

AURORA YORK CENTRAL



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FEBRUARY MUSINGS

As we look back, January was a great month. Our guest speakers Naomi and Michael Babineau spoke on Quilts of Valour that honour our veterans. Their presentation was very well received! This month we have Dr. Andrew Lindsay speaking on the hockey player Tim Horton.

Our luncheon at Moxies Grill was a success with 21 members present, as was our Appy Party hosted by Judy Dickens.

All of the special interest groups are well attended as well - be it bridge, books, euchre, theatre lovers, or coffee and conversation. All of these groups bring us together on a regular basis.

Our membership has grown again. We now have 82 members.

Tim Hill has been getting our new website on line. It looks great. Tim is just working out some minor bugs, getting it ready for release, which should be March 1, 2025.

That's it for now. See you all at our General Meeting on February 12.

Cheers
Garry

HAPPENING IN FEBRUARY

GENERAL MEETING

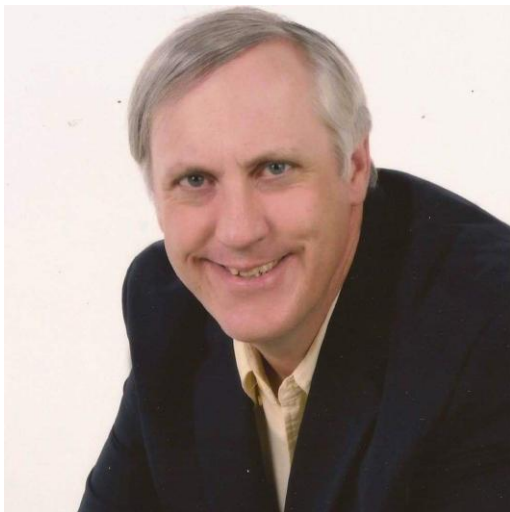
10 am WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12

ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION, 105 INDUSTRIAL PARKWAY NORTH
AURORA

SPEAKER

Dr. Andrew Lindsay

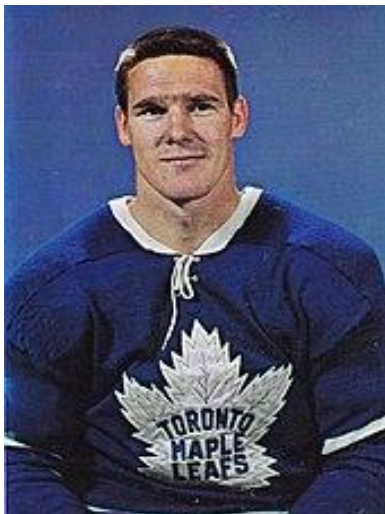
Tim Horton, Hockey Star and Businessman



Dr. Andrew Lindsay is an occasional teacher of college history with a fond memory of growing up in Scarborough, Ontario. He likes to look back on those who were, and remain, pillars of happiness in his life.

Miles “Tim” Horton was an ice hockey defenceman who played 24 seasons in the NHL. He spent the majority of his career playing for the Toronto Maple Leafs. He died at the age of 44 in 1974 following a single vehicle crash.

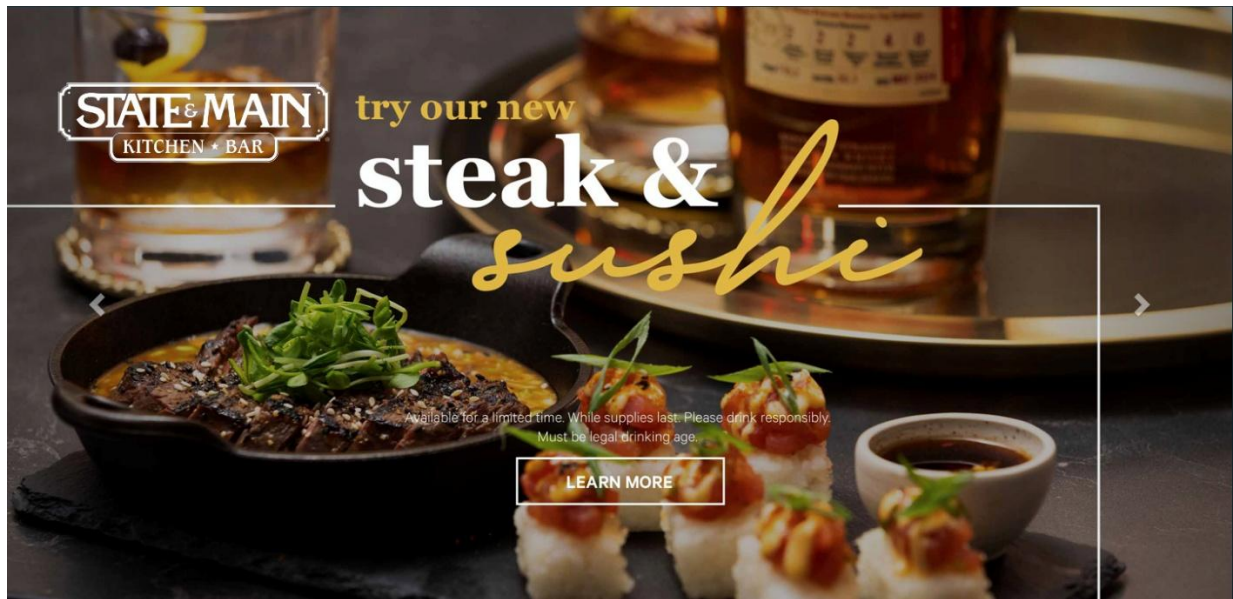
Today Tim Hortons are found in 14 countries, with 4,646 stores. but it all began in 1964 with one store in Hamilton, Ontario.



