

# Shorelines

## NEWSLETTER OF THE PROBUS CLUB OF NORTH SHORE VANCOUVER

June 2018

[www.probus-northshorevancouver.ca](http://www.probus-northshorevancouver.ca)

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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, June 4th**

*with speaker*

**Chief Justice C. E. Hinkson**

*“The Canadian Justice System and the Role of the Courts”*



The Honourable Chief Justice Christopher E. Hinkson was born in Vancouver British Columbia. He is a graduate from the University of British Columbia (1973) and was called to both the bar of British Columbia (1976) and the Yukon Territory (1978). He was partner at Harper Grey from 1979-2007, and was appointed Queen’s Counsel in 1991. He was appointed to the Supreme Court of British Columbia in 2007; and later the British Columbia Court of Appeal in 2010. In 2013 he was appointed Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of British Columbia, the province’s superior trial court.

Other professional activities include: Adjunct Professor, Faculty of Law, University of British Columbia (1983-1988), Member, Education Committee, Law Society of British Columbia (1985-1988), President, Vancouver Bar Association (1986-1987), Member, Insurance Committee, Law Society of British Columbia, 1988-1991, Clinical Assistant Professor, Faculty of Medicine, University of British Columbia (1989-1998), Member, Ethics Committee of the Law Society of British Columbia (1996-1997), Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers (inducted to the College in 1997), Lecturer, Continuing Legal Education Society and Continuing Medical Education, Group Leader, Inns of Court.

In addition to hearing cases, The Honourable Chief Justice Hinkson is responsible for the administration of the Court. Chief Justice Hinkson will provide an overview of the Supreme Court and the work of its judges. He will discuss the judicial appointment process and the importance of judicial independence, the relationship between courts and the media, and some of the challenges the Court currently faces.

### Mark Your Calendars with the Next Monthly Meeting



**Monday, July 9th, at Capilano Golf and Country Club**

Kim Baird, First Nations Consultant

*“Themes For Reconciliation”*

## President's Notes



Over the years I have had the opportunity to travel to many countries, for business and, now in retirement, for pleasure. I am writing this note from Marrakesh, Morocco, in the middle of ten days in this fascinating and interesting country. It is a land of contrasts and, surprisingly, similarities to Canada. Its population is similar to Canada's, but in an area the size of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. Since 1999, with the ascension of their King Mohammed VI, the country has moved into the 21st Century, but contrasts remain between the old and new ways.

In the major cities there are the ancient walled cities dating back hundreds and thousands of years while only a short distance away, there are suburban developments that look like an Arabian designed Langley. On the streets, you will see heavily laden donkeys slowly moving past sleek Mercedes. In the Medinas - the walled city centres - are the souks markets - where robed merchants are selling fruits, vegetable and spices from large wooden baskets, while outside the centre are grocery stores the size of WalMart!

In the country-side are plots of land about 100 square metres alongside enormous plantations of olives, figs and citrus trees. The small plots of grains are still harvested by hand using very old-looking scythes, while John Deere tractors tend to the large fields. It is not unusual to see women in traditional Muslim attire strolling together on dusty roads beside schoolchildren running along in blue jeans, designer shorts, with the boys wearing baseball caps at a jaunty 45 degree angle.

The contrasts in geography are startling as well, from the rolling dunes of the Sahara to the snow-capped peaks of the Atlas Mountains. The countryside was much greener than we expected, due to increased rains the past few years, which our guides attributed to climate change. Much better for them than the droughts of the turn of the Century!

Our guides indicated "what keeps them up at night" are the concerns over rapidly rising house prices; dealing with immigration; the influx of Asian money; and the shrinking middle class. These problems sound similar to a response one might get in Vancouver.

The contrasts and similarities were amazing to comprehend. The travel to foreign lands does make one realize how fortunate we are here in Canada. The opportunity to be members of PROBUS and sharing our interest in being aware of what is happening in the world around us is something we should celebrate and appreciate. See you soon, if my camel keeps moving!

*John Zaplatynsky*

## Special Events

### Only 8 Spaces Left to Tour the Largest Bulk Terminal in North America on Wednesday, June 13



Come visit the largest multi-product bulk shipping terminal in North America. Neptune Terminals moves 20 million tonnes of product and is expanding to handle 30.

The tour starts at Neptune Terminals' head office on Brooksbank Ave. opposite Park & Tilford Mall. We will travel by bus with stops at various points of interest along the way. The bus capacity is only 23. A second tour will be run in the afternoon of the same day - allowing us a total of 46 members.

The morning group will leave at 10:00 am and return in time for a no-host lunch. The afternoon group will leave at 1:30 pm after the no-host lunch and return at 3:30 pm.

