

# Shorelines

## NEWSLETTER OF THE PROBUS CLUB OF NORTH SHORE VANCOUVER

March 2021

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

Vol.19 No.3

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## Monday, March 8<sup>th</sup> Zoom Meeting

*with guest speaker*

**Dr. Allan Burgmann, Lions Gate Hospital Emergency Department**

*“Questions and Topics of Interest from Members”*



Dr. Allan Burgmann BSc, MD, FRCPC (Psychiatry) is a clinical staff member at Lions Gate Hospital's Department of Psychiatry. He serves as the medical manager for Acute Psychiatry, as well as attends to busy clinical duties throughout the work week.

His background is that of a local farm boy, growing up in rural Langley. After completing high school he attended the University of British Columbia where he received an undergraduate degree in Cellular Biology. He then entered medical school at the University of British Columbia, after which time he did a rotating internship out in the Maritime provinces, through Dalhousie University. He returned home, to the West Coast, and began the residency training program for Psychiatry at the University of British Columbia. During his training, he moonlighted as a family physician in South Vancouver.

Upon graduating, he began to work in the community at a local mental health team in South Vancouver as well as providing clinical service at St. Paul's Hospital. He worked at St. Paul's Hospital for approximately 10 years. During which time he developed the Consultation Liaison service which provided psychiatric care to complex medical and surgical patients throughout the hospital. He worked extensively with the Heart and Kidney transplant programs, the HIV program, the Chronic Pain Clinical and the Addiction service within the hospital.

In addition to clinical duties, he served as the program director for Consultation Liaison psychiatry at St Paul's Hospital as well as moved up the ranks and became the Head of the Department of Psychiatry. From an academic standpoint, he also was promoted to Clinical Professor through the University of British Columbia's Faculty of Medicine.

Throughout his clinical career he has been an avid clinical instructor for medical students as well as family practice and psychiatric residents. His teaching skills have been recognized through awards that he has received from the University of British Columbia.

His current focus is in the improvement and expansion of mental health services delivered through the Lions Gate Hospital Department of Psychiatry. He has been able to contribute to the development of substantial change at the Hospital with the development of the Hope Center, Carlisle unit, central intake program and the eventual implementation of a new psychiatric emergency room.

### Mark Your Calendars with These Important Dates



**April Zoom Meeting - Monday, April 12, 2021**

Guest speaker Jonathan Manthorpe, *Politics and Current Affairs*

**Pop-Up Zoom Meeting - Monday, March 22, 2021, 10:30 am**

**Members Golf - April 19, 2021 - details on page 4 ...**

## President's Notes



As the weeks and months “fly by”, it is noteworthy that March is National Probud Month and our North Shore Club (number 154 of 255+ clubs in Canada) continues to thrive, despite the pandemic, with 275 active members.

However, it is obvious that we are living in unprecedented worldwide public health and economic conditions while we impatiently await the security of a vaccination as new, more highly infectious variants of the virus are identified, and our nation attempts to restart the economy and reduce the national debt when 1.7 million fellow Canadians are unemployed.

Thankfully, the North Shore appears to have coped with the virus relatively well with very few patients currently hospitalized or in intensive care in Lions Gate Hospital.

It is timely that our speaker in March, Dr. Allan Burgmann, Medical Director of Acute Psychiatry at LGH, will be addressing new mental health initiatives involving structural improvements in the emergency department. As reported in the media, the incidence of mental health issues has increased dramatically during the pandemic and the structural changes will significantly improve the care of those with mental health issues as well as those with other challenges.

In April, our speaker is Jonathan Manthorpe, noted Victoria based author of two best selling books entitled “Claws of the Panda” and “Restoring Democracy in an age of Populists and Pestilence”.

Mr. Manthorpe has suggested that, rather than a lengthy presentation, he would prefer to reply to specific questions re topics raised in his books. If you have the opportunity to read the publications, I can attest that both are relevant to Canada and are thought provoking.

Following an excellent attendance for our interesting February meeting with Ms. Jody Wilson-Raybould, I am encouraging another good attendance at our upcoming March meeting.

Thank you for your continued commitment to the success of our Club while we look forward to meeting again in person.

