

Shorelines

NEWSLETTER OF THE PROBUS CLUB OF NORTH SHORE VANCOUVER

August 2023

www.probus-northshorevancouver.ca

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Management Committee

President:
Gord Cook

Vice President:
Terry McLeod

Secretary:
David Walker

Treasurer:
Gordon Adair

Past President:
Darryl Stodalka

Communications:
Steve Wilson

House:
Rick Ryan

Membership:
Dale Douglas

Speakers:
Gordi Moore

Special Events:
Doug Magoon

Monday, August 14th, 2023 Meeting

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

with guest speaker

**Tyler Zickel, Broadcasting and Media Relations,
Vancouver Canadians Baseball**



Tyler Zickel is the Broadcasting & Media Relations Manager for the Vancouver Canadians, High-A affiliate of the Toronto Blue Jays, and is the team's radio and television voice for all 132 games each season. 2023 marks his ninth season in Minor League Baseball and his sixth in the Blue Jays organization.

Tyler joined the Canadians in 2021 while the club played their home games out of Hillsboro, OR and has been with the team ever since.

Before the C's, Tyler served as the Director of Promotions & Entertainment and Road Radio Broadcaster for the Double-A New Hampshire Fisher Cats. Over the course of three seasons in Manchester, he oversaw the entire in-game presentation and promotions departments while traveling throughout the Eastern League calling 'Cats games.

He began his MiLB career in 2014 as a communications intern for the Advanced-A Lake Elsinore Storm in Southern California before becoming a full-time staffer the following year. He made his professional baseball radio debut with the Storm in 2015 and handled the middle innings of road games for the rest of his tenure.

A native of San Diego, CA, Tyler grew up a Padres fan and continues to keep the faith. He earned his B.A. in English from Whittier College in Los Angeles, where he played on the Poets baseball team and was elected Student Body President.

Mark Your Calendars with These Important Dates



September 11th, 2023 - Annual General Meeting and

20th Anniversary Celebration

October 2nd - Margaret Coates, Coordinator, Lionsview Seniors Planning Society, "Ageism"

President's Notes



September 16, 2003

was the date of the inaugural meeting of The Probus Club of North Shore Vancouver. The meeting started with coffee at 9:30 am, there was no speaker, but there was a \$5.00 charge for the coffee.

Join us on September 11, 2023, as we reflect on the past 20 years, and acknowledge the remarkable journey we have embarked upon together. It will be a time to reminisce, reconnect, and set new goals for the years ahead.

We invite all club members, both past and present, to join us in this grand gathering. Whether you have been with us from the very beginning or recently joined our ranks, your presence will be a testament to the enduring spirit of our club. It will be a joyous occasion to reunite with old friends, forge new connections, and relish in the accomplishments we have achieved collectively.

If you have any information regarding previous members who are no longer part of our organization, we kindly request you to share their contact details with us so that we can extend them an invitation to reconnect. We would greatly appreciate your assistance in helping us reach out to these former members and encourage them to get in touch with us.

Please stay tuned for further details regarding our anniversary celebration.

By now you will have received your renewal notices for the upcoming year, and noticed that we have had to increase our annual fees to \$90.00. Our first increase in 5 years. We've held our annual fee at \$80.00 since 2018. Then in 2021 during the COVID pandemic, we reduced it as we no longer incurred expenses for monthly meetings. Thankfully, we have now resumed our regular meeting schedule. Like everyone else inflation has impacted us over the past 5 years, and in order to ensure the club's sustainability, we need to establish a solid financial foundation going forward.

Where else for only \$90.00 per year (less than 2 Mocha Grandes a month), can you gain access to a vibrant community of retired and semi-retired professionals, experience a wide range of activities, social connections, intellectual stimulation, community engagement, and ...

unlimited no charge coffee!

Gord Cook, President



Special Events

An interesting **Capilano Watershed Tour** was held on July 27th. There will be a our full report about it in next month's issue.

