



# PROBUS Club of Cambridge Newsletter

December 5, 2023

Although it was a cold, snowy, somewhat slippery November morning in Cambridge, we had 114 in attendance including 12 guests. Thanks go to the sponsors for inviting people to join. I look forward to welcoming many more guests in the months to come.

Our meeting included the induction of four new members: Glen Gaudet, Jim Kohli, David Shaw and Mike Titizian. Welcome gentlemen. I hope you have many enjoyable years as club members.



You will find the Bad Weather Protocol for general meetings in a later part of the Newsletter.

Congratulations were extended to two of our club members: Dave Ottenbrite for being nominated for two different Community Awards for his work with Galt Jazz and Dave Menary who will be inducted into The Cambridge Sports Hall of Fame in May of 2024.

Vignettes are one of the highlights of our monthly meetings. We all look forward to learning about the varied backgrounds and career paths of our fellow club members. We enjoyed hearing of Jim Cook's early days in Montreal, his move to Kitchener, work at Dupont and finally settling with his family in Cambridge.

The Billiards tournament was a success and Bob McBlain was awarded the winning trophy by the Billiards Convenor Bob Crawford. Billiards takes place monthly on the 3rd Friday of each month.

Norm Steele, our 1st Vice President and Activities Chairman, brought us up to date on plans for the Christmas Gala on Dec 8th and as well outlined the proposed monthly slate of events for 2024. The Activities Committee is to be congratulated for their efforts.

After having enjoyed Dr. Christopher DiCarlo's Zoom presentation in February, we were expecting another dynamic presentation, and he did not disappoint. He was engaging and thought provoking and he demonstrated his points with many examples. We are now better equipped to be real pains in the ass in case we had not reached that level before. It would be helpful to have Critical Thinking included in the Kindergarten to Grade 12 Curriculum.

Our next club function is The Christmas Gala on Dec 8th and the next General Meeting is January 31, 2024.

. . . Ray Miske, President

Feel free to forward this newsletter to a friend who may be a prospective future member. Consider also providing your friend's email address to Bob McBlain, our Membership Chair, for further follow-up.

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## **Recording of November 29 Meeting**

Click on the button below to view the recording of our meeting.

[Watch the Meeting Recording](#)

Dr. Christopher DiCarlo's presentation starts at 43:00 minutes

[Watch Jim Cook's Vignette](#)

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## Dr. Christopher DiCarlo was our guest speaker

Dr. Christopher DiCarlo previously joined us via Zoom in February when he was suffering from COVID. At that time, we were introduced to Critical Thinking and his latest book: "So You Think You Can Think? Tools for Having Intelligent Conversations and Getting Along".

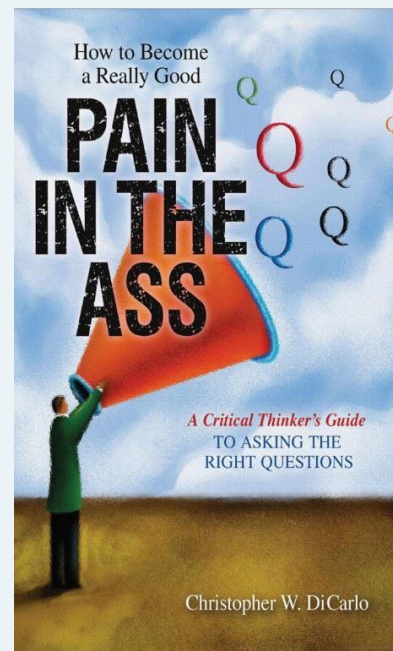
We were fortunate to have him return to talk to us in person about his book "How to Become a Really Good Pain in the Ass: A Critical Thinker's Guide to Asking the Right Questions". This was an excellent continuation from his last presentation.

Although "How to Become a Really Good Pain in the Ass" was published earlier it remains relevant. He states in the 10-Year Anniversary Edition introduction "As I reflect upon the past decade, I find that there are many reasons for writing the book and giving it such a title. But now, I consider the current state of the world compared to what it was like 10 years ago, there is clearly a more urgent need for such a book."