Join the Probus meeting to hear more about Tim Horton’s fascinating story.

Meetings start at 10:00, but come early to socialize and for coffee and Tim Bits.

DINING OUT IN FEBRUARY



Lunch at State & Main Kitchen and Bar
Noon, Wednesday, February 19
14760 Yonge Street, Aurora
www.stateandmain.ca

Please sign up at the General Meeting or let Susan Pratt know you will be attending
susanmpratt@icloud.com

SOCIAL COMMITTEE NEWS

Our annual APPY PARTY was a great success. It was nice to see some long time members welcoming and mingling with our newest members. A great time was had by all and the appetizers were delicious. Thanks to everyone.

A big thank you to Judy Dickens for arranging to have her condo meeting room available to host the event. Much appreciated, Judy!

WHAT ELSE IS HAPPENING IN OUR CLUB THIS MONTH

Coffee & Conversation



Coffee and Conversation is held monthly. Please join us for our next gathering on **Friday, February 14, 9.30 am** at Bunchberry, south-west corner of Wellington and Industrial Parkway South.

There is no need to sign-up, just show up and join in the conversation with new and not so new members. We look forward to seeing you there!

Theatre Lovers Group

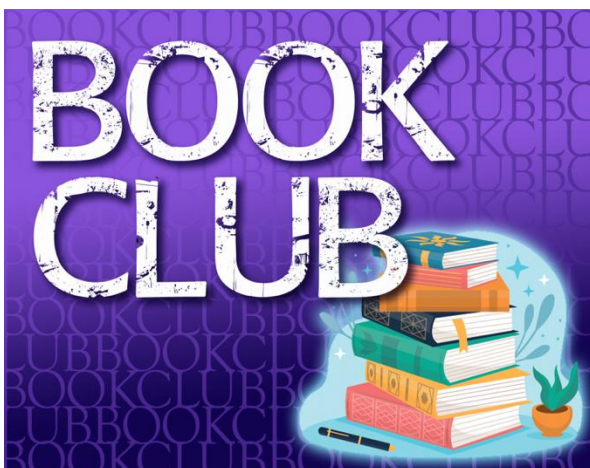


Eleven members of the Theatre Lovers group registered for the Theatre Aurora afternoon production of “The Melville Boys” on February 1, to be followed by dinner at State and Main.

Next on the calendar is the ever-popular Agatha Christie play “And Then There Were None”. Ten strangers are summoned to a remote island. All the guests have in common is a wicked past they are unwilling to reveal and a secret that will seal their fate. Will you be able to guess the murderer?

Join the Theatre Lovers group for another matinee production on Saturday, March 15 at Theatre Aurora. Tickets are \$20.00 each. Tickets will be available at the February and March General Meetings for you to reserve tickets. Please speak with Judy Dickens or contact her at (647) 921-3734.

Bucket List Book Club



The next meeting is Thursday, February 20th at Chartwell Hollandview Trail, 200 John West Way, from 10 am to Noon.

We will discuss “The Giver of Stars” by JoJo Moyes. It’s a story of five extraordinary women and their remarkable journey through the mountains of Kentucky and beyond in Depression-era America.

For more information contact Anna Pilato queenladyap@gmail.com or 416-564-6116

Social Bridge Club



Our Bridge Group meets on the first and third Tuesday of the month at 9:30 am in the Jazz Pub at Chartwell Holland View Trail, 200 John West Way, Aurora.

January dates are February 4 and February 18.

