

Shorelines

NEWSLETTER OF THE PROBUS CLUB OF NORTH SHORE VANCOUVER

November 2025

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Monday, November 10th, 2025 Meeting

West Vancouver Yacht Club, 5854 Marine Drive,
Coffee and Cakes at 8:30, Meeting at 9:30, with guest speaker

Dr. Hector Baillie

“Navigating the Ageing Healthcare Network”



Dr Baillie is a semi-retired general internist, having worked in Mission BC and Nanaimo BC. He comments on a system in need of repair. He welcomes the patient perspective, and holds out hope for positive change.

Dr. Baillie hails from Scotland, where he completed an undergraduate degree in mathematics and a Masters in bio-medical engineering before completing his medical training at the University of Glasgow.

Dr. Baillie has worked in British Columbia since qualifying, first in Mission (1987-2002), then Nanaimo (2002-2023). He retired on April 14, 2023. He hopes to fill his time writing, painting, travelling, and kayaking on the Bay. And of course, he will take his beloved chocolate lab Cassie for walks on the beach.



Save the Date - Christmas Luncheon

All members are cordially invited to our annual Christmas Luncheon on **December 8th** at the West Vancouver Yacht Club.

Our festive entertainment will be provided by the UBC School of Music. Further details and registration instructions will be emailed to all members shortly.

This is a very popular event and we are somewhat limited by space.
Make sure you register ASAP! *Steve Wilson, Vice President*

MARK YOUR CALENDARS



December 8, 2025 - Christmas Luncheon

January 12, 2026 - Judy Savage, Director, Lions Gate Hospital Foundation

February 9, 2026 - Patti Shales Lefkos - What does it take to trek 800km of the Nepal's Himalayan Trail at the age of 77?

President's Notes



I see our club's prime role in recruiting speakers as educating and entertaining members, not to provide potential contributors. I'm often anxious that those speakers from a charity or special interest will cross the line and spend too much of their allocated time with a commercial pitch. Our October speaker did it right. She informed and entertained

and finished with an invitation that if you were inclined, you could contribute to the organization that raises and trains support dogs. I've had several positive comments on our October speaker, Emily McCullum. Most, myself included, had never heard of a hearing-aid dog - that's my term, speaker called Shay a certified hearing assistance dog.

As I said at the end of our October meeting, we are building our speakers' committee. Like most clubs, only a small percent of the members participate in the management. If you're one of the small percent, talk to any member of your board and attend a board meeting as a guest to see if you fit with our team. If you're not such a candidate, we need your ideas for good speakers that meet our objectives - educate and entertain. This is particularly true if you have a personal connection to any such potential speakers. Again, call or talk to a member of your board.

I'm writing this on October 13 - even though the deadline for contributions to the November Shorelines isn't until the end of the month. As some of you know I'm off to Taiwan for the last two weeks of October. When I tell some of my travel plans, the usual respond is "why Taiwan". The "best" response was "oh, you meant to say Thailand - you'll love the beaches and the food". As to why Taiwan, I'm going because in 2019 I cancelled a three-week tour of China's major construction achievements after the two Michaels episode. Taiwan is now my opportunity to have a Chinese experience.

Trust you all had a great thanksgiving.

Bryan McConachy, President



We are seeking members to join our Speaker's Committee!

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Let us know if you have a recommendation for a guest speaker for a meeting.

Special Events

Yaletown Walking Tour Review

On October 15, 2025, 18 members enjoyed a highly engaging walking tour of Vancouver's Yaletown neighbourhood. The weather was perfect for the tour of Yaletown with its unique history in the shaping of the False Creek waterfront and surrounding neighbourhood. With our guide, John Atkin, we explored the history of the area, its fascinating buildings, along with a look at the evolving mixed used residential, commercial and restaurant scene. Following the tour we all enjoyed lunch at the Earl's Yaletown restaurant.

Steve Wilson, Special Events Chair

View the photos below and more in full size at

<https://www.probus-northshorevancouver.ca/yaletown-walking-tour-oct-15-2025/>



Special Events

Seaforth Armoury Tour

Please note that the tour outlined below was originally scheduled for November 19th, but this has changed due to a scheduling conflict at the Armoury. All members who signed up for the earlier tour will have priority on the new tour date. If you have signed up, paid and cannot go on the new date, your money will be returned to you.

NEW TOUR

On **Wednesday, November 26th** there will be a Probus tour of the Seaforth Armoury near the southern end of the Burrard Bridge. This tour will take us through much of the interior of the Armoury pointing out and describing the museum artifacts in the building. This will include a brief description of current training and deployment activities.

On the second floor there is a Medical Museum that we can examine. The tour will last approximately two hours, and it will be led by Rod Bell-Irving.

We will go to the Armoury by bus, and you need to be at the Senior's Activity Centre by 9:00 AM on November 26th. After the tour is over, we will go to the Tap and Barrel - Bridges restaurant on Granville Island for lunch. We will be back at the Activity Centre by 2:30 PM.

