

Management Committee

Officers

President:

Esio Marzotto
604-984-6880

Vice President:

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604-921-7793

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Dan Potts
604-913-0633

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604-925-1766

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Bob Birch
604-926-4290

Speakers:

Ernie Maguire
604-926-7574

House:

Keith Pople
604-926-4359

Special Events:

Malcolm Metcalfe
604-788-4004

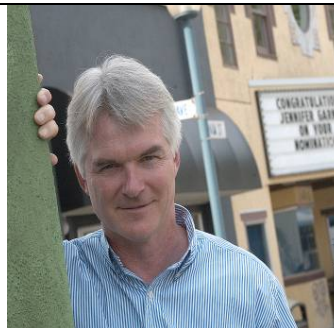
Communications:

Ron Penhall
604-988-3087

Probus Canada Liaison and Archivist:

John Leonard
604-924-9286

Speaker - Monday, May 11, 2009



Peter Leitch, President, North Shore Studios and Mammoth Studios, and Chair, the Motion Picture Production Industry Association of BC

"The past 20 years and the future challenges and opportunities for the film industry in BC"

Peter is a UBC Bachelor of Commerce graduate and qualified as a Chartered Accountant. He joined Cannell Films Ltd. in 1987 where he was Vice President and Controller until accepting the position as Vice President and General Manager of Lions Gate Studios in 1995. Peter is currently President of North Shore Studios and Mammoth Studios.

Peter's volunteer activities include serving as Chair of the Motion Picture Production Industry Association of BC. Peter also is Past Chair of the North Vancouver Chamber of Commerce and 2nd Vice Chair of the BC Chamber of Commerce. He also served on Canada Revenue Agency's Film Advisory Committee and Small Business Advisory Committee.

Peter will review the last 20 years of the film industry in British Columbia and talk about the future of the industry here including the challenges and opportunities.

June and July Scheduled Speakers

Monday, June 8

Mark Mullins, Chair, B.C. Fraser Institute

"Market Meltdown: Global trends and the Cycle Turn"

Monday, July 13

Red Robinson, Vancouver show business legend and impresario

"That's Entertainment"

Last Month Speaker



Esio Marzotto with Bob Boase

Bob Boase spent much of 2005 and 2006 in Kabul, Afghanistan with the United Nations Development Program helping with their governance program. During that time he believed there was a possibility for peace and development, but now his personal opinion is that likely there is a dark future for this region and for the Western World.

Bob proceeded to detail for us just how complex and shifting the situation really is.

Afghanistan is a multi-ethnic, multi-lingual country not unlike Canada. It has a similar sized population, has roughly the same area as Alberta and has four seasons like Canada. It is primarily an agricultural economy, but presently is largely a "poppy economy". The country is rich in minerals that have never been developed. Economic development and insurgency are incompatible, and any development is in question because of the weak Afghan government, mounting corruption and the poppy culture, so donors ("NGOs") are suffering from fatigue and difficulty in recruiting.

Afghanistan shares borders with 6 countries, the longest being with Pakistan and the most problematic because the Taliban enter from there. Neither India nor Pakistan will accept an Afghanistan "in the pocket of" the other, thus both of them are heavily involved in influencing the current Afghan situation.

Afghanistan is described as the *Graveyard of Empires*. It has not been left alone for 2000 years. It broke the back of each of its many invader/occupiers.

All the invaders eventually packed up and went home. The result of all these invasions is that conflict and wars, warlord rule and permanent poverty are the norm. Even so, generations of war and difficulty have resulted in a people with exceptional heart and sincerity -- few people are more warm and welcoming than the Afghans.

The situation is enormously complex and shifting with no foreseeable solution in sight and the West seems to be ignoring this complexity. In the last two years the areas of high risk from insurgent activities have increased significantly, particularly in the south eastern areas.

It appears that the US is designing its exit strategy on the basis that disabling of the Al Qaeda will be deemed sufficient success. It is more likely that Afghanistan will fall into more civil war and that Pakistan, which is a "nuclear power", will fail and become a world center for terrorism.

Bob feels that the process for stabilization must be driven internally, not by the West, but that the West should contribute the funding, expertise and capacity building with strong accountability. It should buy and burn the poppy crop and encourage replacement by other agricultural and horticultural products and it should fund health and education / job creation for the next two generations. Great patience is required.

A more than 30 minute Q & A period concluded this most informative presentation.

Ernie Maguire

April Greeters



John Rattenbury and Fred Russell

Recent new members



Brooke Campbell



Bev Machesney

Brooke is a native Vancouverite and a graduate of UBC in Commerce and Law. During his time at university he played varsity rugby and served with the Royal Canadian Navy for two summers on the East coast and one on the West coast. He continued with the naval reserve in Montreal.