*Ron Wood*

## Zoom Pop-Up Meetings

### Pop-Up Zoom Meetings with Breakout Rooms:

The purpose of pop-up Zoom meetings is to provide opportunity for our PROBUS members to see each other and to chat informally. Terry McLeod and I have partnered to present 3 pop-up Zoom meetings so far. We will continue to schedule these fun meetings 2 weeks after each monthly general meeting. That should make it the 4th Monday of every month at 10:30 am.

The most recent pop-up Zoom meeting featured breakout rooms hosted by members Terry McLeod (discussing the recent Mars Landing) and Alex Tunner (discussing West Vancouver planning issues). Each was attended by 8 or 9 enthusiastic members. A smaller group talked about travel. Three members were unable to join breakout rooms, so we had a chin-wag in the main room just the 4 of us. Everyone who attended said that they had fun and asked us to keep on organizing pop-up Zoom meetings.

The Zoom technology is super easy to use, just join the meeting like any other Zoom meeting by clicking on a link in an email sent to you. The Zoom host will open breakout rooms which will be named for a topic of interest and you will be able to join which ever group that you wish. You may also change rooms at will. Discussions will last around 20 minutes. After that, we can start new breakout rooms if there is interest.

This is a fun and easy way to socialize a bit with fellow PROBUS members. It is much like the old days when we met in person and stood around having a coffee and chatting with a few people before a meeting.

The next pop-up Zoom meeting will be Monday March 22, 2021 at 10:30 am. Look for your invitation my email a few days prior. Please send in your ideas for discussion topics to [probunorthshorevancouver@gmail.com](mailto:probunorthshorevancouver@gmail.com).

*Darryl Stodalka - Vice President  
Terry McLeod – House Chairperson*



## Last Month Speaker - The Honourable Jody Wilson-Raybould

The form of presentation by our last guest speaker, Jody Wilson-Raybould, was to answer questions submitted by the PROBUS Club members in advance. Due to the large and varied number of questions submitted, they were grouped into a more manageable form for her response.

Q1 Provide a brief synopsis of the Indian act and in particular what exists today.

A: It has been in existence since 1876 has gone through various iterations. It was initially introduced to get rid of the “Indian problem” - to stop Indigenous Peoples’ way of life, such as making it illegal for them to come together, to practice their culture, and banning the Potlatch. It imposed a system of government right across the country. Through the Minister of Indian Affairs, this act controls the experience, the governance and the day to day lives of Indigenous Peoples in this country, basically taking away their rights to self-determination i.e. determining how they govern themselves through their culture, their traditional laws and ways of being. Over time this has changed with Indigenous People negotiating self-government agreements whether through a comprehensive Treaty with the Crown, or through a stand-alone self-government agreement of which we have several in British Columbia. Jody views the Act as very racist and colonial, and that a way is needed to enable the Indigenous people to make their way out from under it, to stand on their own, make their own decisions appropriate for their Nation, and remove the Minister of Indian Affairs from their lives. The two can’t exist at the same time. To their detriment, the Act has had a significant impact on Indigenous Peoples lives such as socio-economic poverty, high rates of suicide, and over-incarceration in the Justice System.

Q2 Comment on the relative powers of Elected Chiefs versus Hereditary Chiefs.

A: Jody referenced the conflict with the Wet’suwet’en First Nation Hereditary Chiefs, the blockade and the coastal gas link pipe-line, an issue that hasn’t been resolved yet. The Wet’suwet’en Nation is organized into five clans. Within each clan, there are two or three houses. It’s at the house level that chiefs hold hereditary title. Eight of the hereditary chiefs have clearly opposed the pipeline and this group signed an eviction letter to CGL in early January ordering workers off unceded Wet’suwet’en territory. The challenge comes between the elected Indian Act Chiefs and the Hereditary Chiefs. Governments need to create the space for these Nations to have conversations about how they are going to govern themselves. Until we allow Indigenous communities to sort out their governance, we won’t know who has the authority to speak for their territory, and more conflicts will arise.

Q3 Reconciliation – Comment on the degree of reconciliation between and within the Nations themselves.

A: There are always challenges and differences of opinion around the table. Many Nations experience internal conflict i.e. Wet’suwet’en. To advance true and meaningful reconciliation, the Federal Government has a responsibility to get their own house in order and to take on in earnest to foster transformative change. Equally, Nations need to have the hard conversations about how to deconstruct their colonial reality internally and externally, and there are differences in opinion about how to get there. Nations need the support of both Federal and Provincial Governments to enable this. In Jody’s Nation, there are 60 bands, and all don’t agree but all have the common goal of better quality of life.