Seymour Salmonid Society Visit September 14th

A visit to the Seymour Salmonid Society fish hatchery facility in the Lower Seymour Conservation Reserve, has been organized by Arvind Thakore, Special Events Committee member, for September 14th. You will learn about hatchery operation and the activities of this society dedicated to the preservation and improvement of the Lower



Seymour River as good spawning habitat for the species that frequent it. If you wish to attend this informative event, contact Arvind.

20th Anniversary Celebration September 11th

The 20th Anniversary of the founding of our PROBUS Club will be celebrated at our regularly scheduled September 11th club meeting at the West Vancouver Yacht Club. The celebration will focus on fellowship, recognition of key builders of our club, and a presentation about the founding of the PROBUS Club concept, its activities internationally and in Canada, the history of the founding of our club and an overview of some of our club's accomplishments over the past 20 years. That presentation will be followed by a lunch for participating members. Space is limited for this member only event. If you wish to attend please email Doug Magoon.

Christmas Luncheon December 11th

Our Christmas Luncheon, to be held on December 11th at the West Vancouver Yacht Club, will feature Madison Mailey, Canadian Gold medal winner at the 2021 Japan Olympics in 8-shell rowing as our guest speaker. Her presentation has been described as most impressive and inspiring by those who have witnessed it. We are honoured to have her join us for our Christmas event. Details about sign-up for this event will follow in October.

Doug Magoon, Chair Special Events Committee

HR MacMillan Space Center Event Review

The event presentation and tour were outstanding. Our Secretary, Dave Walker, an amateur astronomer, summed it perfectly – ‘Wow’. This was the first public viewing of their new space program, ‘Forward to the Moon’. Added to this was a special overview of Canada’s leading space equipment designer and satellite manufacturer, MacDonald Dettweiler Associates. MDA is also the most advanced provider of earth mapping with its Radarsat satellite network.

The presenting astronomer, Marley, delivered a brilliant presentation totally ‘in-the-dark’ as we sat, laid-back in our 180° view space seats. It was a perfect, non-stop delivery of information complete with visual illustration and interpretation of space technology. The 30-minute Artemis II moon movie was followed by the Low Earth Orbiting (LEO) satellite communications program. She had a remarkable delivery style including dynamic explanations to questions posed during Q&A – Dark matter? What about aliens? Hopefully a repeat will be done in our new year. The following lunch at Stanley’s was full of good food and CHATTER.

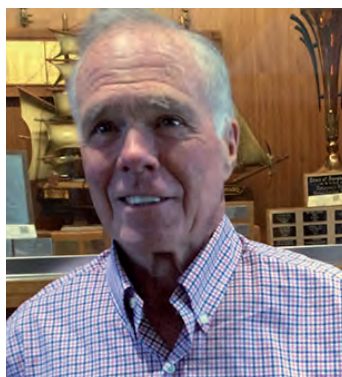
Terry Mcleod (for Doug Magoon, Special Events Chair)



New Members Introduced and Welcomed at July Meeting



Tony Skeans was born in North Vancouver and has resided on the North Shore for most of his life. He worked in his family business from 1971 to 2017. His role was in sales and in 2017 he retired as VP Sales with 7 branch offices reporting to him. His interests include boating and travelling with a trailer as well he is a member of Fit Fellas.



Graham Wilson was born Scotland and has resided in Deep Cove for the past 20 plus years. Graham holds a B. Science from McGill and an MBA from Western. He worked in the financial area for several companies including West-coast Energy, PetroCanada, McMillan Blodel and Genstar in Vancouver, Calgary and Montreal. Graham's interests include golf and tennis and is also a member of the Vancouver Probus club.



President Gord welcomes our new members.



Call for MC Nominations

Nominations Committee is in the process of establishing recommendations for the 2023/2024 Management Committee which is normally elected at our September Annual General Meeting. I have included our bylaw related to this.

