to start our After-General-Meeting lunches beginning Thursday, March 10. Linda and Lenore Ralph, [lrsidebyside@hotmail.com](mailto:lrsidebyside@hotmail.com), will be making the reservation, so just let them know you are ready "to do lunch" on March 10.

Please contact us any time with suggestions of activities you would like to participate in.

Barbara & Linda [bmoldenhauer2014@gmail.com](mailto:bmoldenhauer2014@gmail.com) [verndenny@gmail.com](mailto:verndenny@gmail.com)



Walkers at Spurline Park on January 24th





The two pictures above are from the Woodlawn Cemetery walk January 10th

### **Webmaster Committee**

You will receive a link via email to our next meeting, the day prior to the meeting. Feel free to log in at 10:00 a.m. for social time with your fellow PROBUS members. Our meeting will start at 10:30 sharp.

Judy Carrick  
[probusquelp133@gmail.com](mailto:probusquelp133@gmail.com)

### **PROBUS Management Team**

Our goal is to provide Fellowship, Friendship and Fun for men and women in their retirement years. We are a volunteer-based, non-profit, non-sectarian fellowship group with over 4,000 clubs worldwide, 255 being Canadian

clubs made up of over 38,000 members who are all about encouraging healthy minds and bodies and socializing with other retirees in the community.

You are welcome to join our energetic and enthusiastic Management Team. We are always looking for fresh ideas.

President; Fred Dawkins

Past President; Donna Sunter

First Vice-President; Kathryn Greenaway

Second Vice-President; Graham Ford

Treasurer; Judy Carrick

Secretary; Beth Harris

Membership Chair; Jacquie Geall-Seabrook

Program Chair; Kathy Stephens

Activity Co-Chairs; Barb Moldenhauer & Linda Denny

Speaker Support; David Churchill

Webmasters; Judy Carrick

House Committee Chair; Jarka Rasper

Newsletter Co-Editors; Ruth Slavin & Linda Yates