**To register please send an e-mail with your name, phone number, whether you prefer morning or afternoon and if you are planning to attend the lunch between tours to: [probus.neptune.tour@gmail.com](mailto:probus.neptune.tour@gmail.com)**

Your position on the registration list will be based on the date and time of your e-mail. Detailed information will be sent out at a later date to those who register.

*Gordon Cook*

### Indian Arm Cruise Tuesday, July 24th, 2018



Following the popular Paddleboat Cruise on the Fraser River last year, we have arranged a somewhat similar excursion this year. We will join the Harbour Cruise company's Harbour Princess for a four-hour voyage from Coal Harbour up Indian Arm to Silver Falls. A buffet lunch will be served, together with coffee, tea or water and a cash bar will be available. A commentary will be provided, highlighting interesting sights along the way.

As the boat is much larger than last year's, we are able to invite friends and family to join us. We expect to have an entire dining deck for our use, though other non-club people will also be aboard, using other decks. The cost will be \$65 per person including taxes, approximately twenty percent less than the normal price.

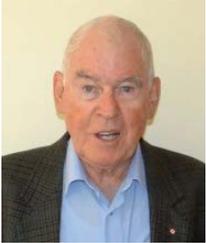
To make a reservation, please mail your cheque for \$65 to PROBUS P.O. Box 92042, West Vancouver, BC, V7V 4X4, listing passengers and marking envelopes "Cruise" on the outside.

*John Walker*

## New Members Introduced and Welcomed at May Meeting



**Russ Brink** (*member since May 2018*) Russ was born in Vancouver and has lived in West Vancouver for the past 45 years. He received his Bachelor of Commerce and a Bachelor of Laws at UBC and then went to the Columbia University Business School in New York. Back in Vancouver, he was the Project Manager for the Granville Island Project before becoming President of Applied Strategies Ltd., a management consulting firm. He has been President of the West Vancouver Soccer Club, on the board of the West Vancouver Tennis Club and was on the Founding Board of Collingwood School. His current activities include tennis, travel and gardening.



**Stuart McNeill** (*member since May 2018*) Stuart was born in Rainy River, Ontario. He received a medical degree and went on to become an orthopaedic surgeon and practiced at Toronto's Sunny-brooke Hospital, Stratford General Hospital and then Lions Gate Hospital. His interests are travel, reading, music, woodworking and golf.

Of special note: In 2003 there was a two year wait list to belong to the PROBUS Vancouver Club and it was agreed that a club on the North Shore should exist. With support of the Vancouver PROBUS Club, Stuart was a member of the founding Management Committee for our Club. In 2004, Stu became the second President of this club. Welcome back to this Club.



**Richard Rees** (*member since May 2018*) Richard was born in Carmarthen, Wales. He received a degree at the London School of Economics before articling with Deloitte as an accountant before moving with them to Vancouver. He went on to become CEO of the Heart and Stroke Foundation of BC and then became the CEO of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of BC. Current interests are cycling and many diverse types of music. He has been a director of the West Vancouver Community Foundation, past chair of the Family Services of the North Shore and a Director of Vancouver Opera.



**Simon Russell** (*member since May 2018*) Simon was born in Redhill, Surrey in the UK. He received a B.Sc. from Edinburgh and came to Calgary in 1981 just when the recession was starting. He went back to school and got an MBA at the University of Calgary. He joined Reid Crowther as a consulting engineer, becoming a partner, and then joined Jan-Pro, a janitorial company, as a master franchisee in Vancouver. He has lived in North Vancouver for the last 18 years. His present activities are hiking, golf, pickle ball, travel and bridge – and he sings with the Joyful Voice Choir.



**Greeters Mark Jackson and Ken Rekrutiak**



**Vice President Jim Grey welcomes our newest members.**

*Special thanks to photographer Darryl Stodalka*

## Last Month Speaker - Dr. Brian Day



**Dr. Brian Day is thanked by Vice President Jim Grey with a bowl hand crafted by a member.**

Our May speaker Dr. Brian Day is a well-known orthopedic surgeon and an outspoken advocate for health care reform. He has a well-articulated, firmly held position that we are not well served by our current system. He pointed out that Canada is the only country in the G8 with a health care system that does not allow for private services. While our universal care system worked reasonably well in the early years, service levels have consistently deteriorated as time has gone on. Wait times for general services have increased, surgical backlogs are longer, and there is national concern about our difficulty in finding family physicians.

The legal issues involving private health care came to a head with the Supreme Court ruling that private care is legal. However, their decision was related to Quebec. The current legal issue is whether the decision applies across Canada, and in particular in BC, where the current government has been taking a hard line against it.