In 1966, Brooke joined the Bank of Montreal Commercial and Corporate Lending Division. In 1976 he accepted the position of Director and Vice President of Corporate Finance with Pemberton Securities. In 1989, he joined Odlum Brown as a Director and Vice President. He retired in 2008.

Brooke has been involved in a number of extra-curricular activities including: Naval Officers Association of BC and is Chairman of the National Endowment Fund; a former Director of the West Vancouver Community Foundation; a former Director of the West Vancouver Soccer Association; and, VP of the Winston Churchill Society. With all of the above, Brooke finds the time to play tennis twice weekly at Hollyburn CC.

Brooke is married to Janet, a retired RN who worked part time at Lions Gate Hospital and, they have two children, son Alan living in Calgary and daughter Shan living on the North Shore, along with a total of four grand children.

Bev was born in Hanover, Ontario, grew up and received his early education in an even smaller Ontario Centre, Creemore.

After a short stint in the insurance business he joined Westminster Paper, which was to become Scott Paper, as a salesman in Manitoba. In 1960, he was transferred to Vancouver to join the newly created marketing department. This was followed in 1966 by several years with Nabob foods in marketing management. During this period he graduated from a three year UBC diploma course in sales and marketing.

In 1971 Bev joined McKim Advertising in Vancouver, later becoming manager of that office, and afterwards Senior Vice President and partner responsible for the three offices in B.C. and Alberta.

Bev has served on a number of boards including the Arthritis Society, The BC Seniors Foundation, where he was Chairman, and the West Vancouver Memorial Library Foundation during the years of the fund raising campaign to expand the facility.

Bev's interests include golf (he got his 1st hole in one at age 75, and is working on number 2), bridge, reading and gardening.

Bev is married to Aynsley (54 years) and they have two children.



President's Report

Esio Marzotto

Our April speaker, Bob Boase, presented us with a very comprehensive and sobering picture of life in Afghanistan today. And judging by the number of questions asked following his presentation, he had captivated the members present. His first hand knowledge of the recent history of the war torn nation made it clear that only a long term inter-generational effort can stabilize the country and that this effort must be driven internally by the Afghanis themselves. In the end, he told us that the Afghan people will prevail no matter what untoward events intervene as they are a hardened, tough people having survived more than 30 years of constant war. A very complex situation.

Special Events Chair, Malcolm Metcalfe has been hard at work planning future events. He told us about the day sail aboard the HMCS Calgary frigate on May 29th. It has proved so popular that it sold out before the end of the day. In the next column you will read about this and other events planned for the coming months.

I had the pleasure this month of meeting with the Speaker's Committee, Chair Ernie Maguire, and members John Elliott, Fraser Grant, Mike McMahon, Gordon Adair and David Osoba (Bev Machesney absent). Secretary Dan Potts and I were observer/participants. We had a great brain storming session, which speaks to one of the reasons we have such an excellent speaker line-up.

The participation of knowledgeable experienced and well-connected members and their input into the operation of our Club ensures its success. We welcome and invite your participation on any of the Management Committees. I think you will find it personally rewarding to meet and interact with an interesting group of like minded people.

Esio Marzotto

Update on Planned Special Events

Lawn Bowling – Wednesday, May 13: West Vancouver Lawn Bowling Club will host an open house for Probosc members/guests. Watch your e-mail (or your mail) for full details to arrive shortly.

Navy Frigate Day Sail - HMCS Calgary – Friday, May 29: Limit is 50 persons and already fully booked. We hope to hold a second Day Sail in late summer or the fall. Members booked for the May 29 Day Sail are urged to attend a 10 minute briefing following the May 11 Probosc meeting.

Vancouver Metro Watershed Tour – Friday, July 10: Tour of facilities on North Shore. Limit is 49 persons. More information will follow in early June.

Bard on the Beach - "All's Well That Ends Well": - Being organized for either July or August: More information will follow in June on this very popular event.

Malcolm Metcalfe

MEETINGS

Second Monday of each month, except when changed to avoid conflict with Special Holidays falling on that day; in addition, our Christmas Luncheon replaces the December meeting.

Coffee and fellowship: 9:00 am to 9:45 am
Club business and speaker: 9:45 am to 11:30 am

Capilano Golf and Country Club

420 Southborough Drive
West Vancouver BC V7S 1M2
(604) 922-9331

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Editorial contributions and comments are welcomed
and may be sent by e-mail to:

newsletter@probosc-northshorevancouver.ca or by mail to:

Probosc Club North Shore - Communications Chair
P.O. Box 92042

West Vancouver, BC, V7V 4X4