Dr. DiCarlo provided a logical approach to Critical Thinking with great examples to explain the various components. Not only was his presentation informative, but it was also entertaining.

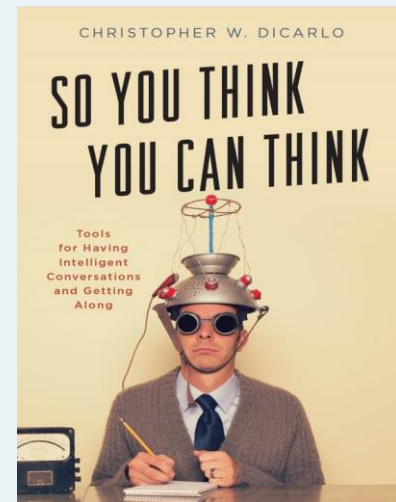
To watch his presentation click on the "Watch the Meeting Recording" button above and go to the 43:00 minute mark.

He is a philosopher, educator, and author. He often teaches in the Faculty of Philosophy at the University of Toronto (in Scarborough) and the Life Institute at Ryerson University in Toronto.



Dr. DiCarlo is also a lifetime member of Humanist Canada and an Expert Advisor for the Centre for Inquiry Canada.

He has been invited to speak at numerous national and international conferences and written many scholarly papers ranging from bioethics to cognitive evolution.



In April 2008 he was awarded TV Ontario's Big Ideas Best Lecturer in Ontario Award. In August 2008 he was honored with the Canadian Humanist of the Year Award from the Humanist Association of Canada. In September 2008 he was awarded the UOIT Complementary Faculty Teaching Award.

Dr. DiCarlo is the Principal and Founder of Critical Thinking Solutions, a consulting business for individuals, corporations, and not-for-profits in both the private and public sectors. He is also the developer of the first Pilot Project in Canada to introduce Universal Critical Thinking skills into the Ontario Public High School curriculum which has begun in the Upper Grand District School Board.. Dr. DiCarlo is also the Ethics Chair for the Canadian Mental Health Association (Waterloo/Wellington) and the Critical Thinking Advisor and writer at Pixel Dreams Creative Agency in Toronto

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## Jim Cook's Vignette

Jim was born in Montreal on April 12, 1953, and is an only child.

He has been married to Laura for 47 years and they have three daughters, Erin (1983), Allison (1985), Heather (1989) and six grandchildren, Leia, Halley, Emily, Jordan, Theo, and Nora.

Jim grew up in Montreal in an English community during the turbulent 1960's. The separatist FLQ movement had been formed and from 1963 to 1970 over 200 bombings took place. His grade school was evacuated several times due to bomb threats.

In 1970 Jim started at Sir George Williams University. In 1975, now Concordia University, he graduated with a Bachelor of Commerce Major Accounting.

Immediately after graduating, Jim joined the accounting firm Price Waterhouse and entered the Chartered Accountancy Program receiving his designation in 1979.

Then in 1977 Jim followed the mass exodus out of Quebec accepting a transfer to the Price Waterhouse's Kitchener office. Over a ten-year period, he had numerous jobs in audit, insolvency, and business consulting.

In 1989 he took a new job at DuPont Canada in Mississauga. For him to be closer to work the family moved to the East end of Cambridge.

Jim had a twenty-five-year career at DuPont with jobs ranging from internal audit, business consulting, corporate accounting and ending as a financial analyst in the pay and benefits area. He retired in 2016.



Since retiring Jim and Laura have enjoyed travelling. They have been to Hawaii, the Greek Islands, Portugal and of course Disney World. Just last month they were in Iceland at the Blue Lagoon on October 20th five days before the earthquakes started.

One week a year in the summer the entire family gets together at a cottage on Georgian Bay.

