

Shorelines

NEWSLETTER OF THE PROBUS CLUB OF NORTH SHORE VANCOUVER

August 2015

www.probus-northshorevancouver.ca

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Grant Gisel
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Membership:

Jack Yasayko
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Gordon Adair
604-230-9122

Special Events:

Colin Ritson
604-926-6976

Monthly Meeting at the Chief Joe Mathias Centre
100 Capilano Road, North Vancouver, 604-980-6338
Coffee and Fellowship: 9:00 am, Club Business and Speaker: 9:30 - 11:15 am



Monday, August 10th

with speaker

Dr. William Rees

Professor Emeritus, Ecological Economist

“The Human Eco Footprint: Marching Toward the Abyss?”

Dr. William Rees is a human ecologist, ecological economist, Professor Emeritus and former Director of the University of British Columbia’s School of Community and Regional Planning, where his research and teaching focused on the biophysical prerequisites for sustainability in an era of accelerating ecological change.

Prof Rees is perhaps best known in ecological economics as the originator and co-developer of ‘*ecological footprint analysis*.’ His book on eco-footprinting, with then PhD student Dr Mathis Wackernagel, has been translated into eight languages including Chinese. Widely adopted for sustainability assessments by Governments, NGOs and academics, the human ‘eco-footprint’ has arguably become the world’s best-known sustainability indicator. Prof Rees’ most recent writing focuses on neuro-biological, cognitive and cultural barriers to sustainability, including human’s well-developed capacity for self-delusion. He has authored (or co-authored) more than 150 peer reviewed papers and book chapters, and numerous popular articles on humanity’s (un)sustainability conundrum.

Active across disciplines, Dr Rees is a long-term member of the Global Ecological Integrity Group, a Fellow of the Post-Carbon Institute, a founding member and past President of the Canadian Society for Ecological Economics and founding Director of the OneEarth Initiative. He has lectured by invitation throughout North America and 25 other countries around the world; the Vancouver Sun named Prof Rees one of British Columbia’s top public intellectuals in 2000; in 2006 he was elected to the Royal Society of Canada and in 2007 he was awarded a prestigious Trudeau Foundation Fellowship. Laval University in Québec recognized Prof Rees with an honorary doctorate in 2012, and he is the recipient of both the 2012 Boulding Prize in Ecological Economics and a 2012 Blue Planet Prize (jointly with Dr Wackernagel).

Mark Your Calendars with these Important Dates



Next Meeting at the Chief Joe Mathias Centre

- Monday, September 14th, 2015, 9:30 a.m. - **Annual General Meeting**, followed by our featured speaker.

2015 Membership Renewals - see page 2 for more details...

President's Notes



It is really interesting to see what seems to attract our Members to monthly meetings! Last month, we had to make a last minute change from an economist's view of the world to the West Vancouver Streamkeeper's challenges in helping our salmon cope. There were several members who had not planned on attending our July meeting but changed their mind with the change of topic. It reminds me yet again that we have a varied, even eclectic, range of interests within our PROBUS membership.

I am really looking forward to our August meeting with Bill Rees. The concept of the ecological footprint was developed by Bill and his PhD student, Mathis Wackernagel, in 1992. Basically, the ecological footprint is a measure of human demand on the Earth's ecology. Simply stated, it represents the amount of biologically productive land and sea area necessary to supply the resources a human population consumes, and to assimilate associated waste. Bill will enlighten us on the trends and implications and include some of his latest thinking on the topic.

I expect that Bill will have strong views on what Homo sapiens are doing to planet Earth. It is going to be interesting to hear those views and your perspectives and queries during the question period.

This topic ties in nicely to a book that I am presently reading called "Sapiens" by a chap called Harari. It describes the history of humankind including the fact that we have wiped out the five other known members of the Homo species including the Neanderthals and Homo floresiensis. While we may not all agree with these views, it is really interesting to hear them as well as alternate views of life on our planet.

I can hardly wait and look forward to seeing you on August 10th!

Barry Heselgrave

Contact - president@northshorevancouver.ca



To enjoy even more interesting speakers in the year ahead, please take a moment to renew your annual membership.

Membership Renewals

We are nearing the end of another PROBUS fiscal year. It is our practice to send renewal notices to all members in August each year regardless of which month a person joined. These notices will be mailed on August 8th. If you do not receive a notice in the mail, please let me know by phone at 604-926-9087 or email our administrator at linda@probus-northshorevancouver.ca.

The renewal payments are due before **September 15th**. A second and final email notice will be sent to those who have not paid by this due date or by phone for those members without email. Your prompt response will be greatly appreciated.

When paying next years membership **please return the renewal notice with your cheque**. This will help ensure the payments are properly processed. We often encounter situations where a cheque has only initials and a surname rather than the name used in the PROBUS registration. Also, some members use company cheques.

Returning the renewal notice also ensures that changes to your personal information and preferences are updated in our database. Thanks for helping make the renewal as prompt and smooth a process as possible.

