

VOL. 3 | ISSUE 1 | SEPT 2026

BATTLEFORDS PROBUS CLUB

Official Newsletter of the Battlefords Probud Club



www.battlefordsprobud.ca | battlefordsprobud@gmail.com | Facebook: Battlefords Probud Club

OUTGOING PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello Battlefords Probud Club Members,

Our second year sure seems to have slipped by quickly, and I think everyone can agree that it has been another very successful year for the Battlefords Probud Club.

I truly enjoyed being President of the Battlefords Probud Club. It gave me the opportunity to get to know more people, make new friends, take part in more activities, and, when it all comes down to it, just have fun!

It has been a pleasure and a privilege to serve as your President, and I want to thank all of you for your support and participation throughout the year. It is the members who make our club such a great group to be part of.

Evelyn is going to be a great President, and I wish her all the very best in the year ahead. I know she will do a wonderful job!

Thank you all for another fantastic year. I look forward to seeing everyone and enjoying many more good times together.



George Plews



MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Evelyn Skotniski
President

Vice President

Deb Breiman
Secretary

Johanne Stolz
Treasurer

Lane Jackson
Membership Chair

Chris Pollard
Speaker Chair

Susan McLean Tady
Events and Activities

Adele Wiegers
Sunshine Person

George Plews
Lane Jackson
*Newsletter, Webmaster, and
Communications*

George Plews
Past President

INCOMING PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It's hard to believe that we are entering into our third year as a Probus Club.

Throughout those first two years our club has grown, we have made many new friends, learned some things we didn't know and gone on adventures. We owe this success to our two previous Presidents, Jerry Walker and George Plews, who have set the groundwork for ongoing success.



So, it is now with both excitement and trepidation that I step into the role of President. I will try my best, with your support, to follow in the footsteps of those who came before me. Perhaps with a slight deviation off the path from time to time. With this being the 40th anniversary of Probus, going forward, let's work together and create some new friendships and memories.

Evelyn Skotniski



Dennis Pommen and his wife EJ, stopped by in North Battleford. Dennis is the Director of Albert and President of Probus Canada. Dennis talked about how Probus Canada is trying to increase clubs in Canada. Dennis and EJ were also impressed how Battleford Probus Club is doing so far.

SEPTEMBER MEETING

George got things started by welcoming everyone and introducing himself. He went over the agenda and gave everyone a quick overview of what the Probus Club is all about. He also took a moment to thank all of the volunteers who help make the club run smoothly and introduced the members of the Management Committee.

Gerry then took us through the first Annual General Meeting. The minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed, and Chris moved that they be accepted, with Johanne seconding the motion. Everyone was in favour, so the minutes were adopted as read.

Johanne presented the financial statement and explained that membership fees have been reduced from \$45 to \$40. Becky moved to accept the financial statement, with Rick seconding, and it was approved.

Next came the election of officers. There were no further nominations for president, so Evelyn became our new president. There were no nominations for vice-president, and since there were also no nominations for secretary, Deb will continue in that position.

George talked about the club's field trips and guest speakers. He went through some of the interesting speakers we had last year, as well as the many field trips members enjoyed.

There was also a chance to hear about all the different subgroups available to members. The Travel Club meets once a month, usually on the last Monday, and currently has 14 members heading off on a trip to Quebec City. The Walking Group, headed by Rick,

meets Wednesday mornings and tries a different route each time. They usually have a core group of 10 to 12 walkers.

The Cards Group meets at Pioneer Hall on the first and third Monday of each month, with a \$5 fee each time. The Book Club meets in the library board room on the second Thursday of the month, also for \$5 per month, with their first meeting coming up in October.

Then there's the popular "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner" group, which is organized by Joanne Higgs. And, for anyone worried about having to host, don't worry — you don't have to!

Continued on Page 4.

SEPTEMBER MEETING - CON'T.

George also reminded everyone that pictures are sometimes taken at club events. No names or personal information are attached to the photos, and members can always choose not to have their picture taken.

The greeters for the next meeting were also arranged. Louise and Leela handled the job this time, while Becky and Adele volunteered to be greeters in October.

Johanna, a guest from Catholic Family Services, was our next speaker. She talked about Social Prescribing and gave everyone a brief explanation of what it involves. Anyone interested in learning more or volunteering can connect with Catholic Family Services.

There was also an update about the Probus Month flag raising. The City of North Battleford turned down the request, but the Town of Battleford is scheduled to host the flag raising on October 13 at 11:00 a.m. This will be our way of celebrating Probus Month. If Battleford ends up turning us down as well, the plan is to invite the media to our next meeting.

