

Shorelines

NEWSLETTER OF THE PROBUS CLUB OF NORTH SHORE VANCOUVER

March 2023

www.probus-northshorevancouver.ca

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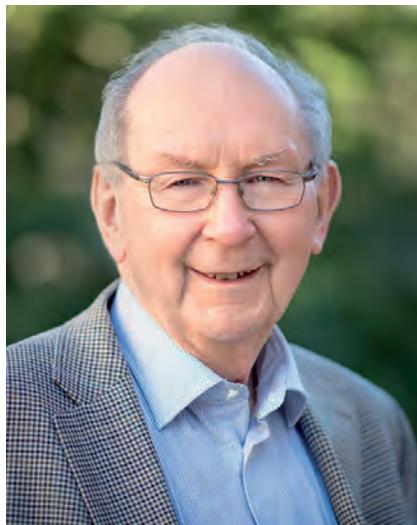
Monday, March 13th Meeting

West Vancouver Yacht Club, 5854 Marine Dr., Coffee/Buns 8:30, Meeting 9:30
with guest speaker

John Foster, Petroleum Economist,

“Petroleum and Geo-politics: War of the Titans”

“China, Russia, United States and Ukraine”



John Foster, an international oil economist with more than 40 years of experience, has held positions with the World Bank, Inter American Development Bank, Petro Canada and British Petroleum. In the past decade, he has given many talks on petroleum rivalries and conflicts at universities, foreign affairs groups, and associations across Canada. He has been interviewed on radio, TV and podcasts.

His articles have appeared in numerous newspapers, periodicals and websites. His book, *Oil and World Politics – the Real Story of Today’s Conflict Zones*, was published in 2018 by Lorimer Publishing. His research in 2008 on Afghanistan and pipeline politics, *A Pipeline Through a Troubled Land*, was published by the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives (over

200,000 downloads), and became banner headlines in the Globe and Mail.

Born in London England, he graduated from Cambridge University in economics and law. He served in the Royal Navy and went to Suez. He has worked in London, Montreal, Washington DC (twice), and Ottawa. John resides in Kingston Ontario. He visits family in Squamish twice a year and has arranged to be with us on March 13th. His interests include current affairs, cryptic crossword and choral singing.

Mark Your Calendars with These Important Dates



April 3rd, 2023 - Jennifer Abbott, Owner, Hear at Home Hearing Clinics, “How Is Your Hearing?”

May 8th, 2023 - Holly Calderwood, CPM, CLHMS, Real Estate Professional, “Real Estate Rules.”

President's Notes



You may remember back in January, I mentioned that PROBUS Canada was developing a marketing campaign to be rolled out later this year. They hired a marketing consultant, who decided their first recommendation should be to update the PROBUS logo, pins, and letterhead.

Apart from some standardization of type face, etc. the biggest suggested change was the PROBUS logo that they felt required modernization. They proposed what you see here. As you can see it certainly has a new modern look to it. However, our club's Management Committee felt that the logo, new or old, would have very little effect on membership recruitment and wouldn't be worth the cost of changing. So, like most of the clubs in BC District 2, we voted against the change. It appears that we were in the minority as most of the clubs across Canada voted in favour. Clubs are not required to make the change immediately, so we will use up the last of our letterhead and pins with the old logo, then order a new supply.



One thing we discovered in this process is that more and more clubs are no longer giving out pins to new members, and some of those that do, are charging members for their pins. Our Management Committee has no desire to start charging new members for their pins. Although we are wondering that, with the move towards more casual dress, just how many members actually wear their pins? We would like your opinion. Please mention it to any Management Committee member at our next meeting.

Gord Cook, President

Irish Blessing

*May your troubles be less and
your blessings be more
And nothing but happiness
come through your door.*

Special Events

Join Us on a Trip with NASA to the Moon!

