

March 13th, 2020

The COVID-19 coronavirus is now present in Ottawa with three confirmed cases, including the Prime Minister's wife, in self-isolation. Although these are all travel-related, the future spread of the infection is unpredictable and many organizations have cancelled public gatherings in order to inhibit transmission within the community.

In order to protect our members, **the PROBUS ORV Management Committee has decided to cancel all PROBUS activities until further notice.** We will monitor the situation and resume activities once Ottawa Public Health advises that it is safe to do so.

Specifically, we have cancelled the April 1st and May 6th monthly meetings at the Legion, the March and April Drinks and Appetizers evenings, and the April 15th tour of the National Gallery.

Note that the GCTC has not so far cancelled the performance of "Daisy" on March 25th and you can make your own decision whether or not to attend.

The Men's Diatribe Groups will make their own decisions whether or not to meet as private gatherings, not PROBUS events.

We appreciate that PROBUS activities are a welcome social connection for many members and that cancelling them is a significant step. We also believe that it is important to protect the health of our members as well as the well-being of the wider community in which we live.

We encourage you to follow the advice of local health authorities with regard to personal safety practices. In particular, if you develop any flu-like symptoms, call Telehealth Ontario (1-866-797-0000) or Ottawa Public Health (613-580-6744) and self-isolate for 14 days.

Best regards,

Andrew Bond
President, PROBUS Ottawa Rideau Valley Club