Bylaw No. 4 – Election of Officers

1. A Nominating Committee consisting of the President- Elect, President and a Past President (if available, otherwise a Club member in good standing) shall present to the Annual General Meeting a slate of candidates for election to the Management Committee.
2. Any further nominations (with prior consent to stand) shall be conveyed to the Nominating Committee at least 14 days prior to the Annual Meeting.
3. When more than one candidate is nominated for an office, voting for that position shall be by ballot.

We have recruited David Walker as Secretary, Gordon Adair as Treasurer, Gordi Moore as Speakers Chair, Darryl Stodalka as Communicaitons Chair, Alec Campbell as House Chair, Steve Wilson as Special Events Chair and Rick Ryan as VP, Terry McLeod will fill the President position, and Gordon Cook will remain on the MC as Past-President. Currently, the position for Membership Chair is still vacant.

We are still open to nominations for positions on the management team. If you have any interest to fill this position, please give me a call at 604-921-7393 or send an email to Gord Cook

Gord Cook President

Membership Renewals

On July 14th, members were emailed their renewal invoice for **\$90,00** for their 2023-2024 Probus membership, which is due by August 31, 2023. Payment may be made by cheque or by e-transfer using Interac. Instructions were included in the renewal message. A desk will be set up at the August meeting to receive cheque payments.



TIME TO RENEW
YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUES!

Please indicate by return email if there are any updates required in your personal information such as changes in your home address, email address, telephone number, etc. to ensure that you receive information on club activities.

Your prompt response will be greatly appreciated. **Note that if you are paying by Interac, please ensure that you use the email listed in your renewal form.** Feel free to contact me should you have any questions or concerns contact Dale Douglas. We have an exciting pro-gram planned for the coming year including the speaker for next June (*see next page*).

Dale Douglas, Membership Chair

Don't Miss Our June 2024 Speaker

The dangers of AI that have been keeping people up at night are misplaced, writes Nir Eisikovits, a professor of philosophy at the University of Massachusetts, Boston.

The technology is nowhere near being capable of causing mass chaos or of killing off all human life as many worry, he says, but is on the cusp of supplanting vital features of the human mind: sound judgment, critical thinking, and adaptability

Learn more at our June 2024 meeting, (12 months from now), with speaker Issam Laradji, a research scientist who works at a company called ServiceNow Research and also works part-time at the University of British Columbia.

As Speaker Chair, I've been digging into the subject, "AI ... ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE" ... and learning of its impact, now and in the future. If you want to know more search here from this list of AI Experts::

1. **Andrew Ng** - The co-founder of Google Brain and DeepLearning.ai. and was the former Chief Scientist at Baidu, building the company's AI Group
2. **Yann LeCun** – Chief AI Scientist at Facebook & Silver Professor at the Courant Institute, New York University
3. **Geoffrey Hinton** – A pioneer in the field of deep learning. is a British-Canadian cognitive psychologist and computer scientist.
4. **Fei-Fei Li** – The director of the Stanford Artificial Intelligence Lab. She is known for her work on computer vision and has made significant contributions to the field of AI.
5. **Daphne Koller** – The co-founder of Coursera, an online education platform. She is known for her work on machine learning.
6. **Sebastian Thrun** – The CEO of Kitty Hawk, a flying car company. He is known for his work on self-driving cars and has made significant contributions to the field of AI.
7. **Pedro Domingos** – A professor at the University of Washington. He is known for his work on machine learning and has made significant contributions to the field of AI.
8. **Andrew McCallum** – The director of the University of Massachusetts Amherst's Center for Data Science.
9. **Demis Hassabis** – The co-founder and CEO of DeepMind, an AI company that was acquired by Google.
10. **Ruslan Salakhutdinov** – The director of the Machine Learning Department at Carnegie Mellon University. He is known for his work on machine learning.

Gordi Moore, Speaker Chair

Last Month Speaker Gordon Maynard



President Gord thanks speaker Gordon Maynard.

