



THE PROBUS CLUB OF OAKVILLE

Established in 1988, The Fifth Probud Club in Canada
www.oakvilleprobus.com



August 15, 2024 – In-Person and Zoom Meeting
Meeting begins at 10:00 AM. Featured Speaker at 11:00 AM.

**Meeting Place – Oakville Public Library - Central Branch –
120 Navy St. Second Floor Auditorium**

**Plenty of Parking on Water St with Elevator to Second Floor but
we also respect those who wish to participate via Zoom**

FEATURED SPEAKER – August 15, 2024 , 2



Katherine ('Kat') Downey M.ED. CEA
Kopriva Taylor Community Funeral Home, Oakville

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This month, we are delighted to welcome **Katherine ('Kat') Downey**, a local Funeral Director responsible for funeral **pre-arrangement planning**. Born and raised in Oakville, **Kat** has been associated with Kopriva Taylor since 2000 and was affiliated with the Funeral Service Education Program at **Humber College as a Sessional Professor**. Today, **Kat is educating & informing us**, not selling her own program.

*Prior to joining Kopriva Taylor, **Kat** taught at High School and College. Since 1998 Kat has continued to educate people about the emotional and financial advantages of thoughtful end-of-life planning. She is also a **Certified Executor Advisor**.*

Many of us plan ahead in life. We plan for our wedding, our children's education, family vacations, the routine of monthly bill payments and other significant expected life events and obligations. We also plan for the **unexpected events of life** by purchasing home, auto and medical insurance. What we may **overlook or postpone**, however, is the financial planning and preferred event administration for **our own final farewell**. Understanding the benefits of planning ahead in an informed and sensitive way, whether **using a professional**, or, where permitted, **family led funerals¹** has prompted a growing number of Canadians to **take the step to becoming more involved in planning their own arrangements, or those of other loved ones**.

Our conversation with Kat will be focused on **choosing to plan the arrangements** for our final farewell ahead of time, particularly if we haven't already done so, in order that our close family members, carers and other significant members of our social circle are aware of our wishes.

*Professionally, **Kat** contributes to the perinatal bereavement program, the Bereaved Families of Ontario, and is a faculty member for Age Friendly Businesses and Certified Professional Consultant on Aging. **Welcome Kat!***

*For further information, you may wish to consult, amongst others, the following links, which are addition to material which **Kat** will leave today for your consideration:*

<https://thebao.ca/for-consumers/family-led-death-care/>¹

https://ofsa.org/resource_videos

President's Message - August 2024

Hi all

Hope you all are enjoying the summer

Many of us have had to adjust to the significant change from a quiet retirement with our spouse to a few days or a week of a much-expanded group with and grandkids. That is quite the challenge.

Good thing one knows that it will only last a limited number of days - It does make us wonder how we managed house and home with our kids when they (and we) were younger - Of course that time is somewhat blurry.

Our Probus club will nominate a new management group at the August meeting to be voted on in September. Hope to see you on August 15!

All the best

Alex Murphy

President



The Probus Club of Oakville

Minutes of the General Meeting of the Probus Club of Oakville July 18, 2024 Oakville Public Library

Paul Nelson opened the meeting at 10:00 a.m.

1.0 Minutes

A motion to accept the minutes of the June General Meeting was made by Tim O'Shea and seconded by Grant Gooding. The minutes of the last meeting were then unanimously accepted.

2.0 Membership and Guests

Gerry Pielsticker had two great guests, Nick and Tim Godfrey who seem to be likely members in the future.

Jay Kell introduced his guest, Ramji Khandelwal, a retired professor from the University of Saskatchewan who has just retired and relocated to Oakville.

Jay reminded all members that the annual fee of \$75 is now due and thanked those who have already paid and given him cheques. The fee can be sent by e-transfer or you can send a cheque to Jay's home address.

3.0 Treasurer's Report

Ray Henrickson reported the financials for June. We finished the month with a bank balance of \$4877.22.

4.0 Past President & Chair of the Nominating Committee, Mike Purcell

Mike let the membership know that as it stands right now, he has committed candidates or at least possible candidates for all open positions on the Management committee. However, having said that, he is still wants all members to consider

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how they can participate and serve on one of the committees. Opportunities abound for those who choose to get involved. He promised to announce the complete management committees at the next meeting.

5.0 Speakers

Tim let the members know that Grant Swanson has stepped up and volunteered to take over the Speakers role for the next year. Good for you Grant.

