

Management Committee

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Speaker - Monday, June 8, 2009

Mark Mullins, Executive Director,
B.C. Fraser Institute

*"The Market Meltdown: Global trends and the
Cycle Turn"*

Prior to becoming Executive Director, Mark served the Institute as Director of Ontario Policy Studies. Before joining the Institute in 2003, Mark was President of MSG Hedge Corporation, a private consulting firm, and from 1990 to 1998 he was Senior Vice-President and Chief Economist at Midland Walwyn Capital Inc. where he was responsible for communicating the firm's outlook on the North American economy and financial markets.

He has published numerous studies on government finance, financial markets, tax policy, insurance, health care, electricity and urban issues. Mark also brings extensive applied policy experience from serving as economic and fiscal advisor to federal and provincial political parties.

Mark is a graduate of University of Saskatchewan and University of Western Ontario and has a PhD from the London School of Economics focusing on linkages between the stock market and the economy. He has written extensively on Canadian tax reform, health policies, the stock market and investment issues. He is a member of the Ontario Task Force on Competitiveness, Productivity and Economic Progress and is a member of the governing council of the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada.

Monday, July 13

Red Robinson, Vancouver show business legend and impresario

"That's Entertainment"

Last Month Speaker



Esio Marzotto with Peter Leitch

Peter Leitch presented the history of North Shore Studios and Mammoth Studios emphasizing their exceptional growth, significant investment and fiscal contribution to the B.C. economy. Their two studios occupy 14 acres, including 10 sound stages totalling 339,000 square feet, plus 163,000 square feet of offices and 76,000 square feet of construction and support space where feature films, television series, commercials, music videos and other media are filmed.

In 1986, Cannell Films was an established film services provider looking for an operating alternative to Los Angeles. Mr. Cannell went first to Calgary but moved to Vancouver later that year. This B.C. industry has grown from \$200 million to \$1 billion per year, employs 20,000 people directly and 15,000 indirectly with \$1 billion of private investment.

Competition from other geographic locations in Canada and the U. S. has grown exponentially over the past ten years with each competitor offering financial and income tax incentives as does BC, but there are many advantages in BC including a 20 year head start in experience as compared to many of the potential competitors.

In Peter's view Vancouver and BC have a special competitive framework that includes:

- .. skilled and experienced crew and supporting cast base
- .. established state of the art facilities
- .. technically sophisticated industry support infrastructure (both sound and visual effects)
- .. competitive labour costs and facility rates
- .. appealing favourable Canadian dollar exchange rate compared to the US dollar.

In addition, BC has:

- .. competitive labour tax credits and income tax rates attractive to business and key talent
- .. location, with time zone fit with Los Angeles and major studios
- .. access to "a world of looks" in a cosmopolitan city with a downtown eastside, nearby mountains and oceans, close-by desert and wine country in the Okanagan, as well as attractive farm country in the Fraser Valley
- .. film friendly neighbourhoods
- .. the BC film industry is "going green" which is demanded more and more by customers such as Twentieth Century Fox because it reduces their environmental footprint, and saves them money.

To continue on their successful path, Vancouver and BC face many challenges, one of which is educating the next generation of filmmakers so that they continue to have one of the most talented, technologically sophisticated workforces anywhere and they can truly be considered a major player in the digital entertainment and knowledge based industry. This includes training individuals in the needed business skills to be able to exploit and market intellectual property in the global marketplace. Capilano University is close to accessing adequate funding to build a state of the art film centre which would be key to achieving this goal.

Maintaining public support for an industry which provides great employment and major dollars for the economy is very important but can be an inconvenience or irritant if not managed properly. Of course, maintaining competitive pricing is essential.

An enthusiastic Q&A followed.

