

Shorelines

NEWSLETTER OF THE PROBUS CLUB OF NORTH SHORE VANCOUVER

OCTOBER 2009

VOL. 7, NO. 10

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Next Meeting

Monday, October 5th, 2009

with speaker

Elspeth Bradbury,

Landscape architect and author

"History of Vancouver North Shore: A View Through the Trees"

Born in Greenock, Scotland, Elspeth Bradbury immigrated to Saint John in 1968, then moved to Vancouver in 1988. An architect and a landscape architect, she wrote *Is That You This Is Me* (Fiddlehead Poetry Books, 1982) and co-authored, along with Judy Maddocks, *The Garden Letters* (Polestar, 1995) and *The Real Garden Road Trip* (Polestar, 1997). Hoping to see as many Canadian gardens as possible, Bradbury convinced her friend and *The Garden Letters* co-author Judy Maddocks to travel with her from Point Atkinson Lighthouse in B.C. to Cape Spear, Newfoundland, the most easterly point in North America, to meet more than 80 gardeners during their three-month car trek. Along the way they encountered a vegetable garden in a boat, an arboretum on a balcony, a garden on a cliff and other unusual greenery.

While serving on the West Vancouver Heritage Advisory Committee, Elspeth Bradbury produced a coffee table book on forestry of that area as a fundraiser for the Lighthouse Park Preservation Society, *West Vancouver: A View Through the Trees* (District of West Vancouver, 2007). The book was edited by Valerie Frith. Bradbury credits the help of publishing insiders Don and Barbara Atkins, Jim Douglas, Rob Sanders and Mark Stanton as well as historians Doreen Armitage, Hugh Johnson and many other residents.

Our North Shore has been blessed with magnificent natural surroundings. Above all, it is the forest that has shaped the community's history, that colours its present, and challenges its future through the relationship between plants and people over 10,000 years of co-evolution.

November Meeting

Monday, November 9th - Dennis Molnar, Historian,

"The Falklands War"

Upcoming Special Event

Monday, December 14th - Annual Christmas Luncheon

Details to follow next month



Last Month Speaker



President David Osoba with Calvin Helin

Calvin Helin released his first book *Dances with Dependency: Out of Poverty Through Self-Reliance* in 2008 and will be releasing *Surviving Dependency: Hope and Empowerment Through Self-Reliance* in 2010 which will be edited by Peter Newman, both dealing with the subject of the suffering of Canadian aboriginal people and ideas for change.

His first book received 32 letters of rejection from publishers so he borrowed the cash and published it himself. He now has a U.S. publisher and it is five times a best seller. He writes on this subject for two reasons - to try to understand why aboriginals grow up and live in such misery and to investigate the health of Canada as a nation, where aboriginals have to endure such horrible conditions.

Studies and surveys regularly rate Canada as a most preferred place to live (7th) in the world but B.C. is rated 53rd in the world where aboriginals live. Aboriginal women aged 15-25 are 8 times more likely to commit suicide than non-aboriginals and 135 times more likely to be jailed. The children are the innocent victims in this system. In his first book he concludes that all peoples, aboriginal or not, living in a culture like the welfare system under the current Indian Act, where sustenance is handed out free will develop a mindset of dependency and hopelessness.

Indian families cannot look after their own children. Canadian aboriginals make up only 3.5% of our national population but aboriginal children make up approximately 30% of Canadian children on welfare - in B.C it is over 50% and in Saskatchewan and Manitoba over 80%. The suffering is increasing rapidly because their population is growing faster than the general population.

The Canadian Indian Act looks democratic but it is not. The band chiefs are responsible to the Canadian government - Minister of Indian Affairs, not to the band,

and many chiefs help themselves while the members go without. The tribes need ethical and visionary leaders and to throw out the poor leaders.

Our Indians date back 10,000 years, were self-reliant, developed 32 different languages and lived productive lives but their quality of life has degenerated to what we see today. They once were self-sustaining but now await their welfare cheque. Welfare destroys initiative.

He closed with emphasis on the need for the aboriginal children to be educated and to gain self-respect. Our members applauded long and loudly, asked many questions and for more of his opinions. Many stayed to chat with him and to purchase 40 copies of his autographed book. A deeper awakening and understanding of this problem was the result.