Tim O'Shea summarized the upcoming speakers for 2024 & Q1, 2025, as follows:
August - Katherine ('Kat') Downey, Kopriva Community Funeral Home...the advantages to friends, family and carers of pre-funding/planning your ultimate farewell;

September – Dr. Drew Fagan, Munk School of Global Policy on Canada's need to 'matter, not natter' amongst our allies;

October - Rob Pyle, 'Zooming' from Calgary, showing the aviation enthusiasts' progress on their 60% operational rebuild of an Avro Arrow, CF 105;

November - Peter Pook, retired VP of Research & Design, Fisher Price Toys & 'All I want for Christmas'. Peter will present his bio/profile in October as a prelude to his November conversation with us;

January – Adam Schoalts, Explorer and wildlife biologist

February - Canadian author, humourist, Terry Fallis

March – a Geologist (TBA) on the critical importance to Ontario & Canada's partners of operationalizing the 'Ring of Fire'.

6.0 Website/Newsletter/Draw.

Paul Nelson confirmed with everyone that they are now receiving the monthly email of the newsletter which is great.

Gerry Pielsticker let us know that the website now includes the audio of the presentation made by our member Captain Oleg Dolzиков, Master Mariner. There was a problem originally but that has been fixed.

Also, Gerry mentioned that the library raised some objections to a few things occurring prior to our meetings and that to has been resolved thanks to diplomatic negotiations.

Paul Nelson talked about YourTV, part of the Cogeco network, and the Gerry has done a video that will be shown to us next month. This is all meant to raise our visibility in Halton.

The 50/50 draw was won by Grant Swanson.

Ivor Barlow presented an information session on travel insurance offered to all Probus members from Johnson- Medoc Insurance

The website is **Johnson.ca** and you will easily find the travel insurance section. The company has recently joined with Bel-Air Direct for home and auto insurance as well.

The advantages offered by the company include:

Unlimited trips	No limit on age or health
Trip disruption coverage- cancellation, interruption, delay	
Medical emergency	Dental emergency
Vehicle return	Pet return
Baggage delay/Protection	Extended travel
24/7 Emergency Assistance	Pre-Existing conditions, 90 days
Reduced rates for Probus Members through their Group Scheme	
Now all online for signing up and making any claims while travelling	

Ivor has used this insurance company for himself and Kate and has had test many of the features and the company has more that lived up to their reputation.

SPEAKER

Tim O'Shea introduced our speaker----Dr. Melanie Cousins, Epidemiologist, Risk Management- Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC)

“Epidemiology is the study of the determinants, occurrence, and distribution of health and disease in a defined population.”

Epidemiology can help answer these questions:

- What is the cause/source of the disease?
- Who is mainly affected?
- Is it zoonotic? What are the hosts? What are the risk factors? Protective factors?
- How does it spread?
- Mode of transmission? How fast? How far?
- What other factors impact the disease or its spread?
- Is it impacted by temperature? Moisture?

Ways to answer those questions...

- Quantitative methods:
- Descriptive statistics

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- Statistical models
- Transmission models
- Projection models
- Qualitative methods
- Interviews
- Surveys
- Cognitive mapping

Once all the data is collected it is put into any one of approved Transmission Models to determine the risk level to any one group of people.

Melanie works for the Risk Assessment Division at the Public Health Agency of Canada and while they cannot make any recommendations, they can give the risk factors to others like **Dr. Theresa Tam** to make the hard decisions.

Types of Epidemiologists:

- Field Epidemiologists
- Infectious disease epidemiologist
- Molecular epidemiologist
- Veterinary epidemiologist
- Medical epidemiologist
- Pharmaceutical epidemiologist
- Infection control epidemiologist
- Environmental epidemiologist
- Chronic disease epidemiologist plus many more

Melanie's slide presentation will soon be up on our website so feel free to have a look at the different transmission models and how it all comes together.

Ulrich Wickardt thanked the speaker
Paul Nelson declared the meeting closed

The next meeting will be Thursday August 15th, 2024,

Jim Tonner
July 22nd, 2024

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2023-2024 Management Committee

President	Alex Murphy	(905) 337-2924
Past President	Mike Purcell	(905) 845-4097
Vice President	Paul Nelson	(905) 631-2390
Secretary	Jim Tonner	(289) 337-6693
Treasurer	Ray Henrickson	(905) 469-0158
Speakers	Tim O'Shea	(905) 842-5133
Activities	Jay Kell	(289) 407-3859
Newsletter	Paul Nelson	(905) 631-2390
Membership	Jay Kell	(289) 407-3859
Website	Gerry Pielsticker	(905) 338-9829
Technical Co-ordinator	Gerry Pielsticker	(905) 338-9829

In addition, the following Key Support Positions have been filled by appointed Members.

Key Support Positions

Equipment	TBD	
Member Welfare	Alex Murphy	(905) 337-2924
Auditor	Bryan Noble	(905) 319-1864
50/50 Draw	Roy Oldfield	(905) 847-2062
Investment Club	Dave Patterson	(905) 844-5894
Photographs	Peter Pretty	(905) 338- 5583
Greeter	Jack Rugg	(905) 820-1973
Book Club	Alex Murphy	(905) 337-2924