

Shorelines

NEWSLETTER OF THE PROBUS CLUB OF NORTH SHORE VANCOUVER

September 2017

www.probus-northshorevancouver.ca

Vol. 15 No.9

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Monthly Meeting at the Capilano Golf and Country Club

420 Southborough Drive, West Vancouver, 604-922-9331

Coffee and Fellowship: 9:00 am, Club Business and Speaker: 9:30 - 11:15 am

Monday, September 11th

with speaker

Andy Yan, Adjunct Professor, SFU Urban Studies Program

“Urban Planning”



The Annual General Meeting will take place at 9:20 AM prior to our guest speaker's presentation.

Andy Yan is the director of The City Program at Simon Fraser University. Born and raised in Vancouver, Andy has extensively worked in the non-profit and private urban planning sectors with projects in the metropolitan regions of Vancouver, San Francisco, New York City, Los Angeles and New Orleans. He specializes in the fields of urban regeneration, applied demographics, Geographic Information Systems, neighborhood development, public outreach, social media and quantitative research.

Andy holds a Master of Urban Planning from the University of California and a Bachelor of Arts with First Class Honours distinctions in Geography and Political Science from Simon Fraser University. Andy is a registered professional planner with the Canadian Institute of Planners and a Certified Geographic Information Systems Professional.

Climate change, uneven patterns in the post-industrial economy, and global flows of people, ideas, and capital are reshaping the demographic, social, economic and physical terrains of Metro Vancouver and, of course, the North Shore. In a world that is increasingly hot, uneven and connected, these trends drive new and aggravate old challenges for the field of urban planning. At the same time, old solutions may not be adequate for new problems. This talk will examine how these challenges have manifested themselves in time and space in Metro Vancouver with specific references to the North Shore. Ultimately, connections between people, place and history become critical relationships to document, understand and share for informed public policy and dialogue.

Mark Your Calendars with these Important Dates...



Next Meeting at the Capilano Golf & Country Club

- **Monday, October 2nd** - Professor Paul Evans, *China and the World*
- **Membership Renewals - Due September 15th**
- **Special Events** - *details on page 2 and 3...*

President's Notes



My oh my, where did this past year go? Here we are in September and although I may take the liberty to submit the odd "letter to the editor" in future Shoreline editions, this is my last official President's message. It comes too soon. Hope you have enjoyed reading them as much as I have enjoyed writing them.

What a great year with many club highlights - a few of which I mention in our year-end report.

I thank you for the privilege and honour to be of service to our club. I have enjoyed my time as your President and especially working with the members of the Management Committee (MC). I have been part of many Boards (private, public and volunteer), and committees, and must relay that working with this cast of characters was great and the past year has been a joy.

I want to personally and publicly thank each of the MC members as well as their committee members and other volunteers and helpers. There are simply too many to start naming in this article. If you do a head count of everyone who volunteered in one way or another we had close to 15% of our membership helping from time to time. This level of involvement made my job much easier and is a tribute to our membership. The support, wisdom and abilities of our volunteers are the key to the operation of our club and you, our members, are the key to its continuation. I have been asked several times if serving on the MC, serving on a committee, or volunteering to help in some capacity is a year-round commitment and my response is always NO. Most of the MC members miss at least a couple of meetings as they are away for family, travel or simply forget and sleep in. It is a great experience and I recommend it to all our members.

Remember - "PROBUS is involved solely with the basic principle of fellowship and learning and remaining connected to the world through speakers and programs...." I think this year's MC achieved this mandate. If you enjoyed the speakers, programs and special events this past year just wait until next year when John takes the lead and as all the existing MC are hanging around (a tribute to their anticipation of John's leadership) it should be a great year.

In closing - thanks and happy trails!

Dave Walker

Contact - president@probus-northshorevancouver.ca



2017 AGM Materials

All materials for the AGM on September 11th are being sent to members prior to the AGM. Please review these items listed below as copies will not be provided at the meeting.

