

Shorelines

NEWSLETTER OF THE PROBUS CLUB OF NORTH SHORE VANCOUVER

MARCH 2011

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Next Meeting

Monday, March 14th, 2011

with speaker

Rick Antonson,

President and CEO, Tourism Canada

“The Economic Importance of Tourism”

Rick Antonson is President and CEO of Tourism Vancouver, which represents over 1,000 member businesses and is responsible for the market development of Metro Vancouver as a convention, incentive, and leisure travel destination. Rick is a former book publisher, and train company executive.

As a travel industry leader, Rick served as an ambassador for the 2010 Vancouver Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games. He has been on the boards of the Pacific Asia Travel Association based in Bangkok, Vancouver Community College, and on the Advisory Council for Simon Fraser University’s Urban Studies Program. In the recent past he also chaired the Board of Directors for book publisher Douglas and McIntyre, was chair of Destination Marketing Association International based in Washington, DC, and a founding board member of the Canadian Tourism Commission. He is Vice President of the Board of Directors for Pacific Coast Public Television.

He is a co-author of *Slumach’s Gold, In Search of a Legend*. In 2008, Dundurn Publishing of Toronto published his third book, *To Timbuktu for a Haircut; A Journey Through West Africa*.

Rick is regularly invited to speak all over the world on the topic of travel. His personal journeys have taken him on a four-by-four adventure with his wife Janice and a guide traveling from Lhasa, Tibet across the Himalayas to Kathmandu, Nepal. He has circumnavigated the northern hemisphere by train, over five trips with his sons Brent and Sean which included North Korea. More recently he joined an expedition to the summit of Mount Ararat, and travelled to both Iraq and Iran.

Rick’s passions include traveling, writing and baseball. Read more about Rick at http://www.tourismvancouver.com/about_us/rick_antonson_biography#ixzz1AePEkauc.

April Meeting

Monday, April 11th - Pierre Gratton

President and CEO, Mining Association of British Columbia

“Mining Industry in BC - Current and Future”

Last Month Speaker



Dan Potts and John Allan

On February 14th, John Allan, President of the BC Lumber Trade Council and President and CEO of the Council of Forest Industry spoke to our very interested membership.

John reviewed the past 30 years, the current situation and his thoughts about the next 5 years for the BC Forest Industry. His main issues of concern were that the industry suffered significant cash losses in the 2006-2010 period, the US market remains flat, global competition has increased and the Canadian dollar is at par.

The pine beetle problem started in 1980 and it is still being battled in the forests and in the courts. Twenty years of lumber supply have been lost due to this problem. Our mills are now highly motivated to produce lumber from this wood but the US has now chosen to resume protectionist action that the Softwood Lumber Agreement (SLA) was meant to end. A decision against us would result in a border tax being imposed on our exports of this wood. The SLA expires in 2013 so a two year extension should be negotiated. There were 25 lawsuits and \$100 million spent on litigation over the past years.

The 2006 - 2010 downturn was the worst experienced by the BC forest industry. The BC interior mills have remained relatively competitive and offshore sales have propped up North American lumber prices. The industry needs adequate, available and affordable timber to support a prosperous forest sector. 95% of BC lands are owned by our crown corporation so the cost of delivered fibre must be competitive with other jurisdictions, including stumpage and operational costs of public policy. There is an overall need for an integrated BC analysis tool to support decisions and a focus on the overall goal of relative competitiveness. An economic model of bioenergy also is required.

Market diversification is a priority. Our low grades are well accepted in the remaining segment but we must expand wood buildings in China /Korea and Japan. Long-term commitment is needed from both provincial and federal governments.

The BC pulp and paper sector is made up of 18 mills and supports 10,000 high paying jobs. Sawmills and paper pulp mills feed off one another. It requires a pro-competitive sector strategy.

The next 5 years are critical. Our remaining mills must remain highly efficient, the US demand must pick up, our offshore demand must grow and we need lumber prices to increase and ongoing cost improvement and re-investment in the pulp and paper sector to take place.

John feels that the bottom line is that BC must rebuild for the future by getting their policies right. Timber pricing, supply, climate change and energy/bioenergy policy. Also BC must achieve full lumber market diversification, get the tax regulatory structure right, get Government Operations right and win the HST referendum.

Please note that Mr. Allan's presentation, and past speakers' presentations, are now posted on our Club's website under the Speakers Tab.

Ernie Maguire

Correction to last month's review: The number of neurosurgeons at Lions Gate Hospital should read 4 (not 9).

