

Shorelines

NEWSLETTER OF THE PROBUS CLUB OF NORTH SHORE VANCOUVER

April 2024

www.probus-northshorevancouver.ca

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Management Committee

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Terry McLeod

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Rick Ryan

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David Walker

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Past President:
Gordon Cook

Communications:
Darryl Stodalka

House:
Alex Campbell

Membership:
Ron Ash

Speakers:
Gordi Moore

Special Events:
Steve Wilson

Monday, April 8th, 2024 Meeting

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

**Conner Da Silva, Community and Education Program
Coordinator, Port of Vancouver**



Conner Da Silva is a Community and Education Program Coordinator at the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority. In his role, Conner leads educational field trips designed for students in grades 4 to 6, where students learn about the significance of the port in their day-to-day lives.

Conner is part of the Community Relations team, which serves to build connections with local communities, and is part of the Port of Vancouver's Community Investment committee.

The Vancouver Fraser Port Authority is an arm's-length federal agency responsible for the shared stewardship of the lands and waters that make up the Port of Vancouver, Canada's largest port. Their mandate, as outlined in the Canada Marine Act, is to enable Canada's trade objectives on behalf of all Canadians, ensuring goods are moved safely through the Port of Vancouver, while protecting the environment and considering local communities. They have established a vision for the Port

of Vancouver to be the world's most sustainable port.



Mark Your Calendars with These Important Dates



May 13th - Karen Tyrell, Dementia Consultant

June 10th - Michael Geller, Principal, The Geller Group

July 8th - Issam Laradji – Professor – Artificial Intelligence, UBC

President's Notes



At the last Management Committee meeting the subject of returning to more humour for our monthly meetings was discussed. Little did I know my esteemed VP, Rick Ryan, who never misses an engaging opportunity, took charge of the last meeting to jump into action using my 'missing in action due to Daylight Saving time change'. Of course, I took this in stride for the benefit of attending members. But sincerely, thanks Rick for generously hosting the meeting as I was in Victoria. Once again, we're having good WVYC turnouts primarily due to interesting topics and should continue looking forward to the coming speaker lineup. For further information, history and photos, visit our website (probus-northshorevancouver.ca)

Continuing with club activities, our Special Events Sub-Committee Member, Arvind Thakore, staged another exciting event to TRIUMF at UBC (*see page 4*). The next event occurs on May 9th to the Vancouver Aquarium (*see right column*). Steve Wilson's Sub-Committee Member, Alastair Campbell, is undertaking special arrangements - stay tuned. The final Spring activity announcement is the Golf Group with their course commencement starting in April. Interested members should contact **Phil Boase**.

Being halfway through this Probus year, I wish to thank our Management Committee for their work ensuring the club is well positioned keeping it on track for a healthy future. It's a fun group and I encourage qualified members to join as two positions, Secretary and Speaker Chair, need to be filled by this Probus year-end. Also, our Scribe, Darlene Dean, is looking for a sub-committee member to assist her speaker reviews for the newsletter. This will provide her opportunity for more sailing next year. If anyone enjoys writing reviews, it's a short monthly task working from a video recording. For further details please contact our Communications Chair, Darryl Stodalka.

To our membership, I welcome any comments on club activities and other interests. Remember, being together is stimulating to longevity – Get Connected, Stay Connected

Terry McLeod, President



Special Events

Vancouver Aquarium Tour Thursday, May 9th, 2024

This tour is early as it occurs before the Aquarium opens to the public. The facility has undergone a massive renovation, and it is now more exciting than ever. You will be thrilled with the trip.

To register please contact **Alastair Campbell**. If you want to go by bus, e-transfer \$5.00 to him or pay \$5.00 to him at the bus. **DO NOT** contact the Seniors Activity Centre for this trip.

Timing: Bus Transport from SAC (WV Senior Activity Center)

- 7:15 am (Bus leaves at 7:30am).
- Bus arrives 8:10am.

For cyclists and auto transport:

- Arrive at North End of the Vancouver Aquarium parking area by 8:00am.
- Cyclists can park for free.
- Car parking fees apply in the Aquarium lot.

The tour starts at 8:15 at the Aquaquest Entrance (North End of building). You will be taken on an Otter-ly Awesome tour. 8:15 - 11:30 am. A Handout will be provided at start of the tour.

Lunch: 12:15 lunch at 'Stanley's in the Park' a short walk from the Aquarium's main entrance.

There is no charge for the Aquarium tour, but it would be appreciated if you would buy something for your grandchildren in the gift shop as you leave.

Bus will return passengers from the restaurant at 2:00pm arriving at SAC at 2:30pm.

'Sea you there'

Alastair Campbell, Special Events Committee



New Member Introduced and Welcomed at March Meeting



Stuart MacRitchie hails from Paisley, Scotland and has been a resident of North Vancouver for 27 years.

Stuart has a bachelor of topographic science from the university of Glasgow. Stuart also has a Master of Science in surveying engineering from the university of new Brunswick in Fredericton NB. He also was a photogrammetrist certified by the American society for photogrammetry and remote sensing. Stuart describes his career as geomatics engineering. He has worked in the survey engineering department at the University of New Brunswick, worked for McElhanney Ltd. in Vancouver and the United Nations development program, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, and Triathlon/MacDonald Dettwiler Associates in Vancouver.

His interests include genealogy, travel, the 51st highland division, WWII, and POW experiences for the past 12 years. Stuart has been the treasurer of the Eagle Nest Strata Corporation.