Members were reminded that the Management Committee meets once a month and that any member is welcome to attend. Just let them know ahead of time if you'd like to sit in.

A Mature Driver refresher course is also coming up, and there was also a free stethoscope test available today.

George then announced an upcoming field trip to a Riders game. If 56 people sign up for the bus, the cost should be around \$45 to \$50 per person for transportation. Game tickets are extra and range from \$44 to as much as \$200, depending on where you want to sit.

Our next guest speakers will be Linda Machniak and Greg Kwon from the Chamber of Commerce. They will be joining us at 10:00 a.m.

Plans are also underway for the Christmas lunch on December 15 at the Battlefords Wildlife Building, with Eppic Catering providing the meal.

Before moving on, Gerry thanked George for all his work as president over the past year, saying he had done an excellent job.

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SEPTEMBER MEETING - CON'T.

After the break, Chris introduced our guest speaker, Doug Fehr from Citizens on Patrol. Doug explained that their main focus is on deterring and preventing crime. Their volunteers observe, record and report — they do not intervene or try to take matters into their own hands.

Doug gave a very interesting and informative presentation and answered questions from the group. Chris thanked him for coming and presented him with a gift.

The prizes for the "+1" were handed out, and everyone was reminded to return their name tags.

One member also mentioned an interesting exhibit currently on display at the Art Gallery, describing it as great art with a great message.

Brian had some exciting news to share as well, announcing that a blood test for Alzheimer's has been discovered.

Catriona suggested that members talk about possible field trip ideas at the next meeting so everyone can start thinking about where they'd like to go.

There was also an announcement about a gala being held at the Alex Dillabough Centre on October 2. All proceeds will go to the Boys and Girls Club. Anyone interested in attending can call the Community Foundation Office for tickets.

To wrap things up, George's daughter, Aidan, was presented with a gift card as a thank-you for all her work on the newsletter.

With that, the meeting was officially adjourned.



SEPTEMBER GUEST SPEAKER

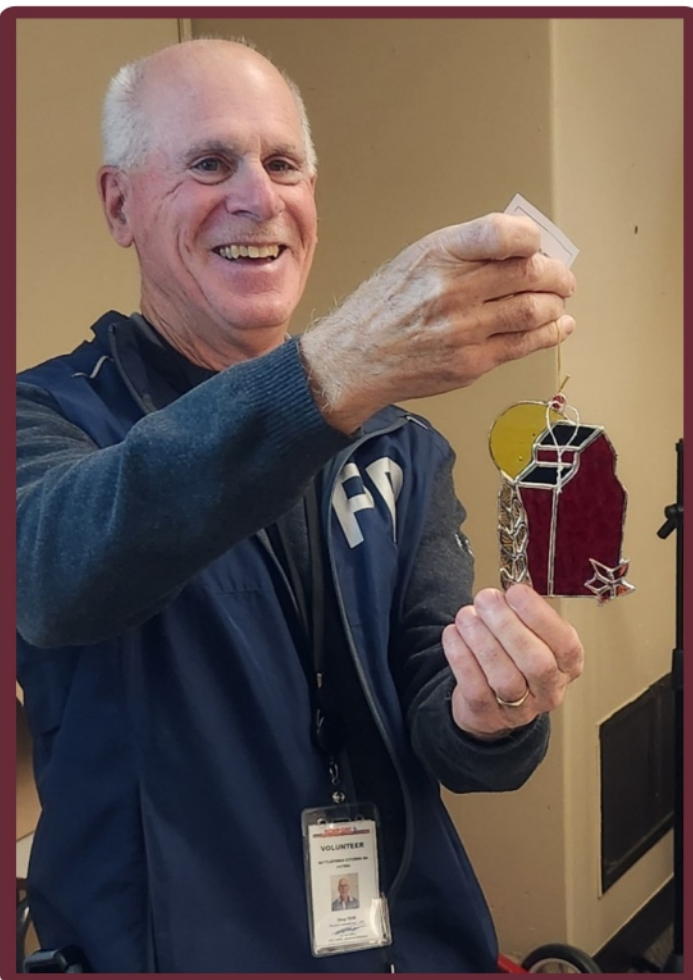


Doug Fehr, chair of The Battlefords Citizens on Patrol Program (COPP), joined Citizens on Patrol in the fall of 2019 after having seen a newspaper ad and having a chat with then, City liaison, Herb Sutton.

He assumed the Citizens on Patrol Secretary role in 2020, vice-chair/acting chair in 2022 and Chair in 2023. Following attendance at the Alberta Citizens on Patrol conference in 2023, Doug and 8 other patrollers from across Saskatchewan agreed to establish a Provincial association similar to that of the Alberta Citizens on Patrol Association.