## Induction of New Members



*Welcome to our club!*



**Glen Gaudet sponsored by Fred Harpham**

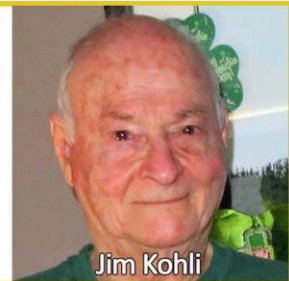
Glen Gaudet was born in Winnipeg Manitoba, the second son of Albert and Evelyn. Four brothers altogether, Gerard, Glen, Gordon, and Graham. He married Gloria in 1978 and they have two daughters Jennifer and Jacqueline.

His sales career began in 1972 with the Great Western Garment company and then to Stanfield's Limited and McGregor Hosiery. He retired in 2015, from Stanfield's Limited as vice-president of sales.

Glen is an avid sports enthusiast, growing up playing baseball, soccer, football and hockey as well as coaching both baseball and hockey in Winnipeg. He also refereed hockey from the age of 14 to 38.

In 1988 his hockey coaching career ended and was replaced by coaching, fund raising, and administration for the sport of ringette.

*Welcome to our club!*



### **Jim Kohli sponsored by Paul Tunks**

Jim Kohli was born and raised in Hespeler, attended GCI and then on to U. of Waterloo, graduating with a BSc. After one year of teaching, he realized that he didn't like it and returned to U of W for a master's.

He was introduced to computers and discovered he liked developing programs. He decided to leave the master's program and pursued a career in computers.

Five years of programming at Shell Oil was followed by 33 years at Ontario Hydro, retiring in 2000 with one of their famous packages.

Jim and his wife Marie returned to Cambridge from 30 years living in Oakville after their three grown children moved on. They live here during the winter months and spend summers in a home they built in Marie's hometown in The Czech Republic.

They enjoy hiking and curling amongst other things, and Marie has joined the Women's Club.

*Welcome to our club!*



**Dave Shaw sponsored by Bryon Bates**

Dave was born and raised in Cambridge and was interested in running, basketball and music while attending Southwood Secondary. He also provided lifeguard services for the City of Cambridge.

He graduated from the Royal Military College with a degree in electrical engineering and was a Second Lieutenant in the Reserves. Back in civilian life he did a brief stint again as lifeguard where he met Jennifer Bates, his future wife. Dave and Jennifer have a son and daughter (Bryon and Judith) and three grandchildren.

Dave's father Morley is also a member of our club and he was sponsored by his father-in-law. It is wonderful to have second generation membership and multiple related family members involved in our club.

*Welcome to our club!*



**Mike Titizian — sponsored by Norm Steele**

Mike immigrated to Canada when he was 10 years old and has been a local Cambridge resident since 1964. Growing up, he attended Central Public School, Lincoln Avenue Public School, and Galt Collegiate Institute, following up with a BA & MBA from Wilfrid Laurier University, and an MA from Carleton University in Ottawa.

The consummate businessman, Mike held senior executive positions at a roof truss company in Ayr and a Canadian chemical adhesives company. He has spent 25



years teaching International Business and Operations Management at Conestoga College.

With Colson Casters Limited since 1997, Mike is currently the General Manager and President. Mike's tentative retirement timeline is 2024.

When he retires, he would like to continue his passions which include hiking, golfing, and volunteering with various community organizations. He is currently serving as a Board Member of the Cambridge Memorial Hospital Foundation.

Mike is married with two daughters and currently resides in Hespeler.

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## **Bad Weather Protocol**

**Monthly meetings are never cancelled, we will meet on ZOOM instead if necessary!**

If the Management Committee decides that an in-person REGULAR meeting should be changed to a ZOOM virtual meeting, an **email** with the link to the ZOOM meeting will be sent to all active members **by 8:00 am that day, latest.**

If you do not have email, please call a friend who does if the weather is threatening.

