

Shorelines

NEWSLETTER OF THE PROBUS CLUB OF NORTH SHORE VANCOUVER

September, 2006

VOL. 4 NO. 9

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Next Meeting
Tuesday September 19, 2006

Mark Ferguson

Senior Engineer
GVRD Water Filtration Project

Mark has a Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering and a Master's degree in Environmental Engineering both from the University of British Columbia. He spent six years in the environmental consulting field, three years in Toronto and three years in Vancouver, before joining the Water Treatment group at the GVRD in 1991.

He currently wears two hats: Senior Engineer for design and construction and Superintendent of Operations for the filtration plant. He has been intimately involved over the last 15 years in promoting and integrating sustainable design and construction concepts into the water treatment projects for the region.

Upcoming Speaker
Tuesday, October 17, 2006
David Bond, Chief Economist HSBC (retired)

SPECIAL EVENTS UPDATE

HMCS Vancouver 21st September We received a kind invitation from the Canadian Navy for a small group to join a "day sail" aboard HMCS Vancouver. Twenty members - veterans and others - were selected by draw to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity.

Vancouver Aquarium 26th September Staff at the Aquarium are making exceptional arrangements to ensure that our group will have an interesting and enjoyable visit. There is room for four more members, call Malcolm Nicholson if you would like to participate.

Deep Cove Stage 25th October For our "culture and camaraderie" event this fall we are supporting our local community. The Deep Cove Theatre Company is highly acclaimed and the play "The Bad Seed" is a classic thriller. A pre-theatre reception and dinner is planned and the total cost including admission should not exceed \$40 per person. Further information will be forthcoming but you can secure your reservations now by sending a message to probusevents@ca.inter.net



Pam Ryan was introduced by Brian Cooper

Ms. Pam Ryan was well prepared, with a very detailed power point presentation, to explain the complexities of the Ministry of Transportation Gateway Project.

The challenges the three billion dollar project is designed to meet are: a population growth from a current 750,000 to three million in 2031; a nine fold job growth of people working in Vancouver and; the rising congestion of moving commercial goods. A survey indicates that the Port Mann bridge is congested 13 hours a day is at capacity at peak hours and movement of goods is slowed 75% of the time.

Other pertinent factors include: increasing number of families with two or more income earners; more school trips and more retirees; coupled with a history of limited investment in infrastructure since the 1980's. Business and commerce are concerned as Vancouver supports Canada's highest volume container traffic exceeding ten billion dollars annually with an estimated loss due to congestion of 500 million.

The Gateway Project is about providing increased transportation options by:

- improving key corridors,
- addressing congestion,
- improving access to highways,
- improving quality of life,
- improving safety and reliability,
- reducing travel times along and across the Fraser River.

The Gateway Project includes three major activities:

- Improvement of the South Fraser River perimeter road,
- Improvement of the North Fraser River perimeter road,
- Port Mann Bridge paralleling, providing 3 lanes in each direction and an additional lane on each side of highway one.
- Additional related activities include:
 - extension of HOV lanes to Langley,
 - cycling facilities on the Port Mann,
 - accommodation of future light rail on the Port Mann bridge,
 - bus service over the bridge.

Public consultation will continue through 2006. Current results include:

- general understanding of need for congestion reduction,
- 88% approval of HOV lane extension,
- 50% approval of bridge tolls,
- 77% support for cycling network.

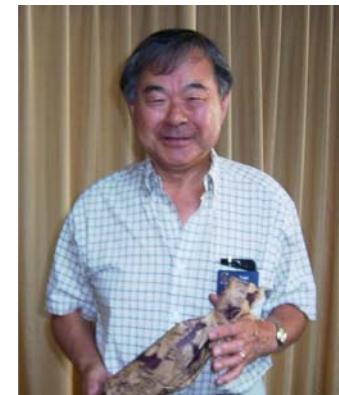
The project will be completed in 2013. For more information, a web site is available at:
www.gatewayprogram.bc.ca.

EM



Tak Negoro was the winner of this month's wine draw.

Absent members drawn were:
Stan Shackell
Normand Carpentier
Jim Arnott
Ray Holland





Don Roberts

Donald was born in Kamloops and began his early education there and completing it in Vancouver. He earned a degree in Engineering Physics at UBC where he met Joyce Lorraine Sebryk. They were married in 1957 in Edson, Alberta.

