

VOL. 2 | ISSUE 3 | NOV 2025

# BATTLEFORDS PROBUS CLUB

*Official Newsletter of the Battlefords Probus Club*



[www.battlefordsprobus.ca](http://www.battlefordsprobus.ca) | [battlefordsprobus@gmail.com](mailto:battlefordsprobus@gmail.com) | Facebook: Battlefords Probus Club

## PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

With the strong turnout at our November meeting, it's clear that Battlefords Probus is thriving. We welcomed close to sixty members, including six who applied for membership that day. Many have commented on how much they're enjoying the club—whether through our field trips, the growing number of interest groups, or the excellent lineup of speakers we've hosted.



During the business portion of the meeting, we touched on several topics. The book club continues to progress well, and we're grateful to Adele for volunteering to serve as our Sunshine person. We also reviewed results from our first survey, addressed some privacy considerations, and shared plans for an upcoming field trip to the North Battleford Airport. And of course, preparations are well underway for our Christmas lunch on December 16 at the Wildlife Building.

The response to the Christmas lunch has been wonderful, with sixty people planning to attend. Several members are inviting guests, giving us a great opportunity to showcase the strength and spirit of the Battlefords Probus Club. The Spades Card Group is also organizing its own Christmas gathering.

Looking ahead, we have more field trips in the works, and future speakers promise to be as engaging and informative as ever. Our next general meeting in the new year will be held on Tuesday, January 20, 2026.

Merry Christmas, and all the best in the coming year!

*George Plews*

## MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

**George Plews**  
*President*

**Evelyn Skotniski**  
*Vice President*

**Deb Breiman**  
*Secretary*

**Johanne Stolz**  
*Treasurer*

**Sharon Spence/  
Becky Stroo**  
*Membership Chair*

**Chris Pollard**  
*Speaker Chair*

**Susan McLean Tady**  
*Events and Activities*

**George Plews  
Lane Jackson**  
*Webmasters*

**Gerry Walker**  
*Past President*

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## VICE PRESIDENT'S BIO

New to our management committee is Evelyn Skotniski. Her bio will also be available to view on our Probud Members webpage.



I grew up in rural Saskatchewan and attended both the University of Saskatchewan and Kelsey Institute of Technology. I began a nursing career at the Battlefords union hospital initially on the surgical floor and then on to ICC. After 6 years off hospital nursing I joined Medical Services Branch of the Federal Government and worked throughout northern Saskatoon before relocating to Hamilton Ontario where I pursued a graduate degree in Clinical Epidemiology from McMaster University.

After a year working for the Centre for Health Economics and Policy Analysis at McMaster I returned to the Federal government and worked in various positions, predominantly with First Nations Inuit Health Branch, Ontario Region.

During my tenure I attended the *Epidemiology in Action* summer school and obtained a Graduate certificate in Public Health for Vulnerable populations from Concordia University in Alberta.

Upon my retirement as a Nurse/Epidemiologist in 2018, I returned to the Battlefords where I have family and friends from my previous time here. I briefly came out of retirement to work with AHA during the recent pandemic. Now officially retired, I have been involved with various volunteer organization within the Battlefords. Currently I am a member of the Art Club and a member of the Fred Light Museum Board. Having been a former Rotarian and a Paul Harris Fellow, it seems logical to join Probud, and am working towards finding my place within this new group.

*Evelyn Skotniski*



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## NOVEMBER 50/50

At our November 18th meeting, the Battlefords Probus Club held another 50/50 draw. Diane presented winner Vivian with her winnings of \$127.50 and the other \$127.50 went to the club from the total entries of \$255.



## SUNSHINE PERSON

Thank you to Adele for volunteering to serve as our club's Sunshine Person. The Sunshine volunteer is responsible for sending get-well cards and offering support to members who are ill or recovering. We truly appreciate Adele's dedication and kindness.





**BATTLEFORDS PROBUS  
CHRISTMAS  
PARTY**

The Probus Christmas Lunch will be held on  
December 16, 2025, at 12:00 p.m.  
at the Battlefords Wildlife Building.

