

PELHAM PROBUS MEETING MINUTES

August 22, 2019

MEMBERSHIP: Pat Tennent and Dee Murphy provided the following information

- annual membership is now due
- 82 club members in attendance at today's meeting
- 8 guests in attendance
- 1 new member

COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR:

- 53 members attended the August 21st BBQ at the Port Dalhousie Yacht Club, which was deemed a great success
- Al and Louise Gabrielli were today's greeters

NOMINATIONS REPORT:

- Nominations currently remain open for the positions of Membership Chair, Dee Murphy; Assistant Treasurer, Peter Robinson; Secretary, Bruce Knicely and Assistant Secretary, Anna Tackaberry with elections to take place at the next meeting September 26th
- there were no further nominations at today's meeting
- the next meeting will also be the occasion of the Pelham Club's 5th anniversary
- there will be a Treasurers report and Budget provided by Jim Westall at that time

INTEREST GROUPS

- Linda Barbetti suggested a monthly winter activity involving card and board games

SPECIAL EVENTS:

- Marian McDonald provided an update on attendance at the August 7th Norm Foster play, at which 24 members attended, with lunch prior at The Office, in St. Catharines
- Wendy Hammond discussed the October 27th Ghost Tour at Fort George, and the November 17th play. Momma Mia, to be held at the Greg Erwin Theater in Niagara Falls. 20 tickets remain available

SPEAKER:

Cindy Biancaniello, spoke on the topic IAMANINUK (I AM AN INUK), which means 1 individual Inuit. Cindy is currently employed by Brock University in their Indigenous Services Department, providing presentations in the community and to the professors regarding sensitivity, given the increased number of Indigenous students among Brock's population.

Cindy provided the following salient points,

- there is 120 years of history of the Inuit community who reside in Baker Lake, which is in Nunavut, mainland Canada
- several geologists and a medical doctor sailed aboard the S.S. Diana to study the Baker Lake community in the early 1900 century
- the main mode of transportation is by dog sled, hence the dogs are of great importance to the people
- although the Inuit eat a diet high in fat and protein, with little to no fiber, they are an extremely healthy people
- the introduction of tobacco, alcohol and sugar to the community began the premature death of the Inuit
- climate change is affecting hunting, and resulting in food insecurity
- the Inuit have great respect for the animal population, and take great care to hunt and kill prey by the most efficient and painless means
- all parts of the animals killed are used for food, clothing or made into tools, again demonstrating the great respect for the gift of the hunt
- sadly the highest rate of suicide in Canada is among the Inuit children