



**THE PROBUS CLUB OF OAKVILLE**

Established in 1988, The Fifth Probus Club in Canada  
[www.oakvilleprobus.com](http://www.oakvilleprobus.com)



September 19, 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 – September 19, 2024**

**Drew Fagan**



**Professor, Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy  
Affiliated Faculty Member, Centre for European and Eurasian Studies**

Canada needs to have a plan for the U.S., **no matter who becomes President**. That starts with making us ***matter more***, or do we just ***'natter'*** more?

This month, we welcome **Drew Fagan** a professor and writer at the **Munk School** of Global Affairs and Public Policy, University of Toronto; Drew is also a senior advisor at **McMillan Vantage Policy Group**.

**Drew** previously spent 12 years in leadership positions with the Province of Ontario and the Government of Canada where he was **Assistant Deputy Minister for strategic policy and planning** at the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (now Global Affairs Canada). He was also a former **Washington correspondent** for **The Globe and Mail**.

As **Drew** and his colleagues argue in a recent [essay<sup>1</sup>](#), the deep **economic integration of Canada and the United States** may be long-established, but shared **vision and shared purpose** are **not as explicit** as they once were. **Canada** is being drawn more deeply into the U.S. orbit just when that orbit is less stable, **geopolitical tension** is becoming alarming and our [productivity](#) and **real wage growth** is decreasing.)<sup>2</sup>

**Drew** will share **three essential strategies** that Canada must embrace with great **urgency** i.e.: **"deepen; broaden; and accelerate" the economy**. "For all the handwringing over Canada being more alone in the world than ever, our good geography and better geology mean **we are not without cards to play**".

**Welcome, Drew!**

For more information and to inform your questions (*other than about prime ministerial socks*), you may wish to consider, amongst others, the following:

<https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/public-policy-forum-and-munk-school-of-global-affairs-amp-public-policy-launch-canada-u-s-matter-more-project-830193004.html> <sup>1</sup>

<https://www.cdhowe.org/expert-op-eds/eichenbaum-kronick-economists-must-convince-public-productivity-isnt-just-number> <sup>2</sup>

## **President's Message September 2024**

How come summers seem to go by so much faster than winters? I hope you all had a great summer with trips and family get togethers that last just long enough before the fireworks happen.

Our Probus club never lost a beat during the summer with interesting speakers, and we have a great line up of speakers for the fall. Such speakers include Dr. Drew Fagan from the Munk School of Global Policy in September – a presentation on rebuilding the Arrow aircraft in October and a presentation on Fisher Price Toys in November. Our book and investment clubs continue to meet monthly and both clubs would welcome additional members. Our annual meeting is on September 19 and we will then welcome our new executive. The club management will present a short summary of activities over the past year. We will have our traditional Holiday lunch on December 5<sup>th</sup>.

It has been my great pleasure to have been president this latest year.

One last joke “He who laughs last at a joke is likely the slowest thinker”

All the best

Alex Murphy



**The Probus Club of Oakville**

**Minutes of the General Meeting of the Probus Club of**  
**Oakville**  
**August 15th, 2024**  
**Oakville Public Library**

Alex Murphy opened the meeting at 10:00 a.m.

### **1.0 Minutes**

A motion to accept the minutes of the July General Meeting was made by Paul Nelson and seconded by Tim O’Shea. The minutes of the last meeting were then unanimously accepted.

Alex Murphy spoke about members’ health and said that Ivor Barlow did have a stroke but was recovering well and is in fact on the Zoom call this morning. Roy Oldfield informed the membership that past member Barry Cook had died.

Alex also reminded the committee chairs that annual reports are due for the September Annual meeting and are to be presented and then submitted to the secretary. It would be appreciated if each report be presented as a hard copy plus an electronic copy to transfer directly into the minutes.

### **2.0 Membership and Guests**

Jay reminded all members that the annual fee of \$75 is now due and that he would be making some phone calls this month as a friendly reminder to all who have not paid. The fee can be sent by e-transfer or you can send a cheque to Jay’s home address. As of today, 35 members have renewed. Jay also announced that the Christmas Lunch would be held at the Oakville Golf Club on Thursday, December 5<sup>th</sup>. More details to follow in the coming months.

### **3.0 Treasurer’s Report**

Ray Henrickson reported the financials for July. We finished the month with a bank balance of \$6,411.08. Ray also presented the budget for the coming year.

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

Mike presented the complete list of committee heads and key supports positions as follows:

NOTICE OF MOTION

THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE PROPOSES A MOTION TO NOMINATE THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS FOR THE MANAGEMENT & KEY SUPPORT POSITIONS FOR THE 2024 – 2025 OPERATIONAL YEAR.

PRESIDENT - PAUL NELSON

PAST PRESIDENT & NOMINATING COMMITTEE CHAIR -ALEX MURPHY



### **6.0 Website/Newsletter/Draw.**

Gerry Pielsticker played a short video of himself talking about our club and in a concise way covering off the purpose, location and advantages of the club and invited any interested retiree to come as a guest and check us out. It was very well done and right now, Paul Nelson is trying to get Cogeco to run this on YourTV. It will also be on our website which should really hook interested parties.

The 50/50 draw was won by Doug Peeples.

### **SPEAKER**

Helmut Erxleben introduced our speaker---- Kat Downey M.Ed., C.P.C.A. CICEA Funeral Director from the Kopriva Taylor funeral home.

Kat Downey has been with Kopriva Taylor for over 20 years and spoke to us not only to broach the subject of preplanning our own funeral, but to speak about some of the administrative and paper work issues we need to get out of the way regardless of what other plans we are making.

Kat talked about some of the guidelines:

- Make sure we all have wills, and powers of attorney assigned for both property and personal care
- Have an Advance Care Directive. This is not a legal document but outlines your preferences regarding housing, medical care etc.
- Preplan and prepay your funeral. The money is in a secure account and the prices for your funeral are locked in at the price you agreed to at the time.
- Have a will or estate plan for each province or state where you have property
- Do not alter your will by hand writing in the margin that is not a valid change. Instead, create a codicil.
- Make sure it is all clear cut what each person is to receive particularly in blended families. Where money and property are involved, it brings out the worst in some people
- There is no inheritance tax in Ontario but Estate Administrative Tax comes into play after the first \$50,000 of an estate.
- Streamline your banking and investments to make it easier for the family
- Streamline all your paperwork, passwords, credit cards,

The average funeral today cost \$8,800 but can range from \$4373 to \$15,000 or more. To have things done as per your wishes, it is best to preplan and prepay otherwise your family will be left to make those decision. Kat says that you will save about \$5,000 by preplanning with her.

## September 2024 Newsletter

Kat not only specializes in the prepaying aspect but has lots of advice about estate planning, personal insurance and living benefits.

Kat Downey can be reached at [katdowney@legacymatters.ca](mailto:katdowney@legacymatters.ca)

Or 905-399-5341

Kopriva's direct line is 905-844-2600

Doug Peeples thanked the speaker on behalf of the club

Alex Murphy declared the meeting closed

**The next meeting will be Thursday September 19th, 2024,**

Jim Tonner

August 25th, 2024

### 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	
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## **September 2024 Newsletter**

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