***However, even if a meeting has not been changed to a ZOOM meeting, we strongly advise that each member consider the conditions and circumstances that he may personally encounter before making a prudent decision as to whether to travel on a given day. For example, since our events are usually in the morning, road maintenance crews may not have had time to fully plow/salt roads in residential or rural areas.***

The PROBUS Club of Cambridge cannot foresee or be responsible for all conditions and situations that may arise as members travel to and from our events. The Bad Weather Protocol is intended to remove any uncertainty as to HOW an event is proceeding when the weather is questionable. It is up to the individual to interpret the conditions as he perceives them and make the best decision for his own safety.

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# Milestones In November



## Member News:

Two of our members recognized for community involvement.

Dave Ottenbrite's Galt Jazz events were nominated in two categories at Cambridge & North Dumfries Community Awards. Arts and Culture Award and for the best Event of the Year "Dinner on the Grand."



Dave Menary was named the Don and Benita Rope Sports Contributor of the Year at the recent Cambridge Athlete of the Year awards. Dave Menary was enshrined in the builders category, as one of the co-founders of the Cambridge Hall of Fame. He currently serves as its communications director.



Cambridge Times

## Billiard's Tournament

Bob Crawford reported that by the end of the tournament it was Dave Brodhagen and Bob McBlain who squared off with Bob McBlain being awarded the trophy.

Bob McBlain claims the trophy was "a reward of a mis spent youth."



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## Upcoming Activities:

Register online or see Mark Maloney at our next meeting.

### Christmas Gala

We are looking forward to our Christmas Gala on December 8.



### Activities Being Planned for 2024:

Butterfly museum - lunch with talk and then free tour time, March

Cambridge Community Players lunch/tour/meet director and play, April 7

Mohawk Raceway with dinner, May

Toronto Blue Jays vs Baltimore Oriole bus trip/dinner, June 6

[Dunnville Grand River Cruise](#) with lunch, July

[Golf Tournament](#), August 21

[Warren Stauch Bus Tour](#), September

[Hamilton Theatre](#) tour/talk/matinee/lunch or dinner, October

[Billiards Tournament](#), November 15

[Christmas Gala](#), December

### **Ongoing Activities:**

[Computer Club](#), 2nd Tuesday each month on Zoom Sept to June

[Billiards Club](#), 3rd Friday monthly year round Chicago Billiards at the delta

[Trivia Contest](#), 3rd Wednesday each month on Zoom Sept to June

[Bridge Club](#), Tuesday every 2 weeks Sept to June

[Visit here for more information about all Activities](#)



## **PROBUS Canada Connections**

*Published for PROBUS Canada members*

In the October Newsletter, there is a front page article about our club. John Neu is the longest-serving member of PROBUS Canada.

[PROBUS Canada October Newsletter](#)

You can view the current and previous PROBUS Canada Newsletters using the button below:

[PROBUS Canada Newsletters](#)

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In the December PROBUS Global Newsletter is now available.

[December PROBUS Global Newsletter](#)

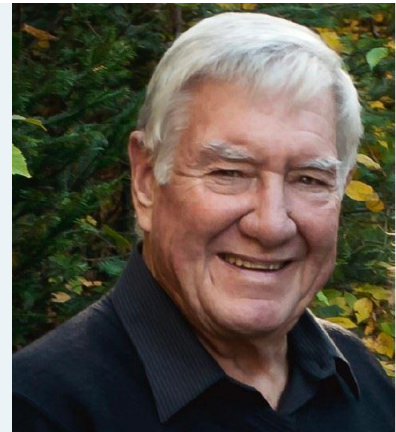
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### **In Memoriam**

Bob Fairley recently passed away.

Bob's Celebration of Life will be held Tuesday December 19th, 1 pm to 4 pm at the Galt Country Club.

[Obituary information is available here.](#)



### **In Memoriam**

Gord Willard passed away on October 10, 2023 in his 92nd year. He was a former member of our club and a member of the Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 126.

Gord was young at heart, easy going and always willing to lend a hand.

[Obituary information is available here](#)



You are receiving this email because you are a club member or have expressed an interest in the past.

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