One of his points is that the Canadian system has deteriorated with time. The cause of this, in his opinion, is the fundamental nature of the system. Governments and government agencies tend to be risk averse, and see all innovation and change as fundamentally risky. Change tends to be viewed with suspicion, and change in health care is generally opposed. The standard government position is that any change, regardless of its nature, could put patients or the system of universal access at risk.

In reality, there is risk with opposing change. Governments move slowly with implementing changes in medical services of any kind, while technology and worldwide practices are moving at a much faster pace. This development creates conflicts that ultimately affect us all, and not to our benefit.

There are paradoxes in the current system. Private services are available in BC, but not to BC residents. BC residents are free to pursue private services provided they are outside the province. This creates the situation that an advanced medical clinic, primarily serving Vancouver res-

idents, can't be located in the greater Vancouver area, but must be in Washington. BC residents are perfectly free to pay for private services, provided that they don't try to obtain them locally. When private services are offered, the government prefers to shut them down rather than consider that these services are meeting a local need.

There are similar issues in other provinces. One example, well known to the author, concerns private MRI clinics. At one point in Ontario a group was able to offer private MRI services. It involved private billing, but there were very short waits for service and helped to reduce the then current backlog for MRI access. The service actually used the MRI machines in one particular hospital, but used them after the hospital standard clinic hours. The hospital would use the machines for 8 hours a day, but no more. The private service then took over with its own staff. One of the advantages of the service meant that the hospital was getting more use out of current machines. This allowed the hospital to replace them sooner with more advanced machines – a win-win for all patients.

The government decided to buy back the service, as it was claimed it was encouraging a two-tiered health plan. However, instead of continuing to offer extended hours of service, the government cut the hours back to the hospital's former level, apparently because the hospital union didn't support their members working the extra weekly hours. It also was not keen to pay to upgrade the machines. It is hard to accept that spending public money to reduce availability of medical services is in the public interest.

While some actions by the government support change, the movement is slow. The BC government recognises that in BC there are an excessive number of health regulators (called Colleges) and is working to change the system. A plan has been underway to merge three current Colleges into one. The process began under the previous government and has not been moving fast. It appears that the need to follow bureaucratic processes outweighs the need for speedy implementation.

Our speaker's position is the kind of change brought about by competition from private services breeds innovation, and ultimately better health care for everyone. In his opinion, general medical care in our province would benefit if people could pay for private services. We should remember that those who are willing to pay for first mover advantage in other fields ultimately create benefits for all of us.

*Tom Gunn*

**Note:** Dr. Day's presentation is available on our website at <http://www.probus-northshorevancouver.ca/speakers.htm>.

## Walking Tour of Shaughnessey

### WALKING TOUR OF SHAUGHNESSEY

TUESDAY MORNING, MAY 8TH

The rain held off for a day and twenty-five Probus members and guests met at the corner of McRae and The Crescent in Vancouver's exclusive Shaughnessey neighbourhood. We were joined by our guide, John Atkin, a local historian for a two hour walk through just a small part of this historic area.

We were only a few blocks off the busy streets of Granville and Sixteenth, yet the only noise was from mowers, blowers and weed eaters and the occasional garbage truck.

Vancouver's Shaughnessey neighbourhood was created by the Canadian Pacific Railway in 1907 to be the city's exclusive residential area. It is one of first suburbs laid out on garden city principals. Here, unlike the rest of the city, the streets follow the contours of the land and the landscape. The area was named after Thomas Shaughnessey, a former president of the CPR.

Our two-hour tour was essentially a walk around The Crescent plus out and back on a couple of the streets that fan out from The Crescent. Three of these streets, Angus Drive, Osler and Hudson carry on for many blocks and spread the Shaughnessey aura out into other neighbourhoods far to the South. These streets are curved such that when they first intersect with a busy thoroughfare people going by cannot see very far into the exclusive area.

The current borders of Shaughnessey are Sixteenth, Oak, Fourty-first and East Boulevard. The First Shaughnessey Conservation Area considered the most prestigious is bounded by Sixteenth, Oak, King Edward and East Boulevard.

We saw many of these still exclusive mansions and learned who had originally built them and how they had been upgraded over the years. Some infill housing has been permitted but only under very strict conditions. One such added house set back and to the side of the main house at first appears to be a garage. Further inspection behind the trees reveals it to be a fairly large separate dwelling.

We met one contractor who was proud and obviously very happy to be in the fourth year of a five-year major renovation on one of the larger homes. All renovations and any new buildings are very tightly controlled by the City of Vancouver Planning Department.

Some of the walkers took photos and some of these are included. Thanks to George Reynard, Jon Strom and Nels Hagenson for sharing their photos.

*John Elliott*



Walking Tour of Shaughnessey Photos



Rosemary House

## Walking Tour of Shaughnessey Photos



**Japan Consul General Residence**