

# Shorelines

## NEWSLETTER OF THE PROBUS CLUB OF NORTH SHORE VANCOUVER

October 2026

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

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### Monday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2026 Meeting

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

**Paul Evans,**

*"Canada and China in the Era of Trump 2.0"*



Paul Evans is Alberta born and Canadian educated with 44 years of university teaching. He is Professor Emeritus in the School of Public Policy and Global Affairs at UBC. His research and writing focuses on US-China and Canada-China relations. He spent April in Hong Kong and mainland China speaking at universities and think tanks about Mark Carney's opening to China and the life and legacy of John King Fairbank, the subject of his forthcoming book.

As for an outline of the presentation: A cold relationship between Canada and China has entered a new and warmer phase following the Carney trip to China in January. What are the elements and prospects of the new "strategic partnership", does it have the domestic support to be sustained, and how does it fit with the turbulence generated by Trump's "America First"?



### MARK YOUR CALENDARS



**November 9 - Russell Brown, "Legal Landscape in Canada from a Supreme Court Perspective."**

**December 14 - Christmas Luncheon**

## President's Notes



As this is my first President's report, I would like to say it's an honour to be your President for the coming year. I would also like to congratulate the other candidates who ran for the job. It was a tight race.

I have been a Probus member for many years (that's what you say when you can't remember how many), first with Probus Vancouver, then Probus North Shore Vancouver (when I realized there was one). I became Communications Chair three years ago, followed by two years as Special Events Chair (where, I'm delighted to say, I got to meet many of you).

We have a very strong executive team this year. As you would have seen at the AGM, we have 5 men assuming new positions, including me. They are Christopher Hebb Vice President, Alex Campbell Treasurer, Derwyn Lea Secretary, and Gord Adair Director at Large re History. When you encounter any of these men, please don't be shy. We love to hear from you.

As Past President Rick Ryan and Director Dave Walker leave the board, I thank them on your behalf for their hours of voluntary service to Probus North Shore Vancouver. They will be missed.

I also need to recognize my predecessor, Bryan McConachy, for the fine job he did in managing the transition and leaving me with a great team. Thanks Bryan.

I will end with a shameless quote from past president Rick Ryan. "It is helpful to remind ourselves that Probus is much more than monthly meetings. We are a group of individuals who gather to share experiences that enrich our individual lives by joining with others."

I consider making this happen to be my job.

*Steve Wilson, President*



## Special Events

### Probus West End Walking Tour Wednesday, October 14, 2026

Vancouver's West End is a unique landscape of architecture and interesting history. On this walking tour we will explore the neighborhood once said to be the densest residential district west of Manhattan. It's surprising that Vancouver's West End doesn't overwhelm with tall buildings and concrete. Indeed, urban density has never been more beautifully planned or landscaped than in Vancouver. Every Edwardian house and high-rise residential tower in the West End is surrounded by lush, beautiful plantings of trees, shrubs and flowers. Come and explore this unique neighbourhood and history on this walking tour.

John Atkin will be our tour guide. John is a civic historian, author and heritage consultant who organizes and conducts walking tours for groups and individuals. John has explored Vancouver like few others and offers an interesting and offbeat insight to the city's architecture, history and neighbourhoods. He brings an insight of urban planning and development, a love of architecture, and the fascination of the curious to all his tours.

#### The Itinerary (October 14, 2026):

- Meet at the West Vancouver Seniors Activity Centre before 9:00 AM.
- 9:15 AM - Bus leaves the Senior Activity Centre.
- 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM – Walking Tour of the West End.
- 12:00 PM – 1:30 PM – Group no host lunch at the Earls (Robson Street) Restaurant.
- 1:30 PM – Bus leaves and returns to the Senior Activity Centre.

#### Registration and Payment:

- Register with Mark Jackson
- \$50.00 payment by e-transfer to our Special Events account -

*Mark Jackson, Alastair Campbell, Special Events Committee*

### Tour of Historic Steveston Review

On Wednesday, September 16th special events organized tour of historic Steveston exploring its rich past of shipbuilding, fishing, and the contributions of the Japanese community in the area. The tour visited the Britannia Shipyards, Historic Boardwalk, Steveston Tram, and fishing exhibit at the Steveston Museum. Mimi our guide took us through the memory lane of how the fishing industry flourished in this area with Immigrants from Japan and China followed by delicious lunch at the Catch Kitchen and Bar. We were lucky to have a beautiful sunny day.