The 2017/2018 Management Committee proposed slate, to be elected, was emailed and included in the August Shorelines. The AGM materials include:

- an Agenda,
- Directors' Annual Report,
- Minutes from the 2016 AGM, and
- Financial Statements as at August 31, 2017

Special Events

Seaspan Open House Sunday October 1, 2017

Our earlier Seaspan tour was so popular that Seaspan concluded that there must be other North Shore residents interested in touring their shipyard. So, they have decided to hold an open house, to which Probus and others, will be invited. They are still in the planning stages so other than having selected the date of Sunday October 1, between 10:00 am and 1:00 pm and that preregistration will be required, there is little information available.

For those of you who were unable to attend our Seaspan tour earlier this year, please keep Sunday October 1 free for their open house. More information will be sent out to all members once it is available.

Gordon Cook

REMINDER

If you have not already done so, please mail your cheque, along with a copy of your renewal email previously sent to you on August 11th or bring both along to the September meeting.



Paddlewheel Cruise

On Wednesday August 9th, sixty-three members and guests embarked on a voyage up the Fraser River from New Westminster. Smoke from the wildfires obscured the view of the mountains but, for most of us, seeing an unfamiliar aspect of our familiar city more than compensated for the loss. The sights and activities along the banks were augmented by a lively and most interesting commentary, which gave an explanation of each, as well as some history of how they came to be. We reached Fort Langley before turning downstream, then went a little past our starting point to catch a glimpse of Annacis Island before returning to the dock.

The buffet lunch was plentiful and the service attentive. For those who craved more than the one included glass of wine or beer, the bar offered a good selection of other drinks, so no one had to go hungry or thirsty.

Altogether a most enjoyable outing in convivial company and one which we are likely to repeat in future years.

John Walker

Special thanks to photographer Ed Frazer



Last Month Speaker - Sandra Enticknap



VP John Zaplatynsky thanks guest speaker Sandra Enticknap with a bowl hand crafted by a member.

Our August speaker was Sandra Enticknap, QC, a widely recognized expert in wills, estates and related matters. She is listed in *The Best Lawyers in Canada 2013/2017*. Sandra's presentation centred on changes that have taken place in BC with new family law, and a particularly relevant court ruling on who is a spouse. It turns out you may have one when you think you don't.

The underlying theme is that your old plans may not work the way you have intended, unless your will and other financial plans are up to date. Her solution is not just review your will, but do it on an ongoing basis.

On one hand, this sounds as obvious as going to the doctor for a regular checkup. However, we all know if we don't go regularly we are asking for health problems. Her point is it's really the same in wills and estate matters.

This is of special relevance to our members, who for the most part are not in their springtime years. A large number of us have family issues which we try to take into account when will planning, and the new laws may have affected them. If it turns out that your plans have been affected, and your heirs try to change things through the courts, it will be expensive. Going to court may cost 10 to 20 times the cost of an update.

Some of the more common issues are these: Are you in a second or subsequent relationship? A brand-new relationship? Are there children from one or more relationships? Do they live in the United States or elsewhere?

One of the interesting new issues is the definition of a spouse. It is not uncommon that a person can be in a special relationship with another person, but they may not be co-habiting (at least not all the time). The practical (and legal) questions are this: Do you consider you are in a spousal relationship, and has it been going on for two or more years? Are your children aware, and what do they think?

The author is personally aware of two couples that live this way, but it is not clear what the children think. There are two other cases where a child actively dislikes the new

spouse. This can lead to a very expensive fight.

A new good relationship may form, but the children from past relationships may not be happy if they think their inheritances are affected. There are ways of protecting estates from these sorts of issues but, as our speaker pointed out, there are really no simple off-the-shelf solutions. The best answer comes from a review of individual circumstances in the light of changing laws.

It's also easy to get caught in tax matters. Giving children money when they live in a different country can create unexpected issues. Keep in mind that governments with deficits are not generous in giving tax breaks.

The lesson to be learned is it is simply prudent to update your estate and property disposition plans, just like you update your other financial plans. Miller Thomson's practice is to review these matters every three years. It's fulsome food for thought.

Tom Gunn

Sandra Enticknap's presentation is on our website at: <http://www.probus-northshorevancouver.ca/speakers.htm>

August Greeters



Greeters Larry Zurowski and Brian Blann

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The PROBUS Club of North Shore Vancouver



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