All are welcome from experienced to beginners. Please contact Mary Lee Koyl or touch base with her at the General Meeting if you are interested in joining the group to play or learn how to play bridge.

maryleekoyl@gmail.com or (416) 723-4444

Euchre Club



Play Schedule:

Tuesday, February 4, 2 - 4 pm

Thursday, February 13, 7 - 9 pm

Tuesday, February 18, 2 - 4 pm

Thursday, February 27, 7 - 9 pm

Tuesday, March 4, 2 - 4 pm

Location: Chartwell Hollandview Trail Retirement Residence,
200 John West Way, Aurora, ON

All are welcome, experienced and beginners.

Interested? Please contact Sharon Welsh at the next general meeting or email sharonwelsh7@gmail.com

JANUARY PHOTO GALLERY



New member Marie Adams 50/50 winner



David Brisley thanks speaker Naomi Babineau



The Appy Party



Euchre Players

Dining out at Moxie's Grill



COMING IN
MARCH

General
Meeting

Wednesday,
March 12
10 am

Speaker:
Angela Sandow-
speaking on
overcoming
health
challenges

Dining Out:

Hanson's
Restaurant

March 19

6:00 pm

Aurora

TRANSPORTATION
ASSISTANCE

Aurora York Central
PROBUS is a social
group of individuals
interested in the
welfare of all club
members. Should you
require transportation
to and from our
events, please let me
know and we will try
to arrange the
assistance you require.

[Vern Cunningham](#)

SPEAKER REPORT

Quilts of Valour

Naomi and Michael Babineau

Naomi is the local area representative for Quilts of Valour. She and her husband Mike explained what they do and how this program works. Naomi, a teacher, and a quilter herself, used quilting in her lessons with students. In 2017 Quilts of Valour spoke at a meeting of The Region of York Quilters Guild. Impressed, Naomi nominated Mike's father who was a WWII veteran, to receive one. It was such a moving experience she decided to get involved, joining the organization in late 2018, with Mike officially joining shortly afterward.

The program is Canada-wide with participants in every province. Quilts select a veteran based on a review of nominations that their friends, associates or family provide. People can make initial contact through the website <https://www.quiltsofvalour.ca/>. Thousands are eligible, living veterans of all wars, from World War II up to Afghanistan, including peace keeping missions.

Groups of local quilters participating in the program make the quilts. Representatives then present the quilt to the recipient and their family members. Naomi and Mike travel across a wide area of southern and central Ontario to make these presentations themselves.

Naomi had used sewing and quilting in her lesson plans for the grade school classes that she taught. It was a means of enhancing math and literacy skills. With this background, participating in the Quilts of Valour program was a natural progression. Mike first joined as a driver, taking her from one presentation to another, but eventually he became a quilter himself. Quite the progression for a retired Toronto police officer. Each are now completely involved and dynamic spokespersons for the program.

Naomi and Mike explained the impact of the program through a series of personal anecdotes. They told us the story of individual veterans who had received their quilt. They described the work of the volunteers involved, how "Hug Blocks" with Canadian motifs are created and then connected to form the quilt.

The impact in presenting a quilt to a veteran has a very moving effect on each veteran and their families. Universally, veterans reported that the quilt meant more to them than all the medals, commendations, and congratulations they might have received before. Even though a World War II veteran might have their quilt for only a brief time, it was precious to them and a lasting memento for their survivors.

For members of the audience too it was a moving, heartwarming presentation, as shown in the questions and words of appreciation.

Dave Brisley,
Program Director

Correction Notice:

There were some factual errors in last months report on Janet Somerville's presentation about Martha Gellhorn.

Martha finalized her divorce from Hemingway in 1945, not 1943.

A point of clarification on her war reporting. Her reports from Madrid in 1937 were her first for Colliers, while her reporting in Italy in 1943 at Monte Cassino was her first reporting from a World War II combat zone.

Importantly, Martha died in 1998, not in 1988.



To our members who celebrate a birthday in February

Eleanor Hollingshead 01

Arlene Arama 07

Marg Rochon 11

Marian Law 17



Stay Connected, check our club website for the latest events and news.

www.aurorayorkcentralprobus.ca

Should you wish to get in touch with any executive member

<https://www.probusclubofaurora.com/contact-us/>

Clarification

While the club's name is officially Aurora York Central PROBUS, and the website address is www.aurorayorkcentralprobus.ca, it simply directs browsers to our old www.probusclubofaurora.com address. You may use either URL address.

THAT'S IT FOLKS. UNTIL NEXT TIME,
LIVE, LAUGH, LOVE AND ENJOY LIFE.

PLEASE TAKE NOTE

There's a good chance you may be in photographs taken at any of our club meetings or events.
Your picture and name could appear in our newsletter or on our website.

If you do not wish to be in said publications, please take measures to not be in the camera's field of view.