DEC 16,  
2025

| 12 PM |

9710  
Thatcher Ave

**LIVE MUSIC ENTERTAINMENT  
TURKEY LUNCH BUFFET**

**DOORS OPEN  
AT 12:00PM**

**LIVE MUSIC  
12:30-1:00PM**

**BUFFET  
OPEN AT  
1:00PM**

**Food Bank  
Donations:**  
Non-perishable food  
items will be collected.

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## NOVEMBER MEETING

We were thrilled with the excellent turnout at the November 18th meeting. More than fifty-five members signed the guestbook, filling the room and giving us our largest crowd yet. It's clear that the Battlefords Probus Club is growing, and word is spreading quickly.

George began by introducing the management committee, followed by Becky, who welcomed nine new members with their name tags. Gerry then delivered an engaging presentation on scams and fake websites. Many members were taking careful notes when he revealed that we had just experienced a staged scam—created with AI—to emphasize the need for caution online.

Our activity groups also shared updates. Leanne reported that the Book Club is officially up and running. The Walking Club continues its regular Wednesday morning outings, and the Spades group meets on the first and third Monday of each month, typically drawing 12–15 participants. A Christmas Lunch for the group is planned for December 1.

Adele was introduced as our Sunshine Person and will be responsible for hospital visits and sending supportive cards on behalf of the club.

Plans are well underway for the Probus Christmas Lunch, with at least sixty members expected. George also gave a brief overview of the recent survey, which received twenty-five responses and was overwhelmingly positive. Field trips for the New Year are being organized, including potential visits to the Water Treatment Plant, Gas Power Plant, Saskatchewan Hospital, and the Baseball Hall of Fame. A recent outing to Battleford's Airspray received excellent feedback.

Members were reminded about photo confidentiality: Facebook photos remain within our private group, and newsletter photos will now omit last names. After addressing some technical issues with opening the newsletter, members enjoyed socializing before hearing our guest speaker, Thomas Fansoo, discuss estate planning.



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## NOVEMBER GUEST SPEAKER



Thomas Fransoo obtained his law degree in 2018 from the University of Saskatchewan where he served as an editor of the Saskatchewan Law Review. He then articulated and subsequently practiced with a law firm in Saskatoon until he joined Battle River Law in 2021. Thomas has published a number of articles on varying legal topics in the Saskatchewan Law Review and The Western Producer. Thomas carries on a general practice with an emphasis on corporate/commercial law, estates and estate planning, agricultural law, real estate, family law and litigation.

Thomas was born and raised in North Battleford and looks forward to volunteering and contributing in the community. In his spare time he enjoys spending time on his family's farm, travelling, and being outdoors.



Our speaker, Thomas Fransoo, delivered an engaging and informative presentation on estate planning. His insights were both practical and thought-provoking, sparking a lively question-and-answer session that could easily have continued well beyond the allotted time. At the conclusion of the presentation, Thomas was presented with a custom stained-glass grain elevator, handcrafted by our member Deb—a meaningful token of appreciation for his contribution.



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## Welcome New Members

We would like to welcome our new members: Douglas Brehon, Jean Brehon, Teresa Garraway, Colleen Voinorosky, Lorne Voinorosky, and Brian Welford.



## BATTLEFORDS PROBUS PHOTO CONSENT WAIVER

By Participating in Battlefords Probus Club activities, I hereby grant the Club the irrevocable right and permission to capture photographs and video of me and use these images in club newsletters, the Battlefords Probus Club website, and social media for promotional documentation purposes. I waive any right to compensation or inspection and release the Club from liability related to the use of these photos.

I understand that I may revoke this consent in writing at any time by emailing [battlefordsprobus@gmail.com](mailto:battlefordsprobus@gmail.com) to stop future use of my likeness.





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## FIELD TRIP

Our latest field trip was to Battlefords Air Spray at the North Battleford Airport. Over the course of two evenings, our tour guide, Kyle, gave us an in-depth look at the workings of the spray-plane operation. All participants commented that it was an informative and excellent tour.



## NEXT MEETING

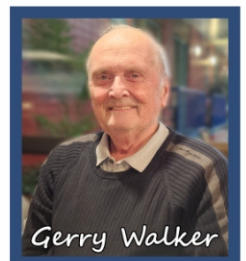
**Location:** Don Ross, Room 101

**Date:** January 20th, 2026

**Time:** 10am

## NEXT SPEAKER

Our own Gerry Walker will be talking about his experiences in the Royal Canadian Air Force.



*Gerry Walker*