

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q. How do I find a PROBUS Club in my area?

A. Go to the PROBUS Canada website at www.probus.org/canada.htm, where you will find many resources. First click on "PROBUS Clubs in Canada" which will lead to a page with Provincial information. Follow this link to lead to information about Clubs in your community or region.

Q. What if there is no Club listed in my community?

A. If you would like to find a Club in your area we suggest you talk to some of your friends or associates. If there is enough interest, contact the Director for your area, also listed on the PROBUS Canada web site. They will be happy to provide assistance to investigate the possibility of forming a new Club. You can also get details from the Managing Director listed on the web site and on this brochure.

Q. Is it true that some Clubs have all kinds of activities in addition to the monthly meetings?

A. This is quite correct. The decision as to how many activities any one Club may offer is entirely up to the members of the Club. Some Clubs focus on the monthly meetings only while others have a wide variety of activities. Just a few examples are bridge groups, euchre, poker, hiking, camera clubs, luncheon groups, bowling, and travel.

Q. Is it compulsory to participate in all activities?

A. Absolutely not, nor is attendance at meetings compulsory. You make the choice.

Q. How much are the annual dues?

A. Other than a one-time registration fee of \$20, annual fees are set by each Club and are dependent on a number of things, rental of a meeting place, type of refreshments at the meetings, annual dues, and liability insurance payment to PROBUS Canada. Annual fees in most Clubs range between \$25 to \$40.

**WE HAPPILY
WELCOME YOU
TO JOIN US
AS A
MEMBER**

For further information on
PROBUS CLUBS IN CANADA
Please visit our website or contact:

PROBUS CANADA
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PROBUS Canada owns and
controls the PROBUS Logo and
Name in Canada.***

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PROBUS CANADA

Clubs for retired persons
who may wish to gather
with others of
similar backgrounds
to enjoy
learning and fellowship.



PROBUS

PROBUS is an association of retired persons who join together in autonomous Clubs throughout the world.

Though the emphasis in Canada today is on those of like mind or interests rather than on professional or business status for membership, the name, an acronym for **Pro**(fessional) and **Bus**(iness), reflects an earlier rationale.

The basic purpose of a PROBUS Club is to provide regular gatherings for those who, in retirement, appreciate and value opportunities to meet others in similar circumstances and of similar levels of interest.

Past membership in any service Club is not a requirement for potential members of PROBUS. In fact, PROBUS members are often active members of other organizations. There is no restriction on the number of members from any one vocation. There is no compulsion to attend any number of meetings.

PROBUS emphasizes that its Clubs:

- Be simple in structure.
- Be free from constraints and obligations of Service Clubs.
- Involve members at a minimum cost.
- Be directed, primarily, to providing fellowship of acquaintance and learning opportunities
- Seek members who are compatible with one another.

PROBUS Canada, elected by all Clubs, has been established to disseminate information, advise and assist Clubs, accredit new Clubs, and to protect and promote the PROBUS name and logo, and the spirit of PROBUS as noted in the Constitution. A small annual contribution per member funds PROBUS Canada.

PROBUS Clubs

Typical activities include:

- A meeting, on a set day of each month from 10:00 am to 12 noon, consisting of about 30 minutes business, 30 minutes coffee break and 60 minutes for a guest speaker and discussion.
- Occasional visits (between meetings) to places and organizations of particular interest to members, and occasional social and sports activities.

Some Important Features:

- The Clubs are *non-political and non-sectarian*.
- They are *non-profit making and non-fund-raising*.
- All Clubs are sponsored by other established PROBUS Clubs and, on occasion, by Rotary. On formation they are autonomous, and independent of any other organization and independent of each other. There is no central governing body but PROBUS Canada maintains contact and an understandable continuing interest in their progress.
- Past or present membership in any service Club is not a requirement for potential members of PROBUS.
- There is no compulsion to attend any number of meetings.
- There is no restriction on the number of members from any vocation.
- PROBUS members may be active in any other organization or club.
- Membership is a low annual fee, and possibly a \$20 initiation fee. Lapel pins and name badges for meetings and functions are supplied by the Club.
- Members' partners and guests are invited to participate in most visits and in special functions.
- Dress is informal.

Origins of PROBUS

PROBUS Clubs spring from two main roots: the "Campus Club" founded by the Rotary Club of Welwyn Garden City, England and the "PROBUS" Club founded by the Rotary Club of Caterham in England in 1965 & 1966 respectively.

Since then PROBUS Clubs have spread worldwide and continue to be established at a rapidly increasing rate. As interested people from any field of endeavour and of similar interests are invited to join, they recognize the value of participation and observe the enthusiasm of existing members and the way PROBUS is enriching their lives.

There are now Clubs in 20 countries of the world. PROBUS Clubs began to appear in Canada in the late 1980's. As of March 31st, 2015 there are 236 Clubs with 32,735 members coast to coast in Canada.

PROBUS Canada, through its Board of Directors, encourages and advises on the formation of Clubs, maintains up-to-date directory of PROBUS Clubs, distributes lapel pins and other regalia, as may be found helpful, and publishes a PROBUS Newsletter at regular intervals giving information on the activities of PROBUS Clubs.

Rising out of their membership and activities there is self-generating goodwill, a sense of fellowship, a diverse background of interests, and cordiality evident within the Clubs, ensuring for PROBUS a highly successful future as a firmly established part of the community.

To preserve the integrity and reputation of these autonomous Clubs, they are encouraged to adhere to the Standard Constitution established by PROBUS Canada. The PROBUS Experience has proven to be a very successful basis for serving the needs of retirees in the many countries in which the PROBUS movement is now flourishing.