Here are some links that may be of interest to you:

<http://www.nationalpost.com/news/canada/rethinkingthereserve/story.html?id=247804>
<http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=-8233558103449964428>

Ernie Maguire

September Greeters



Gerry Kent and Blair McLenaghan



Recent New Members

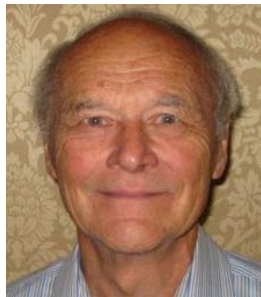
During the past Club year we have been pleased to welcome 34 new members. In addition to introducing new members at our general meetings, we believe it is important for Club fellowship to provide additional background information on those members. Throughout the year, as space has permitted, you will have noticed that we published a selection of new member photos accompanied by brief biographies.

Below is a pictorial containing photos of other recent new members along with an indication of the careers in which each of them was involved. As space permits in future issues we will publish photos and brief biographies of more of those members who joined in the past year as well as those who join our Club in the coming year.

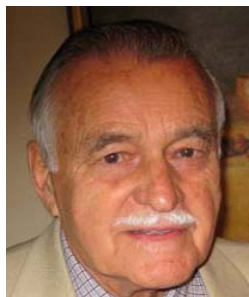
When you see some of these new members at our regular meetings, please be sure to introduce yourself and make them feel welcome.



Ed Collins
Education



Bill Coulter
Mining



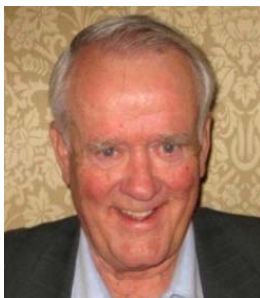
Terry Creaney
Civil Engineer



Jack Croll
Accountant



Mike Keane
Shipping



Bob MacGillivray
Real Estate



Gary Morrison
Medicine



Jon Rattenbery
Finance



Brian Robson
Accountant



Don Russell
Information
Technology



Fred Russell
Real Estate



Sam Samain
Petro Chemicals



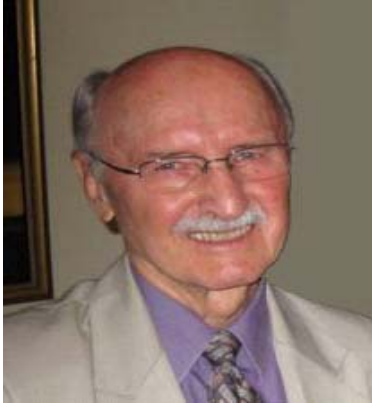
Jon Strom
Dentistry



Dave Walker
Management



President's Report



President David Osoba

We started a new fiscal year with our September 14th meeting. We should probably have broken out the decorations and noise-makers for this 'New Year in September'. Maybe we'll do that next year! Nevertheless, we had a great start with Calvin Helin's talk. As reviewed elsewhere in this issue, he didn't mince his words as he explained the root causes of the plight of natives on reserves and offered real solutions. His talk received one of the longest ovations I have ever heard at our meetings.

Your Management Committee has some new faces: Alex Tunner is Secretary and Gordon Adair is the Speaker's Committee Chair. Linda Metcalfe will make sure we all get Shorelines on time. Dan Potts moves to Vice-President. I look forward to serving the Club to the best of my ability.

We are ready and willing to provide you with the best speakers we can find and welcome your suggestions for possible speakers in the future. Get in touch with Gordon if you have someone in mind.

Malcolm Metcalfe is cooking up some new ideas for Special Events and for additional special interest groups within the Club. Our current special interest groups include bridge and golf, both ably organized by Phil Boase. If you are interested in having other groups, e.g., hiking, fine dining, or whatever interests you, please volunteer to be an organiser and let Malcolm know, by sending him an email through Linda, or give him a call. We will help you to find other like-minded people and volunteers by advertising in Shorelines and at our meetings.

See you at the next meeting – on October 5th (one week earlier than usual because of Thanksgiving on the 12th).

David Osoba

Update on Past Special Events

Golf Group: Members enjoyed the final golf event for 2009 at Squamish on September 14th after the monthly meeting (16 golfers). The program will restart in the Spring. Contact Phil Boase at pjboase@telus.net or at 604-985-2790 if you are interested.

Malcolm Metcalfe



Membership Renewals

Membership renewals were due September 15th. If you have not sent in your \$50 renewal cheque, please do so right away! Cut off date is October 15th. If you have any concerns, please contact Bob Birch at 604-926-4290.

Meetings

Second Monday of each month, except when changed to avoid conflict with special holidays 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

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<http://www.probus-northshorevancouver.ca/>

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