Above: Vice President Rick Ryan welcomes new member Stuart MacRitchie

Below: VP Rick Ryan thanks speaker Jeanette Ageson



Tour of TRIUMF

A total of 27 members participated in this exciting tour on March 6. The guides for the tour Sakshi Kakkar and Michel Gennari were frontline researchers who took us on a journey to the subatomic world. We were shown the cyclotron producing intense proton beams, pet scanner used in medical facility and models of small cyclotrons that are portable and are in place at UBC hospital and VGH so that radioactive drugs with short half life do not require transportation. Their research on Anti matter, new radiopharmaceuticals which are chelated on an organic molecule and thus can arrive and released at the target cancer cell causing very little collateral damage on good cells.

The lunch at Browns Craft House at UBC was very good. We all returned to West Vancouver Senior Centre at 2:00 pm digesting the mind blowing information on Particle physics.

“TRIUMF is one of three subatomic research facilities in the world that specialize in producing extremely intense beams of particles. The heart of the facility is the world’s biggest cyclotron, which is used to accelerate 1000 trillion particles each second.

TRIUMF is also a centre for the practical application of this basic research: It is the only centre in Canada using proton therapy to treat eye-cancers, and in the past was one of two centres in the world where pion beams were used on an experimental basis to destroy brain cancers in human patients.

TRIUMF researchers have built a Positron Emission Tomograph (“PET Scanner”), one of only three operating in Canada, used at the UBC hospital for specialized brain scans.

Scientists at TRIUMF are participating in developing new radiopharmaceuticals, microchips, computer software, original new designs for small cyclotrons, remote-controlled equipment, analysis of mineral samples, and many other high-tech innovations.”

Arvind Thakore, Special Events Committee



Last Month Speaker - Jeanette Ageson, Publisher, Tye News

The Tye organization was described as a 20 year experiment in independent online journalism. To start the presentation, She explained the old business model for newspapers and magazines, where funding/revenues for them was provided mainly through advertising, subscriptions, and newsstand sales. This model was extremely profitable. The days of classified ads were lucrative, being the main way to look for jobs, items, services etc. Subscription revenue paid for the cost of printing and delivery to households and newsstands. From the mid-20th Century to the mid 1990's the news barons of the past were created.

Eventually, the internet came along and shut this down, as technology provided a whole new way to present news and information that did not depend on advertisers, classified ads and subscriptions. The internet lowered the cost of entry to create specialty sites for niche publications ... including the Tye. The first major blow to the news industry revenues was the introduction of Craigslist. The second major blow was Google and Facebook targeted ads, and the third blow came when news was blocked by Facebook. Google and Facebook created a better mouse-trap. In 2003, they offered open source software that dramatically reduced the cost of entry (no printing required). Since 2008 there has been a lot of turmoil in the industry including consolidations, mergers, and businesses closing. A lot of new outlets started up during this time but not all survived past the 2nd or 3rd year of operation.

It is not all bad news. Digital publications lend themselves to different models:

1. Clickbait – big audience and cheap to produce articles
2. Information that gives you the edge which is like a closed Linked-In group
3. Community of Values – provides open access to readers and offers original content. This is the Tye model. Does not offer “breaking news” but goes deeper on stories of interest thereby offering more quality to readers.

The Tye News is a non-profit organization and depends upon voluntary donations from “Tye Builders“ as well as other supporters highlighted below, to cover their editorial costs. The “Tye Builders” are readers who contribute a bit of money at a level and frequency of their choice. They rely on 6,500 subscribers that pay monthly as well as thousands of others who prefer to make an annual donation. A grant provided the opportunity to build the volunteer group. This support enables the Tye to focus attention on publishing impactful journalism in the public interest and publish it for all to read. Their core of supporters make up about 1-2 percent of their daily readership, and enables them to pay their writers, keep articles free and open to all, and not bombard readers with advertising while they

read. Other supporters include Core Steward Support (a major donor); Government support; Grants and Contracts; and Advertising.

Tye News has a staff of 22 at the present time employed as journalists, editors, operations, and fundraisers. They produce 4-6 stories a day on week days in areas of City/Civic issues; Health care; Culture; BC Legislature; Northern BC; and Labour. All revenues/funds are reinvested back into journalism to keep growing the organization. They practice “Solutions-focused journalism” which means they do not stop asking about what went wrong yesterday and they push to investigate “what might go wrong tomorrow.”

Three articles in Tye News were referenced to demonstrate how they operate:

1. Go to a different state or country where a solution to our problem shows promise. Their article is titled: “Oil Wealth” Should Norway be the Canadian Way?
2. Find a small experiment in your midst producing tangible good. Can it be scaled? Their article is titled: “Inspiring Shipping Container Housing Set to Multiply”.
3. Alive the possible solution, report back. Their article is titled: “Can the 100-Mile Diet Reach a Million TV Viewers?”

What is next for the Tye?

- Achieving Registered Journalism Organization status
- Widening their scope Eastward, and North-South
- Figuring how to reach new people without social media
- As possible, starting up new reporting beats, putting more resources into investigations
- Expanding into new formats (video and audio)
- Convene community in real life
- Finally, some notes on how to be an engaged reader:
- Vote - prioritizing which stories reporters should tackle
- Share personal experiences – telling what you know about your life experience
- Share specialized expertise – contributing data or unique knowledge
- Participate – Provide good-faith comments on stories to add to the conversation
- Read and share – sent articles to friends you think would appreciate them
- Support – If you read a source regularly, and they have a payment option, consider contributing money

A brief question and answer period followed,

Summary Prepared by Member Darlene Dean

A Little Humour to Enjoy



"I didn't want to waste the good stuff, so I used the oldest bottle in your wine collection for the spaghetti sauce."



We're looking for someone who can do the work of two men



Oh, so it's only PART TIME?

Woman: Do men still open car doors?

Man: How do you think we get inside?

The difference between men and boys is the price of their toys!

Thinking back to when "a new hip joint" meant someplace I wanted to go on a Friday night.



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Editorial contributions and comments are welcomed