Our Launchpad

The HR MacMillan Space Centre

Liftoff -March 31st at 10:00 am

Join us at the HR MacMillan Space Center for a private presentation of their new Star Theatre program "Forward! To the Moon" newly introduced in March. It illustrates the ambitious NASA Artemis program whose goal is to return astronauts to the moon, including the positioning of Gateway Habitation and Logistics Outpost similar to the International Space station but orbiting the moon, the placement of advanced rovers on the moon coupled with accommodation facilities near the moon's south pole. Gateway is designed to be a training ground for human exploration of Mars in the coming decades.

The program the Space Centre presents to the public will be augmented for us through the efforts of our Vice-president Terry McLeod, working in collaboration with MacDonald Detwiller (MDA), Canada's preeminent space technology company. MDA's role in the Artemis program including the development of Canadarm 3, the Canadian Lunar Rover as well as information about some of their other technologies for satellites and Mars exploration will be discussed.

This is an educational opportunity not offered to the public.

Our visit will include:

- Viewing of the Star Theatre program "Forward! To the Moon", hosted by their resident Astronomer, Marley, with discussion about the Gateway Habitation and Logistics Outpost.
 - A discussion with her about MDA technologies designed for lunar and space exploration.
 - We will see some satellite orbital tracks, learn about MDA's work on satellites and satellite missions, highlighting RADARSAT2 AND Radarsat Constellation Mission.
 - Fly to the Hubble Space Telescope to discuss Canadarm 1.
 - See a visual of the interior of the International Space Station as part of a discussion about Canadarm 2 & Dextre.
 - A Q&A session will follow with the staff astronomer about any space related question you may have.
 - Included are a tour of the facility's astronomical telescope and walk through of their interactive Cosmic Courtyard.
- cont'd on next page...*

Special Events

Tour Details:

- A 24 passenger West Van Seniors Activity Centre bus, departing the Seniors Centre at 9:15 am, has been booked for the convenience and fellowship of members preferring not to drive.
- Bus passengers will be taken to the Stanley Park Brewpub for a no-host lunch following our Space Centre visit.
- Cost for the outing, including bus, is \$30 per person or \$25 if you self-drive.
- Payment is required by March 20 and is non-refundable thereafter, regrettably.
- Payment accepted by E-transfer or by cheque payable to Probus Club of North Shore Vancouver mailed to Probus Club of North Shore Vancouver, P.O. Box 92042, West Vancouver B.C., V7V 4X4

Doug Magoon, Special Events Chair



Vice President Terry McLeod welcomes new members.



New Members Introduced and Welcomed at February Meeting



Alastair Campbell was born in Vancouver and has lived in North Vancouver for 27 years. Alastair has a B.Comm degree from UBC and a MBA from Oregon.

His business career involved Financial Consulting. He worked for Dupont of Canada and managed Regency Medical Supplies until retirement in 2005. Alastair is active in hiking, cycling and snowshoeing.



Barry Forward is a native Vancouverite and has lived on the North Shore for over 25 years.

Barry is an Executive Coach and has received certification from Royal Roads University and other associations. He has worked as a broadcaster, journalist and in public relations. His interests include hiking, skiing, various board games, reading and Spanish. Furthermore, Barry is involved with the BC soccer referees association and NV Recreation and Culture Commission.



Bob Macpherson was born in Montreal and has lived on the North Shore for 16 years. He received a B.Comm from the University of Calgary focusing on accounting. Bob's career involved investment banking, real estate finance and private

equity in Canada as well as Hong Kong. Among his interests include wine collecting, fishing, travel and audiophile. Other interests involve the Alternative Investment Management Association and various Hong Kong Investment Associations.

PROBUS Golf and Bridge Groups

The **PROBUS Golf Club** commenced in 2009. Normally golf events are held on the 3rd Monday of the months of April through September.

The events are held at a variety of courses throughout the Lower Mainland. Each event starts around 1:00 PM



and generally all players remain at the selected course for a libation and something to eat.