In August 2024, the Saskatchewan Citizens on Patrol Association was incorporated with Doug as Chairperson. The Saskatchewan Citizens on Patrol Association currently has 10 member groups and hopes to grow to 15 by 2028.

The Citizens on Patrol Program has recovered from the impacts of Covid and has tripled in size to 43 members as of August 2026.



YOUR DISTRICT DIRECTOR'S REPORT SEPT 2026



On behalf of PROBUS CANADA I welcome back all fellow Probus friends. I sincerely hope that your summer was filled with opportunities to enjoy being outdoors and visiting with family and friends. Maybe a few games of golf or a memorable day fishing.

These coming months will provide many opportunities for you to gather with your Probus friends and continue with the many activities planned by your club. I encourage you to take advantage of all the activities you are able to attend.

This year celebrates the 60th year since Probus began globally. The first non-sectarian Probus club specifically for active retirees was formed in 1966 by the Rotary Club of Caterham England to allow retired professionals to continue to meet together for fellowship. Probus will celebrate their 40th year as Probus Canada in 2027. More information on this celebration to follow.

In whatever way you choose to celebrate, on behalf of PROBUS CANADA I wish you well and trust you will have a year of sharing Fellowship, Friendship and Fun.

Once again, welcome back and have a great Probus year!

Sincerely,

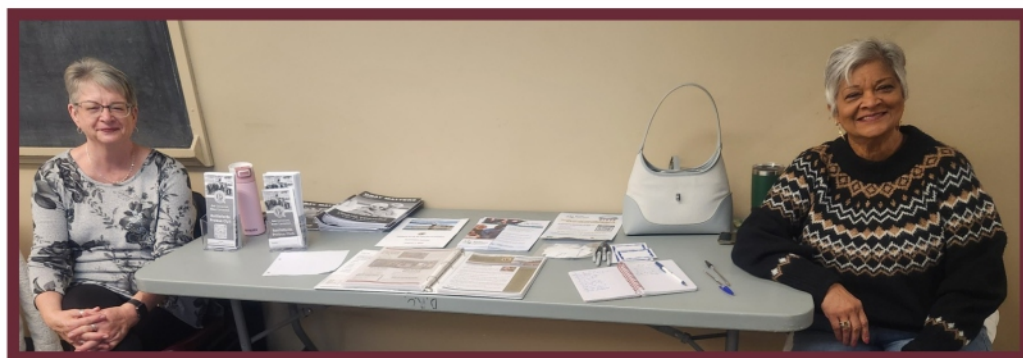
Roland Nordick

District Director: SK, MB, N.W. ONT

PROBUS Canada


**VOLUNTEER
OF THE MONTH**


*Louise &
Leela*



Thank you, Louise and Leela, for making coffee, greeting members, welcoming guests and cleaning up afterwards.

Next month, Adele and Becky have offered to volunteer.



Spades

Welcome New Members

We would like to
welcome our newest
members:

Claudette and Karen.



Walking and Coffee on Wednesdays





THANK YOU

Thank you to Aidan, our designer, for the time and effort you put into every newsletter.

You're Very Welcome! :) Aidan

FOR THOSE INTERESTED...

SASKATCHEWAN SAFETY COUNCIL

MATURE DRIVER REFRESHER COURSE

FREE 6-HOUR COURSE



DATE

Thursday, October 15, 2026

TIME

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
1:00 PM - 4:00 PM
(approx.)

LOCATION

Sharon Christian Fellowship
802 Airport Road, North Battleford, SK

COST

FREE

This completely free 6-hour Mature Driver Refresher Course is strictly informational and offered in a positive, open class environment. It is ideal for experienced drivers who want to stay current and extend their driving independence.

✓ **No exam. Driver's licences are not affected.**

TOPICS INCLUDE:

- Intersections and following distance
- Skids, hydroplaning, and other hazards
- Signs and pavement markings
- Seat belts and airbags
- Vision, medication awareness, and aging-related changes



REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED



LUNCH PROVIDED
sponsored by
Discovery Co-operative Ltd.



Discovery



REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED



Register online at
www.sasksafety.org



Or call toll free
1.855.280.7115

Scan the QR code
to register



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LinkedIn:
/company/saskatchewan-safety-council

Website:
www.sasksafety.org

NEXT MEETING

Location: Don Ross, Room 102

Date: October 20th, 2026

Time: 10:00 AM

NEXT SPEAKER

Our next speakers will be Greg Kwong, Chief Operating Officer, and Linda Machniak, Senior Adviser, from Battlefords and District Chamber of Commerce