



PROBUS Club of Sidney

November 2025 Newsletter Volume 23: Issue 3

Next Meeting at Mary Winspear Centre **Tuesday Nov 4, 2025 at 10.00 am**

Website

<https://probussidneybc.org>

Management Committee

President

Colin Hood

Vice President

Bob Phillips

Secretary

Joanna Drewry

Treasurer

Bob Witzel

Past President

Ken Marsh

Membership

and Privacy Officer

Aldy Kristoffy

Speakers

Barrie Dennis

Edd Lesage

John Cotton

Events

Marnie Dennis

Valerie Parks

Nancy Williams

Sunshine

Beverley Moore

Refreshments

Connie Lougher-Goodey

Website

Holly Ralph

Communications

Norah Franklin

Newsletter

Pat Currie



Our Speaker Chris Kilford, PhD

Chris is a member of the national board of the Canadian International Council, the editor (articles) of CIC's online foreign policy magazine Open Canada, president of the CIC Victoria branch and a sessional professor with the Canadian Forces College where he teaches courses focused on Canadian foreign and defence policy. He

also holds a PhD in history from Queen's University with a focus on civil-military relations in the developing world.

Chris also enjoyed a 36-year career in the Canadian Army, commanding 4th Air Defence Regiment, followed by various senior positions in the Department of National Defence, including Director, Future Security Analysis and Military Liaison Officer to the Senate Committee on National Security and Defence.

Seeking Solutions in (Very) Turbulent Times

The geopolitical challenges today are seemingly endless. Indeed, from Washington, to Moscow, Beijing, Kyiv and beyond, countries are burning the midnight oil as they seek a way out of the turbulent times we live in.

Over the past 18 months, our speaker travelled to Turkiye, Taiwan, South Korea, Japan and Bhutan on official and semi-official visits, where he had a chance to sit down with numerous officials including Canada's Ambassador to Turkiye, Kevin Hamilton and Taiwan's Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs, Remus Li-Kuo Chen. Earlier this year, Chris also spent two weeks in Poland and Latvia, meeting officials and visiting members of the Canadian Armed Forces who are training Ukrainian military personnel and leading NATO's Multinational Brigade in Latvia.

During his talk, Chris will speak about his various visits, what he learned while on the ground and what are the key geopolitical minefields we should be on the lookout for, as we move forward.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It has been seventeen years since I was last elected President of Sidney PROBUS. While much has changed during that time, many of you were there at the time and have become good friends over the years. Sidney PROBUS fosters friendship and commitment to our community. Whenever we move, Brenda and I say it will be for two years. to see if we like it. One of the reasons we are still in Sidney after 21 years is the friendships that we have been able to develop through Sidney PROBUS. Our monthly dining out group has been meeting for over twenty years.

For the coming year, we have seventeen volunteers who are part of our management committee. This is a sign of the strength of our club. We meet once a month to plan activities for our members. In addition to me, three new members joined the Management Committee this year. Bob Phillips will bring his experience of PROBUS clubs in Ontario. Joanna Drewry will be our new secretary, and Nancy Williams has joined the events committee. A special thanks to past committee members and those who are staying on, for their considerable contribution.

During the year we will be looking to expand our range of activities and increase our membership. If you have any ideas to help accomplish these goals, please let members of the committee know. Don't forget to hand out the PROBUS business cards to your friends.

I look forward to meeting you all at upcoming meetings and events.

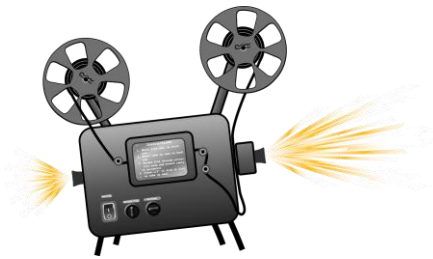
Colin Hood

November Meeting Date

Please note. Our next meeting date will be November 4th so as not to conflict with Remembrance Day.

Membership

We have two new members joining us this month: Anthonie (Tony) den Boef and Joan Hassett. Please welcome them to the club. Their badges will have a blue spot to denote a new member.



Movie Matinee

We did not have a meeting this past Tuesday as the choice of movies didn't enthuse us. However, we hope next month will be better.

If anyone would like to join us for the Tuesday matinee, every third Tuesday of the month at the Star Cinema, please contact me - Aldy Kristoffy at sidneyprobusmembership@gmail.com

Wine Tasting Group Report

The group meets at 4:00 pm on the second Wednesday of the month, the venue rotating among the members. As a new group, we are looking to welcome additional PROBUS members who have an interest in sampling wines. If you are interested, but a bit apprehensive about participating in a tasting group, don't be intimidated: our group is probably better described as wine enthusiasts than wine connoisseurs. Of course I say that on a personal level, but I suspect the other members have a somewhat similar overview. If you are interested, please email me at 'bob@witzel.com'



Current Events Group

The Current Events group meets monthly. Those presently signed up for this group are welcome to register for the next meeting by contacting Ken Marsh at vikayakguy@gmail.com. It may be possible to include other interested members once we know how many are attending.

Website Report

Our new website is up and running. Please check it out at <https://probussidneybc.org/>

You can find information about our upcoming speakers, the current and past newsletters, event information and a link to the Probus Global YouTube channel on our site. The gallery has all those great photos our members contributed. Check it out. Feedback on what you would like to see on the website is always welcome.

Holly Ralph <heralph@gmail.com>

SUNSHINE WHEN NEEDED



Recent events have made it apparent that it's time to remind our members that Sidney Probus has a Sunshine Lady in the person of Beverly Moore.

For several years, Beverly has sent out her beautifully written cards to members who have suffered illness, injury or the death of a family member. However, Beverly needs your help in knowing when her service is required. If you hear of a member who has suffered some misfortune, and that member is comfortable with it, please let Beverly and our president, Colin Hood, know and a card of encouragement or condolence, whatever is appropriate will be sent, reminding our members of our communal concern. Beverly can be contacted at: freeform@telus.net.

Probus Club of Sidney
2025 Christmas Dinner



Sidney North Saanich Yacht Club
1949 Marina Way, North Saanich

Wednesday, December 10
Doors open 5:30pm Dinner 6.30 pm

Menu: salad, turkey dinner with trimmings, dessert
Plated Dinner with No Host Bar
(Advise marniedennis@shaw.ca of any dietary restrictions)

Cost: \$65 member and non- member partner only
(Taxes and Gratuities Included)
e-transfer to sidneyprobustreasurer@gmail.com

Registration Deadline: November 24
****Register early as numbers limited****