Ernie Maguire

May Greeters



Vic Harrison and Ian Dowdeswell

Recent new members



Gordon Huff



Doug Behan

Gordon, a native of Edmonton, Alberta, received a Bachelor of Commerce degree prior to obtaining his Chartered Accountant designation in 1961. He was a partner in a local CA firm in Edmonton for a short period prior to purchasing Jasper Dairy Ltd., a business that had been in his family since 1905. He and his partner sold the business to Lucerne Canada Ltd in 1966.

Gordon later moved to Vancouver where he accepted a senior management position with a large manufacturer of telephone transmission and carrier equipment. In 1978 he formed Hy-Seas Marine Electronics, a wholesale and retail distributor. He acquired Hy-com Communications, a distributor of 2way radio equipment in 1986. Hy-Seas was wound up and Hy-Com sold in upon his retirement.

One of Gordon's leisure activities is cycling and in June will he be enjoying a barge, biking trip in Holland with his wife Laurette, and seven other couples. Winter is spent in Mesa Arizona.

They have three girls, eight grandchildren, living in the Vancouver area, and a son in Edmonton.

Doug was born in Toronto and received his early education in Toronto and Montreal and his post secondary education at the University of Winnipeg and the University of Manitoba.

His first job was with the Canadian National Railroad Traffic Division in Winnipeg. His career was interrupted in 1941 by WW2 and 4 years with the Canadian Navy in the North Atlantic. When asked about memories, Doug says "all you remember are the good times and friendships".

After the war Doug returned to a position with the CNR Traffic Division. In 1956, he joined the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy RR in Vancouver and witnessed its growth to become the Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railroad. He retired in 1985.

Doug has been active in his community. In Winnipeg, as a member of the Junior Chamber of Commerce, he was a member of a team that undertook the reorganization of the local Red Cross blood donor program, a project that required two years to complete. In Vancouver he has been a volunteer with Junior Achievement. Doug is a golfer and has been a member of Capilano for 46 years.

Doug and Lydia have two daughters one living in North Vancouver and the other in Palm Springs.



President's Report

Esio Marzotto

It is that time of year again when the Strategic Planning Committee swings into action to organize the Club Management Committee for next year, 2009-10. The Committee, composed of the Past Present and Future Presidents, will be seeking candidates to replace vacancies. The Probud manual describes Management Committee involvement as follows:

“Probud has created ways for you to achieve personal fulfillment in retirement, make new friendships and chart new horizons which will involve fellowship and fun. Why not at the same time improve the quality of your life and contribute to improving the well being and lifestyles of active retirees within your community?”

As a Probud Club officer you will be embracing new and exciting challenges and have an ideal opportunity to participate in a management role performed in an atmosphere of fun, fellowship, and friendship. Along with your new colleagues you would take on the shared responsibility for the management of club affairs including membership and the promotion of Probud guidelines and policies, finance, goals and social activities.”

Personally, my service on the Management Committee has introduced me to many new people, a number of whom have become good friends beyond Probud involvement and whom I would never had the occasion to meet without my Probud connection.

Why not consider and explore the possibility of extending your sphere of acquaintances and the interaction with a fine group of people. Please speak to me or any member of the Committee to learn more about a role with the Management Committee.

Esio Marzotto

Update on Special Events

The **Lawn Bowling** event took place on May 13 with 14 members and guests enjoying the afternoon with Don Beck, and a few are interested in learning the game. If you missed the May 13 event out and still are interested, speak to Don Beck (604) 925-9007.

Navy Frigate “HMCS Calgary” Day Sail - Friday, May 29: The event is already fully booked, but we still hope to hold a second Day Sail in late summer or early in the fall. Watch your e-mail or mail for updated information on this possible second event.

Vancouver Metro Watershed Tour - Friday, July 10: The tour is limited to 46 persons; watch your mail/e-mail for detailed information to arrive shortly.

Bard on the Beach - “All’s Well That Ends Well”: - This is still being organized for either July or August; date will be confirmed by mid June.

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

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“Shorelines” © A monthly publication of
The Probud Club of North Shore Vancouver



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

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