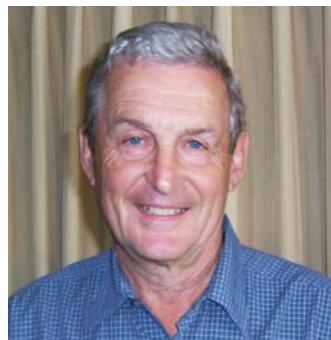
Don joined IBM on graduation and was assigned to Imperial Oil's head office where he installed one of IBM's largest computers of that time. Following 4 years with IBM he accepted a position with H. S. Gellman Consultants and worked with clients Air Canada and T. Eaton Co.

In 1965 Don accepted a position with Woodward Stores as manager of the computer dept. In 1970 he received an MBA from SFU. After 16 years with Woodward's, Don accepted the position of VP of Computer Systems with North West Life.

The opportunity to form his own software company happened in 1985. His company designed and marketed computer reservation systems under the brand name Roberts Front-desk Systems.

Don and Joyce owned a home in North Vancouver for 35 years. In 1976 they purchased a cabin on Sakinaw Lake that became a focus for family reunions. Daughter Wendy and sons Donald and Christopher with their grandchildren Donnie, Kirsten and Brenda enjoy the swimming, boating and their grandmother's fine meals.

Don and Joyce have travelled to Europe, South Africa, Australia, Ukraine and the U.S. focusing on the wine industry. They have also volunteered at the Vancouver Playhouse International Wine Festival for many years.



Jim Connell

Jim was born in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, grew up in Regina, graduating from the University of Saskatchewan with an Engineering degree. In high school, he met his wife Pat and they have been married for 46 years. They have three children and five (about to be seven) grandchildren.

Jim's first venture into business was with IBM where he became a marketing Manager for computer sales in Vancouver. He then joined a small local manufacturing firm, Capilano Engineering, which led to interesting experiences with marine hydraulic steering systems, a ship chandler operation and the manufacture of plastic containers for food and industrial markets. In 1985, the plastics business was purchased by Ropak Corporation, a California based company. Jim and Pat relocated to Fullerton California for 16 years. During that period, the company was purchased by a British firm called LINPAC and Jim became president of the North American rigid plastic packaging and reusable materials handling operations. As a member of an international management team, the position involved considerable domestic and international travel.

Jim and Pat returned to British Columbia in 2001 and settled in West Vancouver. Board activity, tennis, golf, gardening and baby-sitting fill out a big part of Jim's retirement.

What Jim did not mention in his bio was that his son Grant was one of Canada's best tennis players ever, having played at Wimbledon and representing Canada in the Davis Cup. This year Grant is the head organizer for the big Roger's Cup tennis tournament being played in Toronto later this summer. JL



President's Report

I've enjoyed it! Thanks to all members of the North Shore Probus for affording me the privilege of serving as your President for the term ending, officially, at our AGM on Sept. 19.

I can't emphasize enough the importance of the members who step-up-to-the-plate for the various tasks to be handled. My thanks to all those volunteers who generously give of their time to keep the business end of our Club afloat. This includes a special appreciation for all those who serve on the executive of the Club, a group we call the Management Committee.

And speaking of that group, a sincere vote of thanks to Stu McNeil, who completes his term on the Management Committee, serving as first as Chair of the House Committee, then a term as President, and this year as Past President. As of this AGM Stu completes his "tour of duty" but, we know he'll be available to help Probus wherever needed and we also know that he and Marilyn will continue a full and pleasant retirement life.

From all of us, thanks Stu!

Don Brinton

MEETINGS

Third Tuesday of each month 9:30 – 11:30 AM
Hollyburn Country Club
West Vancouver

PROBUS CLUB OF COMOX VALLEY VISIT



L – R, John Leonard, VP Ivan Curry, and Esio Marzotto

In the Comox area on a fishing trip (John caught a 23 lb. Spring Salmon) John and Esio used the occasion to visit the Comox Valley Probus Club meeting at the Officers Mess at CFB Comox.



VP Ivan Curry was in the Chair and asked John to bring greetings from our Club. John presented a brief history. The main speaker was Don Sharpe of the Mt. Washington Alpine Resort who described its 2010 participation.

The Comox Valley Probus Club is primarily a couples club with a long list of special events committees including activities for: walkers, bridge players, poker, camera buffs, golf, travel, dinner and more. Gracious hospitality was extended & appreciated.

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