There is no requirement to register for all the events, only those that fit your schedule. If you are

interested in more information, please contact **Roman** by email.

Submitted by Roman Cehelnycky



The **PROBUS Bridge Club**, which has been in existence since the PROBUS Club on the North Shore was formed in 2003, continues to provide bridge challenges and camaraderie to all who play. Covid has played a large part in how the club now operates. The Bridge Club caters

to players who wish to play face to face only, to those who wish to play online only and to those who wish to play both. There are three seasons a year: January through March, April through June and September through early December. Each season culminates with a face to face gathering at the Senior's Activity Centre in West Vancouver where we gather to enjoy each other's company and play bridge. Further, we recognise the winning player for the season with a gift and congratulations.

The bridge is enjoyable but what makes our Club special are the friendships that are made through playing every week and getting to know your PROBUS colleagues in a special way. If you have some bridge skills and would like to explore whether our bridge group can add value to your life, then please contact Barry Heselgrave by phone or by email.

Submitted by Barry Heselgrave



Last Month Speaker - Rod Day



VP Terry McLean (L) , Speaker Rod Day, Historian, Author(C), and Ron Wood, Past President

Rod Day has served West Vancouver in a variety of ways on committees, task forces and council during the last 50 years. He served 4 terms on Council, until 1996. He ran again in 2003 and served 2 terms until 2008, at which time he retired. He has written a book called "Inside West Vancouver- People, Politics and Planning since 1912" and brought some copies to offer our members for \$25.00.

His particular interest was the acquisition and protection of the waterfront from Ambleside to Dundarave. He is currently a member of the Navy Jack citizens group.

Coming to Vancouver in 1966, he was an assistant professor at Simon Fraser University. He was an American citizen and later became a Canadian citizen, and relinquished his American citizenship as you could not be a dual citizen at that time. Although not interested in politics when moving here, as time went on this changed.

West Vancouver was a nice town when he moved here, but it was growing and changing rapidly. There were 10,000 people in the 60's and many projects being discussed that would dramatically change the nature of West Vancouver. This got him involved and he joined the "Citizens Planning Forum" which was founded in 1969 to oppose some of these developments. By 1971 he was President of the Forum. A couple of examples of their opposition was the high-rise development at Ambleside that was proposed for the beach area, and the Cypress Bowl Ski Resort. It was discovered that the logging going on up there wasn't for ski slopes, but for mining the yellow cedar. After years of opposition to different proposals for Cypress, the government came in and built what is there now.

Joining with ratepayers groups also interested in seeing good development, a good relationship was formed with West Van Mayors and Council. He sees West Vancouver as being unusual in their planning approach and more aware of environmental consequences of proposals brought to them than many other municipalities. *Cont'd next page...*

Last Month Speaker - Rod Day

The Forum ended in the 1980's, a victim of its own success. Several members ran for council and Rod Day was elected in 1987 and served under various mayors over 10 years.

The seawall from Dundarave to John Lawson Park was built during this time. An extension to Ambleside was proposed but there were houses on 32 lots along the way that did not want a seawall in front of them. In 1975 West Van decided to purchase these homes as they came up for sale and tear them down to enable the seawall extension. It has taken 50 years to buy up all but 2 homes, and one of these sold recently (Jimmy Pattison's) leaving one more to go.

When Mark Sager was elected in the 80's, Rod Day decided to continue working on Council, and did so for another 10 years. He left and came back again in 2003, for another 6 years. At this time the issues were waterfront and Upper Levels planning which was an interest of his. The houses were large in the British Properties and many trees were coming down, which was concerning. There are 19 creeks, unlevel terrain and thick forest. The "Rogers Creek Working Group" was formed under Pamela Goldsmith-Jones. Many excellent consultants were hired to study the terrain. Going west, development focused on multifamily homes and preserved 50% of the woodlands in doing so.

