



# THE NEWSLETTER



The PROBUS Club of Simcoe & District  
Meets second Tuesday of each month at St. James United Church hall

## MEETING NOTICE

**Tuesday, Oct. 11, 2022**

**10 a.m., Muriel Bridge Room, St. James United Church, Simcoe.  
9:30 a.m., Book Exchange and Socializing.**

### Guest Speaker

**George Araujo**

**Executive director**

**United Way of Haldimand and Norfolk.**

### Annual dues of \$45 are due.

**Please see Treasurer Dave Montross.**

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### Review of Sept. 13, 2022, tour of Essex Furukawa Magnet Wire facility.

About a dozen PROBUS members and a guest toured the factory at 20 Gilbertson Drive in Simcoe. Plant manager **David Deming** provided an overview before the tour. Mr. Deming has worked 50 years at the facility, working his way up to manager about a year ago.



**David Deming**

Essex Furukawa is a leading global provider of magnet wire used by equipment manufacturers, suppliers,

automakers and in commercial and residential sectors.



The Simcoe plant was founded in 1957. Its main product is large transformers and some products for the auto industry. Its main customer is in Mexico.

A trailer load of copper can cost up to \$250,000 but the paper wrapping is even more valuable. Much of the copper arrives in a flat state. It is rounded and changed to the customers' required size, enamelled and wrapped many times. Thanks to **Mr. Deming** and **Gerald Sheppard** for arranging this tour.



**Top: The plant on Gilbertson Drive.**

**Above and far left: enamelling wire.**

**Left: Sets of dies to reduce copper to required sizes.**

## **Proposed revisions to our club's constitution and bylaws:**

In May of this year our club updated its constitution and bylaws in accordance with guidance from PROBUS CANADA. The standard constitution is set by PROBUS CANADA. Club bylaws are set by each club but should not contradict the constitution.

The national organization recently approved updates to both documents. Our club will vote on the updates at our Annual General Meeting in October.

The proposed changes are presented here for your information.

Most changes are minor as you can read in the motion from PROBUS CANADA below.

An exception is the second change to the constitution. It eliminates wording specifically allowing clubs to be men only or women only. New wording says membership is open to "retired or semi-retired people, regardless of marital status, gender identity, or sexual orientation, or any other ground prohibited under Section I.3 (1) of the Canadian Human Rights Act."

The motion suggests similar wording be approved for club bylaws.

**President Murray Uren** and **Secretary David Judd** are suggesting the following wording to amend our club's bylaws: "Membership is open to retired or semi-retired men, regardless of marital status, gender identity, or sexual orientation, or any other ground prohibited under Section I.3 (1) of the Canadian Human Rights Act."

This wording makes clear our club will continue as men only while respecting the Canadian Human Rights Act.

With this one exception, President Murray and Secretary David recommend accepting the changes listed in the following notice of motion.

NOTICE OF MOTION: UPDATES TO CLUB GOVERNING DOCUMENTS July 8, 2022, PROBUS CANADA Board Meeting

Moved by Inga Thomson Hilton, seconded by Bob MacNair, THAT the PROBUS CANADA Board approve the amendments to the Standard Constitution for PROBUS Clubs and the Suggested Bylaws for PROBUS Clubs as detailed in the Notice of Motion circulated July 4, 2022.

MOTION CARRIED

## **Amendments to Standard Constitution:**

Amend the Preamble to read, "PROBUS is a local, national, and international association of retired and semi-retired people who come together in non-political, non-sectarian, non-profit, autonomous clubs which provide regular opportunities for members to meet others in similar circumstances, to make new friends, and to maintain and expand their interests.

Amend Clause II.1 to read, "Membership in the Club is open to (~~men and women or men only or women only~~) retired or semi-retired people, regardless of marital status, gender identity, or sexual orientation or any other ground protected under Section I.3(1) of the Canadian Human Rights Act.

Amend Clause II.3 to read, "Generally, application for membership, subject to approval by the Management Committee, shall be sponsored by a current member. Applications for

membership from members of the public who are not sponsored by a current member require only approval by the Management Committee. Founding members do not require sponsorship.”

Amend Clause IV.4 to read, “Meetings shall be conducted according to commonly accepted rules of parliamentary procedure in keeping with Robert’s Rules of Order. A motion that receives an equal number of affirmative and negative votes shall be considered lost.”

**Amendments to Suggested Bylaws:**

1. Amend Clause II.1 to use the same wording as in item 2 above.
2. Correct the bylaw cited in Clause II.7 and Clause II.8 to read “Bylaw VI.3.”
3. Amend Clause III.2 to read: “The Club shall be managed by a Management Committee consisting of a President, a Vice President(s), a Secretary, a Treasurer, the Immediate Past President, a Membership Coordinator, and such other persons as the Club deems necessary.”
4. Amend Clause IV.5 to read “All terms of Management Committee positions shall commence on the date the candidates for such Management Committee positions are elected or appointed. The terms of the President, Vice President and Past President shall terminate at the subsequent Annual General Meeting. All other terms shall terminate at the Annual General Meeting two years after the term commences. The term of any candidate elected or appointed to an interim Management Committee position shall terminate on the same date as the original term.”

Rationale: Since the two governing documents for PROBUS Clubs were adopted in August 2021, Directors and Clubs have suggested the above changes. The Constitution and Bylaws Committee agrees with these proposed changes, which require only the Board’s approval for implementation. For reference, both current documents are available on the PROBUS CANADA website.