



Probus Club of Ottawa-Rideau Valley

A Meeting of Minds

February 3, 2010 (10 a.m.)

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

Encounters with Canada

Speaker: Linda Brunet

Encounters with Canada, the country's largest youth forum, has been offering programming for 27 years. Every week of the school year, 120 to 138 teens aged 14 to 17 from across Canada come to Ottawa to discover their country through one another, learn about Canadian institutions, meet famous and accomplished Canadians, explore exciting career options, develop civic leadership skills, and live an extraordinary bilingual experience. Over 81,000 have visited to date.

Linda Brunet has been director general of Encounters with Canada, a program of the Historical-Dominion Institute, for the past decade. Prior to that she spent three years as director of Experience Canada, a Canadian Unity Council (CUC) youth program, having made the move from Montreal to Ottawa in 1997. Before joining the CUC, she was president of Mécanique L.P. Brunet Inc. (1976 – 2001), specializing in foreign cars. She has been a member of many business and community boards in Montreal including the West Island Women's Shelter, West Island Local Development Centre, and the West Island Development Council. She has been president of the Quebec Business Women's Association and the West Island of Montreal Chamber of Commerce, and honorary chairperson of the Christmas designated-driver program (Opération Nez Rouge). She was also honorary chairperson of a Montreal Canadiens' fundraising project in aid of the Quebec Society for Disabled Children. In 1998, she was named West Islander of the Year, and in 2002 received the Golden Jubilee Medal.

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

Lunch venue following the February meeting: Pearl House, Manotick.

Striders and Gliders

The Gliders' February venture is a ski outing in the Greenbelt at Anderson Road, close to Mer Bleu (about a half-hour's drive from Manotick), on Wednesday February 17. Meet at Manotick Public Library at 9.30 a.m. for car pooling. Organizer Brian Sawyer will send an email to Gliders to confirm details a couple of days prior to February 17.

Special events

Two theatre outings are planned: a visit to Greely Players' presentation of Rodgers and Hammerstein's *Cinderella* in late March, and the Ottawa Little Theatre's production of *Enchanted April* in late March/early April. Special events organizer Merrill Stalker will announce more details at the February meeting.

March 3 guest speaker: John Fleck, on his Mount Kilimanjaro climb.

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