



Probus Club of Ottawa-Rideau Valley

A Meeting of Minds

April 7, 2010 (10 a.m.)

**Tomkins Hall, St. James Anglican Church
1188 Bridge Street, Manotick, Ontario, K4M 1A4**

Robert Service and the Yukon

Speaker: Les McLaughlin

Les McLaughlin was born in Alberta and moved with his family to the Yukon when he was two. That was his first of many trips over the famed Alaska Highway though he remembers none of it. In later years, while attending school in Whitehorse, he worked on the highway during the summer. He also made many trips to the site of the world famous Klondike gold rush – Dawson City. So the Alaska Highway and the Klondike Gold Rush were important elements in his early years and remain so today. Les worked as a volunteer at the local Whitehorse radio station while still in high school and later joined CBC Radio in Whitehorse as an announcer. He then worked with the CBC Northern Service in Montreal and Ottawa as a producer for more than 30 years. Following his retirement, Les started a company that produces audio/visual programs about the north for commercial sale. These CDs and DVDs include the life story of Robert Service in audio format and the Alaska Highway story as an historic video. Les will have these available if anyone wishes to purchase a copy. Les is also heard daily on the private Whitehorse radio station CKRW where his featured stories called Yukon Nuggets touch on all aspects of the Yukon's history and development.

Refreshments available from 9.30 a.m. Don't forget your name tags!

Lunch venue following the April meeting: The Black Dog (upstairs).

*****Special event *****

The Probus "Spring Fling" (the annual district luncheon) will be held this year in Cornwall. The date is Tuesday, May 18, with registration starting at 10.30 a.m. The event is being held at the Best Western Motel, 1515 Vincent Massey Drive. Tickets cost \$28. Since the deadline for reservations is April 16, events organizer Merrill Stalker suggests that tickets should be purchased at the April 7 meeting. Payment, preferably by cheque, should be made payable to Probud of Ottawa Rideau Valley. If you wish to attend the lunch by can't be at the April meeting, call Merrill at 613-692-0329.

Striders and Gliders

Striders will be going for a walk in Manotick or in the Baxter Conservation area in April, dependent on weather conditions and water levels. We will meet as usual at 9.30 a.m. on Wednesday, April 21, at Manotick Public Library and car pool if necessary. Organizer Brian Sawyer will email more details to participants 2-3 days before the walk. Many Striders missed a great tour in March of the Chaudière Falls, thanks to beautiful weather and to Burt Collins who gave a detailed history of the area.

May 5 guest speaker: Greg Gauld will talk about First Nations treaty negotiations.

Know a Probud member who is ill? Call Kathy Pitcher (613-822-8739). She will send a card.

Changing your mailing or e-mail address? Send the details to Jeff Cronin at 613-692-6273 to ensure continued delivery of this newsletter.