The cost is \$25.00 per person and there is a limit of 21 people who can go on this adventure. If you want to come, please e-transfer \$25.00 to Steve Wilson. Once your payment is received, you will be registered. If the tour is fully booked, you will be put on a Wait List. If you are still on the Wait List when the tour takes place, you will get your \$25.00 returned to you.

Hope to see you on November 26th.

*Matt Blackwood and Alastair Campbell
Special Events Committee*

New Members Welcomed in October



Michael Burns was born in Regina, Saskatchewan and has resided in West Vancouver for 52 years. He attended the university of Manitoba. He has received the Canada 125 Medal for service in Canada. He is a retired executive.

Michael has participated as director, executive, principal, management consultant and investor of a variety of firms as well as a senior participant in provincial and federal conservative parties. He is a founder and former executive chairman and CEO of Naikan Wind Energy Group Inc. He discovered and proved up the Haida energy field in the Hecate strait, one of the world's largest offshore wind resources.

New Members Welcomed cont'd...

In 2005 he was a senior participant in the group that refurbished and reopened the port Alice pulp mill as Neucel Cellulose Specialty Ltd., reemploying 300 workers. He served as executive VP & CFO of BC Gas and was a key strategist in the acquisition of BC Hydro. Michael was the GM of Expo 86 Corp. He was VP of IBM's 4 western provinces; he has assisted in designing and implementing corporate governance structures to provide stability to first nations.



Terry Hodgins has resided in West Vancouver since 1988. He has a Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering and a CPA – CA.

From 1969 - 1979 he had a public accounting practice in Vancouver. From 1979 he was the CFO in the cement, construction materials and forest industries until his retirement in 2012. Terry has

worked in Vancouver, Calgary and San Francisco.

Terry enjoys golf and traveling. He is a member of the Holbyburn Country Club and the Seymour Golf Club. He is a past board member of the West Vancouver Library Foundation and served on various West Vancouver committees.



Cor Zandbergen was born in the Netherlands and immigrated to Canada 35 years ago and has resided in West Vancouver since then. Cor was trained in the industrial arts technical institute in Holland and earned an accreditation as a master carpenter. He worked in the Netherlands and Germany.

Upon arriving in Canada his skill set was not immediately recognized however it wasn't long before his talents became obvious to his employer, and he excelled having some of the European techniques adopted here. He went on to be a house builder and land developer in the lower mainland and Vancouver Island.

Cor currently enjoys woodworking, travel, fishing, hiking and cycling. He has been involved with the school board, church and building committees.

Ron Ash, Membership Chair

In Memoriam

In remembrance of members who passed this year:

Allan Best
Nels Hagenson
Variath Kutty
Perry Maerov



*We mark with reverence those friends now gone,
Whose presence brightened days that shone.
Their fellowship, their kindly ways,
Enriched our lives on countless days.
Though parted now, their memory stays,
A quiet light to guide our ways.*

**REMEMBER
ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2nd**



October Speaker Review



Our speaker today is Emily McCollum, and she is here to tell us about partnering with a service dog. She lives on Bowen Island, and she has a small computer outsourced company called Digitally Hip, which was established in 1998.

Emily has a Service Dog named Shay that is 6 1/2 years old, and she has had him for 6 years. Shay is a hearing dog. There are many types of support dogs available to people today, the most well known one being guide dogs that assist the blind and vision impaired. Other types include disability related dogs such as one that can detect the onset of certain medical events and provide advance warning to their owner, and emotional support and therapy dogs which are widely used to provide calming and increase confidence in handling stressful situations.

Emily discussed the use of a Bluetooth device to assist with hearing aids and shared a video of Bowen Island. She explained that her hearing dog, Shay, is owned by Dog Guides Canada and will be retired when she decides or when her abilities decline. When that happens, she will have to choose between keeping Shay or getting a new service dog, as she cannot have two dogs.

The presentation ended with a demonstration by Emily, who successfully called out commands for Shay to respond to (which Shay did so successfully), illustrating how much confidence this gives Emily to live life. She then gave an example of when she was in her car and backing up when Shay got her attention and wouldn't stop until she stopped and realized there was a commercial van behind her that she was about to back into.

Emily spoke to the financial challenges faced by Dog Guides Canada, highlighting a \$20 million shortfall due to a major donor's withdrawal and rising construction costs. She emphasized the organization's unique training programs for service dogs and encouraged attendees to consider donations. Emily also shared insights on lip-reading and hearing aids, recommending a course at Vancouver Community College for those interested in learning more about living with hearing loss.

Summary provided by member Darlene Dean

Photos from October Meeting



Above L-R-Bryan McConachy, Terry Hodgins, Cor Zandenburg, Mike Burns. Below, Bryan with speaker and Shay



Photos from October Meeting