West Vancouver has done very well, and credit goes to the citizens that come forward to volunteer and support the various initiatives. But...there are clouds on the horizon. We have attempted to grow a garden city. We didn't expect the amount of international notice taken of us which resulted in offshore purchase for speculation and investment. As a result, prices skyrocketed, and our kids aren't able to purchase homes and live here. There is renewed focus on affordable housing and council is doing their best to deal with issues that arise. The main thing is that everyone is concerned with public benefit, and this is a good thing. If you always lead with public benefit, it will turn out well. That is why today we live in such a gorgeous community.

Questions:

Q1. Third crossing?

A. We were worried about that in the 60's along with Cypress Bowl. We fought it and I don't know if that was a good thing or not. In those days we were so opposed to growth. We just had a different vision. I wasn't alone - there were a lot of residents opposed as well.

Q2. What are your comments about the lack of linkage between planning in West Van and transportation infrastructure?

A. I don't have an answer to that. One of the problems we have is that a lot of the challenges facing West Van really refer more to the province. We sit on the Board of Translink and have some influence, but Translink makes

the decisions in the final analysis. Considering the B-Line proposal that was strongly opposed by citizens and business that now stops at Park Royal, I don't know what will be done about it. I know we have a labour shortage but when Ottawa wants to bring in over 1 Million people over two years, I don't know where we are going to put them all and it will affect traffic. In planning we do the best that we can, as with housing and rentals to make it possible for middle class to live here.

Q3. Right now, we have the District of West Vancouver, The District of North Vancouver, and the City of North Vancouver. When are we going to put them all together?

A. It was originally the case prior to 1912 - they were all united and West Van was called Capilano West. I often wonder why the District and the City of North Vancouver don't unite ...but North Van district is really more like West Van and the city of North Van is more like Vancouver. Right now, we have lots of citizen input and it might be harder if we have 200,000 people across the North Shore.

Q4. During your presentation you alluded to the shortage of housing that is exacerbated by speculators. What do you think the problem would be with changing legislation such that you must be a Canadian citizen to buy a house?

A. Well, we have some pretty good legislation already. Foreigners can't buy property here but they get around it by having a student live in the house. They don't pay much in income tax and this is clearly a problem with satellite families and things like that. But provinces have, and in particular B.C., introduced legislation to address this and even Ottawa came in but were a little late to the game. People shouldn't speculate on people's properties and people's lives. Your home is your castle, home is where your heart is (using some cliches). The British Properties and Cypress Development groups are making some progress on these issues by construction of multi-family homes and forest preservation.

Q5. It appears councils are often led by Vancouver in their policies. The proposals are largely "Anti-car". Currently a proposal in West Van will provide only 40 parking spots for something over 200 studio apartments. Can you comment on the trend of being "anti-car"?

A. I agree. It is hard to manage without a car, but people are doing it. There are no young people coming to West Van. The problem with these units is that they are not big enough for families. What we need is housing for families and not just for individuals. It is a step in the right direction, but I agree there are some anti-car mentalities. I get annoyed by all the speed bumps and 30 mph zones on Fulton and Bellevue.

This summary was prepared by member Darlene Dean

A Little Humour To Enjoy

I said I was good at making decisions. I didn't say the decisions I made were good.

The ability to speak several languages is an asset, but the ability to keep your mouth shut in any language is priceless.

Never confuse education with intelligence.

Studies show, the most expensive vehicle to operate, is a Costco shopping cart.

TODAY'S WORK FROM HOME TIP: BLOWING ON THE WINE IN THE MUG WILL HELP CONVINCЕ YOUR ZOOM MEETING THAT YOUR TEA IS HOT

IF A WOMAN SAYS
"DO WHAT YOU WANT"
DO NOT DO WHAT YOU WANT
STAND STILL
DO NOT BLINK
DON'T EVENT BREATH
JUST PLAY DEAD



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

linda@probus-northshorevancouver.ca