Q4 What role does the United Nations Declaration on The Rights of Indigenous People (UNDRIP) play since it has been enacted in the Canadian law?

A: It is an International Human Rights doctrine that Canada embraced in 2016. Its 46 articles articulate the minimum standards for the survival, dignity and well-being of Indigenous Peoples. It provides a framework and guide for what true reconciliation can and should look like. Articles 3 and 4 speak to self-determination, to having the fiscal resources to run a government and speaks about self-government. Section 35 of our Constitution recognizes and affirms Aboriginal Treaty rights in this country that the United Nations articles assist us in articulating.

Q5 What are the challenges of serving as an Independent MP in reshaping the necessary factual information on national issues to be able to participate in effective debate?

A: There are many challenges. Jody states that she has the opportunity of expressing freely, unencumbered by the dictates of political parties the views and positions of the constituents of Vancouver Granville. MPs must be accountable and answerable to their constituents. Political partisanship and parties place challenges on our democracy. Jody believes that members of political parties have become more answerable to their leaders and the Prime Minister than they are to their constituents, and believes that this is the wrong way around.

Q6 Provide an overview of the trans-gender legislation passed in 2017 (Bill C16) and the effect of the recently passed bill C6, and are you in agreement with this new legislation?

A: In 2017 Jody brought forward Bill C16 as Minister of Justice. It amended the Canadian Human Rights Act to add gender identity and gender expression (those that identify themselves differently from male and female, for example) *Continued on page 4...*

## Cont'd - Last Month Speaker

as prohibited grounds of discrimination. It also amended the criminal code to add gender identity and gender expression as a distinct group to enable judges to use discrimination or hateful crimes that are against that group as an aggravating circumstance when sentencing. Bill C16 has had many iterations in parliament, and has received royal assent. Bill C6 is conversion therapy legislation that amends the criminal code to prevent forcing someone into conversion therapy, which she wholeheartedly supports.

Q7 What is your position on the cancellation of the Keystone XL pipeline, how this pipeline conformed to Canada's environmental targets, and the impact on indigenous employment.

A: This is a priority, a campaign promise of President Biden. Jody states that the current Canadian Federal Government is in full support and construction had started. It is a complex issue and has impact on jobs, the economy, and supporting the Province of Alberta. We need to continue to increase our environmental targets and move towards clean energy, but we need to understand that there is a necessary balance, and that we can't change overnight.

Q8 How do you define Indigenous Person, 100%, 50%?

A: The Indian Act seeks to identify by blood quantum (50% or more). This is very colonial and paternalistic. Indigenous communities must have the ability to determine who their citizens are and how they do that should be determined by them.

Q9 Do you think Canada can continue long-term to operate as a successful country with two classes of citizens – one that pays taxes and one that does not?

A: Not sure who is not paying taxes. Indigenous People do pay taxes – Jody states that she pays taxes. The reality is that if you live and work on Reserve, you do not have to pay taxes. In order to have a government you need to have the necessary resources to do that, so you need taxes and a share of fiscal pie that has been divided up from the Provinces and the Federal Government.

*Darlene Dean*



## Past President Art Eberwein



Sadly we were informed of Art Eberwein's passing this month. He was President of our club from September 2007 to August 2008. Fellow member Phil Boase has permitted us to share his tribute for Art.

"Art was the driving force behind forming the PROBUS Bridge Club the same year the Club was founded and was a playing member of the Bridge Club for many years.

Art was the author of "Art's Rules" a short and precise dissertation on basic rules of bridge. They covered bidding and play of the cards and was referred to many times by bridge club members. He will be missed by the general membership as well as our bridge club".

*Phil Boase*

## PROBUS Golf



Should you be a golfer and would be interested in joining a group of like minded PROBUS Members here is your opportunity.

Starting April 19 and each month thereafter until September we enjoy local courses on the Third Monday of each month.

For further information and to join please contact Roman Cehelnycky by email at [Rc2504@telus.net](mailto:Rc2504@telus.net).

*Phil Boase*



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**The PROBUS Club of North Shore Vancouver**

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

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

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