“Canada Immigration Then and Now”

Presenter Gordon H. Maynard, A founding member of MKS Immigration Lawyers LLP

The first immigration act was in effect from 1978-2002 during which time the Government of Canada started a five-year process to develop a new act to replace this one which had become cumbersome and ineffective in many circumstances. Specific reasons cited were:

- Was old, after 25 years.
- Immigrant economic categories were no longer in Canada's interest - Self-employed, entrepreneur, family class, retired, and independent.
- The digital world needed new processes and tools. The old Act was rigid and slow to change, we needed agility. Pools and streams instead of shoeboxes.
- New enforcement schemes and mechanisms were needed. Frustrations with enforcement of abandonment of PR (Permanent Resident) status and lack of consequences for misrepresentation.

The immigration process was changed significantly during the review. Misrepresentation had been the most problematic issue where applicants provided false papers for themselves and for family/children who were not theirs but the papers perported them to be. Consequences needed to apply in these situations. In addition, Permanent Resident residency requirements were updated, and a comprehensive and coherent Refugee process was developed. The changes improved the agility and responsiveness of immigration staff processing the claims.

Minister's Instructions were developed and the first one was issued in 2005, to modify implementation of the Spouse/Partner in Canada class of sponsorship. This simplified the process

Last Month Speaker Gordon Maynard

greatly as Minister's Instructions replaced the need for policy changes to provide interpretations without re-writing the Act. Minister's Instructions are published and become effective as soon as they are written. Since then, there have been more than 70 Ministerial Instructions issued and more than 100 Ministerial Public Policy directions.

They are classified into two groups:

1. Those regarding the management of Economic Stream Immigration and processes, and in particular the Express Entry scheme. Persons submit an "expression of interest" into the Express Entry pool. Every month, the government selects a number of candidates from the pool based on a Comprehensive Ranking Score, and issues invitations to apply to qualifying candidates. Express Entry, which is for selection and control of Economic Immigrant Streams, came into effect in 2015 for new applications and for dealing with the backlog of cases (7-8 years) that had piled up. This enabled targeting of specific occupations for entry into Canada, thus giving Canada control. In 1976, Family class made up 60% and in 2022, Economic made up 58%.
2. Those addressing other immigration goals, such as temporary measures, pilot programs and modifications to other temporary and permanent residency programs.

The immigrant categories were updated to reflect what Canada needed. In 2008, the Canadian Experience class was implemented which meant that applicants needed work experience in Canada and could speak English.

Permanent residency requirements were updated to say that a PR must comply with a residency obligation with respect to every 5 year period including:

PR must have at least 730 days in that 5 year period - physically present in Canada; outside Canada accompanying a Canadian citizen who is their spouse or, in the case of a child, their parent; outside Canada employed on a full-time basis by a Canadian citizen who is their spouse, or in the case of a child, their parent; or outside Canada employed on a full-time basis by a Canadian business or in the federal public administration or the public service of a province.

Every PR is given their first PR Card, valid for five years. This card is necessary to travel commercially to Canada as evidence of their PR status, and also for Health coverage, Driver's Licence, schooling, etc. When a card expires, the PR is still a PR, but to obtain a new PR card, the PR must demonstrate compliance with the residency obligation in the previous 5 years.

For a new applicant for permanent residency, they must produce the required documents and appear for an examination by an Immigration Officer to answer questions.

Fraud is a huge issue for immigration. He spoke of 3 immigration companies of consultants (not lawyers) in different countries, and described some circumstances arising as fraud. Some big cases coming out of China where the consultant would arrange for a passport to be stamped as coming in and out of China in relation to residency requirements. Another where a "job" was created so that an individual could show they have a job. By rotating money for a job that doesn't exist the indi-

vidual would get a payroll advice showing monthly payments. An office was raided where fraudulent work permits, and other documentation were seized. Another case was a client that paid \$750,000 to an employer to provide for him a false work history and the employer instead absconded with the money. Altogether there were thousands of files apprehended. All these cases were investigated, the individual's status revoked as a result, and the individuals deported from Canada.

