

ORCA PROBUS CLUB

NEWSLETTER

Comox Valley
September 2021

PRESIDENT'S PODIUM



Welcome September. I do not know how each of you feels, but I tend to be an autumn person. Give me a quiet spot with a simple view of colorful leaves on a clear September day and I will be in my glory. I know many would want to include a warm drink, a good book and maybe some fuzzy socks, but not me. Okay, maybe the warm drink, but not the fuzzy socks. Hopefully, the hot summer has been an enjoyable one for all and you are now ready for some cool fall breezes.

As you know, on July 1st the Province moved into step three of their restart plan. This move allowed us to organize a picnic at The Kitty Coleman Beach Park. It was nice to see so many familiar faces and catch up on some of the happenings in everyone's life. The location and day were perfect. We once again felt like we belonged to a social club. Step three of their four step plan will also allow us to move away from Zoom meetings and back to having our monthly general meetings at the Legion Hall. We as a management committee, however, realize this next step of in-person meetings may come with some risk and just a little apprehension. We have all seen the recent uptick in COVID-19 numbers with the Delta variant. We are also all aware of the new mandates implemented by the province. Due to this increase in current numbers along with many other factors, we have made the very difficult decision to cancel the September Orca Probus General Meeting. It is certainly not a step we take lightly. However, your health, safety and well-being are and will continue to be our top priority. A Zoom meeting is not a viable option, as the September meeting is all about showcasing the past year's activities, signing up for new activities, and generally preparing for the new year. In lieu of this meeting, the Management Committee will instead be contacting each member personally. We will be phoning to find out what your comfort level is in returning to future in-person meetings and what activities you would like to be involved in when you do return.

We will also review our COVID 19 Safety Plan, and do our very best to answer any other questions you may have about the club. You should be aware that, as mandated by the province, vaccinations will be required for all future Orca Probus indoor meetings and activities. Please know that we will always proceed with care and caution, making sure to follow all the Federal, Provincial, Municipal and Local Health Authority guidelines.

We are a Social Club, so our eventual goal is to get back together and socialize. Our decisions on next steps will be on a month-to-month basis. Everything is fluid, and revisions to the plan will continue to be ongoing.

- President Miles Jones

NOTICE

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The Orca PROBUS Club Nominating Committee has proposed the following members as Officers of the Club for 2021-2022.

President – Marguerite Ancell
Co Vice-Presidents – Mike and Barb Wilson
Secretary – Karen Fettes
Treasurer – Caroline Urquhart
Membership – Lynnette Lynch and Melanie Olson
Facilities – Open to volunteers
Social / Activities – Jerith Jones
Publicity / Newsletter – Bruce Ellis
Past President – Miles Jones

Nominations for these positions will be open until
Wednesday, September 29, 2021

To be submitted (with prior consent to stand) to:
The Nominating Committee, c/o Ken Talbot
2450 Dakota Place, Comox, BC, V9M 0B9
or at e-mail: kenandjim@shaw.ca

Please note that the Nominating Committee has left the Facilities portfolio open in the hope of attracting members interested in serving on the Management Committee. This position was held in the past by couples who prepared and set out the coffee and refreshments at the general meetings. If you want to assist the club, please consider volunteering.

The election will take place at our AGM on October 12th 2021. If further nominations are received, voting will be by secret ballot. If we cannot hold a physical AGM, the above list of officers will be acclaimed, provided no concerns or nominations have been received from our membership by the above deadline.

Thank you to the Nominating Committee :

Miles Jones, Marguerite Ancell, Ken Talbot, Tim Ackerman and Isabelle Pacholuk for their hard work and perseverance in selecting an excellent slate of candidates.



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Caroline Urquhart
Rae Siebert
Claire Tetreau
Cricket Price
Peter Marshall
Mike Naish
Howard Siebert
Donna Powell
Maxine Slater

Jill Ackerman
Lily Vanderhorst
Beth Broomfield
Margaret Forgeron
Isabelle Pacholuk
Richard Melko
Tony Wilson
Jim Cooper
Pamela Dowler
Joan Compton
Liz White

ANNIVERSARIES

September 2006 saw Ellen and Bernard Bechard and Carol Borch join Orca Probus – Happy 15th Anniversary to you three!

SUNSHINE

As we are still not meeting regularly, we often lose touch about the health and condition of our members. If you are aware of any member of our club who has been injured or is ill, please let Melanie Olsom know so that she can offer a card or contact to express best wishes from the club.

Melanie Olson

Remember, if the world didn't suck, we would all fall off.



The Bylaws for our club allow the awarding of a Life Membership to any member. Ordinarily, this must be voted upon in a General Meeting, but with the current restrictions, the Executive has decided to grant such a membership on its own, to be confirmed at a future General Meeting.

Rose Jacobson, our Centenarian, is hereby granted Life Membership in the Orca Probus Club, and will not be required to pay the annual fee. Rose will retain all the rights of a full member.

The Orca Probus COVID-19 Safety Plan

Unfortunately, we had to cancel the September General meeting because of the new restrictions announced for BC in this 4th Wave of COVID-19. We are still hopeful that the October meeting will be able to proceed.

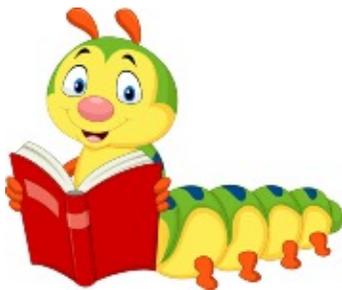
If it does, here are the rules we will follow:

- * All Provincial, Municipal, Venue and Health Authority Guidelines will be followed
- * Vaccinations and Masks will be mandatory for all meetings and indoor activities
- * Hand sanitizer will be available for member use
- * Meeting areas and items will be sanitized as required
- * Correct change only for all money transactions (all membership fees will be paid through E-transfer or by cheque)
- * Members not feeling well... will not attend

ACTIVITY GROUP CONTACTS

BBQ Group	Pamela Melko
Bridge	MaryLynn Rasmussen
Dining Out	Lawrence Petkus
Dining In	Pamela Melko
Garden Club	Barb Wilson
Golf Group	Dave Pacholuk
Happy Appies	- TBA -
Hiking Group	Tim Ackerman
	Jim Cooper
Lunch Bunch	Maxine Slater
Probus Singers	Rae Siebert
Pub Club	Howard Siebert
Quilters Group	Beth Ritchie
Book Worms	Marilyn Morris
Walking Group	Deanna Provencher

PLEASE NOTE: The members listed were the contacts for activities before COVID. As the club reopens, some contacts may change, and hopefully, new activities added.



The Orca book club, known as The Book Worms, has been one of the successful activities during shutdown with regular zoom meetings. So successful that they outgrew the number of members they could handle comfortably. As a result, when we finally restart, a second book group will be created.

- Marilyn Morris

HIKING GROUP

Jim Cooper and Tim Ackerman continued to lead hikes in August with great weather and beautiful scenery.





ORCA PICNIC

In August we were able to hold our first club event for 2021. 50 members joined together at Kitty Coleman Park for a wonderful afternoon. This will likely become an annual event.