[View photos on page 5 and more on our website](#)

*Arvind Thakore, Alastair Campbell, Special Events Committee*

## New Members Welcomed



**Lee Groat** is from Peterborough, Ontario and has resided in West Vancouver for 26 years. He holds a B.Sc. Honours Geological Sciences from Queens University, a PhD in Geological Sciences in Manitoba, a NATO Post-doctoral Fellow from Cambridge and a faculty member at UBC since 1989.

His vocation includes a university professor, consultant at McEvoy geosciences and Kingston geosciences. A few of the places Lee has worked include the Yukon, Northwest Territories, Nunavut, and Uganda. Lee enjoys sailing and skiing.



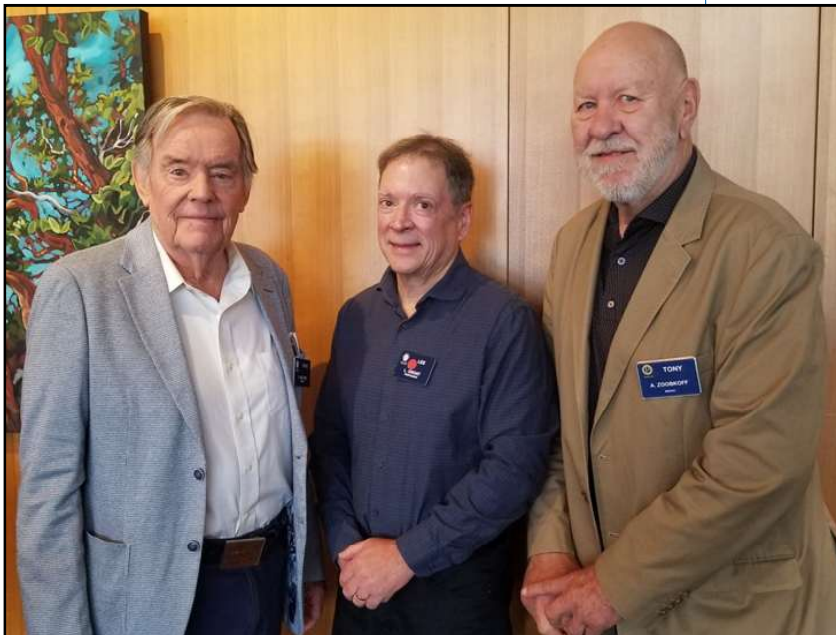
**Tony Zoobkoff** Born in Trail, BC and has lived on the North Shore since 1977. He received a BA from the University of Calgary and a Law degree from the University of Alberta. Tony retired in 2015 after 38 years with Cominco and when it merged with Teck Resources.

He played numerous sports in grade school and at university he played varsity football for the U of C Dinos. He also enjoyed recreational hockey and fastball into his late 40s and coached minor hockey for 11 years and minor lacrosse. He loves being a bad golfer enjoying the game until recently while waiting for 2 knee replacements. He was active on the boards of 2 charities on the North Shore and just retired from the board of, and membership in, the Probus Club of Vancouver.

## Photos from the Meeting



Above and Below R : Club administrator introduced by Darryl Stodalka and thoroughly enjoying Ralph's presentation.  
Below Left: President Steve Wilson welcomes new members.



## Speaker Ralph Sultan Presentation Review

"Wisdom can't be told, you have to learn it". Ralph Sultan, September 14, 2026.

Beginning with part-time jobs as a house painter, lineman, logger, and soils technician, Ralph Sultan went on to forge a remarkable eight-decade career in academia, business, and politics. His journey reflects a lifetime of perseverance, achievement, and service - and he continues to inspire others as a speaker, mentor, and author.

Ralph shared five powerful life lessons with a captivated audience, illustrating each one with memorable quotations from Abraham Lincoln, Martin Luther King Jr., William Shakespeare, J. Edgar Hoover, and Peter Drucker.

At its core, success comes from a clear unbiased vision, working diligently, and seizing the moment given to all that leads to achievement and lasting fulfillment.

*Pierre Lebel, Speakers Committee*



**President Steve Wilson thanks Ralph Sultan for his presentation to the very appreciative audience.**



**Ralph relaxing while answering questions and interesting comments from members.**



## Few Photos From the Historic Tour of Steveston



**JOIN THE  
FUN WITH  
YOUR  
FELLOW  
MEMBERS  
ON ANY OF  
THE MANY  
TOURS  
ARRANGED  
BY THE  
SPECIAL  
EVENTS  
COMMITTEE**