February Greeters



Lee Wilks and Stew Madill

New Members Welcomed and Introduced at February Meeting



Dick Bennet
Family Doctor



Paul Newton
Pilot



Jost Tielker
Architect

Membership Is Now Capped

but we are always happy to accept names of potential new members to be added to our wait list.

Brief Backgrounds of a Few of Our Recent New Members



Michael Coady (*member since January 2011*) was born in Ottawa, raised in Prince Edward Island and has lived in West Vancouver since 1973. Michael graduated in Arts and Laws from St. Dunstan's (PEI) and Dalhousie (Halifax) universities before obtaining a Masters of Laws from York University in Toronto. He has practiced labour and employment law in Vancouver for 36 years and during his professional career he has been active with the BC Labour Law Subsection of the Canadian Bar Association and the Human Rights Management Association.



Bill Hall (*member since January 2011*) was born in Vancouver and has lived on the North Shore for since 1973. Bill graduated from UBC in Agriculture in 1963. He worked in the industrial chemical distribution business in Edmonton from 1963 to 1973 before returning to Vancouver to establish Commander Warehouse Equipment to manufacture and distribute material handling equipment



Ken Ingo (*member since January 2011*) was born in Kenora, Ontario and has lived in West Vancouver since 1970. Ken graduated from University of Toronto in Mechanical Engineering, later pursuing a career as a Chartered Accountant with Ernst & Young (formerly Clarkson Gordon) for 37 years in Toronto and Vancouver. In his professional career he has been involved in community service, including director and President of the BC Heart and Stroke Foundation and Finance Chair for several major curling events. For his service in his profession and in the community Ken was recognized as a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of BC.

Probus Golf

Golf with your Probus Pals on the 3rd Monday, May to September
Venues Announced Shortly
Mark your calendar for a start early afternoon.



Once again by popular demand. Event sign-up fee of \$10.00 (for prizes), with dinner optional and at your own expense. Please include your handicap factor when expressing interest. You are not required to commit to all 5 events.

Please respond to **Phil Boase** at pjboase@telus.net if you are interested in joining us for an informal game of golf.

President Dan Pott's Notes



Consider Probosc Golf

I greatly enjoyed Probosc golf last year and would urge Probosc North Shore members to consider participating this year. It would really be great if there were a few more golfers and particularly if there was someone I could beat. Last year I came in with the highest score on every round we played. If I played particularly well and was fortunate enough to complete every hole I might come close to 120.

Golf is an adventure. When I get up on the tee you never know what is going to happen. If I happen to get a good tee shot and a good second shot from the fairway I could always rely on my short game. Once within 50 yards of the green, the next shot is usually either halfway to the green or way over. Despite this, I do enjoy it and always laugh at my foolish expectations that I might get par on the next hole.

I enjoy the social interaction with the fellow golfers during the car trip to the course, while on the golf course, and the fellowship in the clubhouse afterwards. It is a good way to develop additional social contacts in the North Shore community.

Another great thing about the Probosc golf is that if you sign up you can participate or not in any particular event. If other activities require your attention, you can skip a particular round and not have to worry about a spare or letting your group down.

One additional benefit is the exercise. I always try to walk the course and find it a pretty good workout. At the end of the season last year my ability to climb hills without becoming winded improved significantly. Fun and health benefits as well.

Give it serious consideration and let Phil Boase know if you would like to participate. Especially if you normally score over 120 and have a good sense of humor.

Fore!

Dan Potts

Special Event

The February 24th visit to the Railroad Park in Squamish was postponed because of extremely cold and snowy conditions there. We now have booked **Wednesday, April 20th** for the visit from 10:00 to 1:00 PM.

The visit includes a fine lunch in their Roundhouse. We had a good signup of 30 members for the February date and I expect larger numbers in April.

Please make your cheque for \$29.68 (Includes all Taxes) payable to "The Probosc Club of North Shore Vancouver". There will be a signup table at the March meeting. For more information, contact **Ernie Maguire** by phone at 604-926-7574 or email elmaguire@shaw.ca.



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.
Dress Code: Business Attire. Jeans are **NOT** permitted.

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
Phone: (604) 922-9331

Visit: <http://www.capilanogolf.com/public/club/index.aspx>

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

newsletter@probos-northshorevancouver.ca

or by mail to:

Probosc Club North Shore - Communications Chair
P.O. Box 92042
West Vancouver, BC, V7V 4X4