Current Immigration Numbers - 2022

Economic Immigrants - All categories - ESW 40,930 (31m); CEC 28,692 (20m); Que. SW 40,041; PNP 88,000 (24m); other 56,684

(Total: 254,347 58%)

FAMILY - Spouse/partners/children 69,953 (18m); Parents and Grandparents 27,196 (38m)

(Total: 97,149 22%)

HUMANITARIAN - Refugees abroad 46,381; Refugees inland 18,717; Handicapped 8,593; Other 10,801

(Total: 84,492 19%)

OTHER - 1,285

GRAND TOTAL 437,273

Questions

Q1. To what extent are these targets current and to what extent are they pursued?

A. I don't know if they set specific numbers but there are things they want to achieve. It is more advice to parliament on what to expect in the coming year. For years parliament has said they want the economic immigration at 60%, and they more or less are achieving this.

Q2. Why does the government tolerate consultants?

A. I think it is just politics. No party wants to lose votes from the ethnic community. We are now going through the third body to try and regulate consultants.

Q3. How fast can the government change priorities to get people in the right jobs? By the time the occupation groups are found, the country's requirements have changed and the people don't match to them anymore.

A. For 2023, the government is targeting categories including French language proficiency; science, technology, and math occupations; and transportation occupations. This list came out in June. If things change, it doesn't take much time to make a minister's instruction. It is implemented right away. What takes the time is getting people here. Express Entry is supposed to take 6 months, and this was the case before the pandemic. The pandemic changed everything, and still is ...he doesn't know how many government workers are actually back in the office. This was not a system that was intended to be done from home. It is a very complex global management system that links all offices and agencies to every single foreign worker and immigrant in Canada. There is a massive amount of information that wasn't intended to be handled from home. Right now there are 2.5 mil-

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lion applications of all types backlogged in inventory. The big problem is the backlog in processing these applications, not in selection.

Q4. How does what Canada is doing align with what other countries are doing, and is there an effort to do so? Is there a moral aspect to taking top talent from other countries?

A. Do we pay attention to what other countries are doing? Yes. Canada is one of 5 western countries that have major immigration programs. In many ways we are thought to do it better than anywhere else. In other ways they are watching to see how things go and pay attention. We share information on what we do. Our goal is to build a new country and not to be fair to everyone in the world. Our first priority is to make sure we are meeting our economic goals.

Q5. I read that last year Canada brought in one million immigrants. What criteria do refugees have to pass? How successful are they in immigrating into Canada?

A. A tough question. Refugees don't immigrate into Canada. They come into Canada in two ways - by government sponsorship overseas, and sponsorship by a group of 5 overseas. The UNACR keeps track of millions of refugees all over the world, many in refugee camps. The UNACR asks governments to take refugees. Canada does a good job of relocating about 50,000 per year. In 2022 we had about 60,000. Canada is an Island and very hard to get to, so we don't have thousands of people landing on our shores as refugees. In contrast, Germany had over 100,000 last year.

Q6. We now have a 100 million refugees worldwide. India and China are huge. What do you think is the prospect of collapse of our system?

A. I think that every country has an obligation to protect its borders and to manage its immigrant flow. The Canadian population has to buy into our system and trust it if we are to be successful. There are lots of people that want to come here and it is the job of the Government to control that flow. The balance can be tipped if there is badmouthing about the program. How it is portrayed goes to building trust and support.

Q7. Is there any attempt to control the geography of where people end up in the system?

A. An interesting problem. Quebec was vilified by other provinces for their investment program where immigrants paid to go there. Once there, they could leave and go anywhere they wanted. As an immigrant you have mobility rights under the Charter. The PNP's (Provincial Nominee Process) tie you down to staying where you apply for 2-5 years. Once they get their permanent residence, they can go anywhere they want.

This summary was prepared by Member Darlene Dean

the **\$**cribe

A Little Humour to Enjoy

HACKER: 'I have all your passwords'
ME: 'OMG thank you! What are they?'



**A police officer
came to my house
and asked me where
I was between 5 & 6.
He seemed irritated
when I answered:
"Kindergarten"**



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Editorial contributions and comments are
welcomed by contacting the administrator.