Jack Yasayko

July New Members Welcomed

**Tom
Gunn**



**Axel
Rehkatsch**



Tom Gunn (*member since June 2015*) was born in Toronto, and has lived much of his life in West Vancouver. Tom received his education from U of T and Cambridge University. His career included CEO of Canada Trust, Chief Investment Officer of OMERS and President & CEO of UBC Investment Management Trust. He is a warden of St. Stephen's Church and director of Camp Furcom. Tom enjoys writing, painting, cycling, travel and photography.

Axel Rehkatsch (*member since May 2015*) was born in Germany, raised in Whitehorse, and has lived most of his adult life in West Vancouver. He graduated with a B. Comm. from UBC and is a Chartered Accountant. In 1975 he became Chief Financial Officer with A&W Food Service of Canada Inc. until he retired in 2005. He also served as a director of the Canadian Association of Income Funds and recently as a director of Vancouver Coastal Health Authority. He enjoys travelling and philately.

2015/2016 Proposed Management Committee (*to be elected*)



Mike McMahon
President



Dave Walker
Vice-President



Ian Burden
Secretary



Gordon Adair
Treasurer



Darryl Stodalka
Chair: Communications



Grant Gisel
Chair: House



Jack Yasayko
Chair: Membership



Michael Coady
Chair: Speakers



Colin Ritson
Chair: Special Events

Additional Member Not Requiring Election

Barry Heselgrave, Past President

Note: Nominations for the Management Committee close on August 31, 2015. If you have a member that agrees to be nominated for a position on the 2015-16 Management Committee please submit the name to Don Leier 604 - 925 - 7690 prior to August 31, 2015.

Mike McMahon (*Member March 2006*) After qualifying as a Chartered Accountant in Ontario, Mike earned his law degree at UBC. He has practiced as an accountant and then a lawyer in Vancouver specializing in tax planning and litigation. Mike was elected a B. C. FCA in 1990. Mike is currently Vice-President.

Dave Walker (*Member since May 2009*) David's career involved managing major capital projects across Canada. Local projects included the expansion of the Vancouver Convention Centre, the Millennium Line and the BC Cancer Research Centre. He has a passion for photography and astronomy. Dave served as Secretary previously during 2010 to 2012.

Ian Burden (*Member November 2013*) Ian was born and educated in New Zealand and moved to Vancouver in 1970. A professional structural engineer, he worked for consulting engineers in Vancouver, designing structures for shiploaders and power plants, pulp mills, oil platforms and coal ports. Ian is currently the Secretary.

Gordon Adair (*Member December 2008*) Gordon, a Chartered Accountant, dabbles in politics and has volunteered on the board and executive of the Coho Society, North Shore for 25 years. Gordon currently is the Speakers Chair.

Darryl Stodalka (*Member September 2005*) Darryl received his BSc in Computing Science in Calgary, his birth city. His career in Information Technology took him from government in Edmonton to the oil patch in Calgary and on to Vancouver in the insurance industry. Darryl and his wife have lived in West Vancouver for over 25 years. When first joining Probus he helped the Club go digital, contributing to the Club's low dues. He is currently Communications Chair.

Grant Gisel (*Member September 2009*) Grant was born in Winnipeg and received his B Commerce degree from the U Of Manitoba in April 1964. He moved to Vancouver in May 1964 and spent 40 years working in the Computer business. until his retirement in November 2004. He now Chairs a downtown east side charity called Red Fox focused on elementary children healthy living after the school day. Grant is currently the House Chair.

Jack Yasayko (*Member March 2007*) Jack was born and educated in Edmonton, AB and received an M.D. from the University of Alberta in 1962. He moved to the North Shore to practise medicine in the Deep Cove and Lonsdale areas, retiring in 1993. After a short period of boredom, his career was resumed for a further 18 years as a surgical assistant at the Lion's Gate Hospital. Now he is permanently retired and currently the Membership Chair.

Michael Coady (*member since January 2011*) was born in Ottawa, raised in Prince Edward Island and has lived in West Vancouver since 1973. Michael graduated in Arts and Laws from St. Dunstan's (PEI) and Dalhousie (Halifax) universities before obtaining a Masters of Laws from York University in Toronto. He has practiced labour and employment law in Vancouver for 36 years and has been active with the BC Labour Law and the Human Rights Management Association.

Colin Ritson (*Member January 2012*) Colin is a graduate with a B.Sc. Engineering and a Life Member of APEGBC. In his professional career he specialized in heavy industry projects, including pulp and paper, power generation, and 'waste to energy conversion'. Colin is currently the Events Chair.

Last Month Speaker - John Barker, West Vancouver Streamkeepers

Note: View Speaker presentations, when available, on our website at <http://www.probus-northshore-vancouver.ca/speakers.htm>



Speaker John Barker thanked by Pres Barry Heselgrave

John Barker, president of West Vancouver Streamkeepers, gave an informative and delightful talk on the many activities and objectives of Streamkeepers. He also discussed its sister organizations, the Shoreline Preservation Society and the Estuary Enhancement Project.

West Van has twenty two streams which have been used by salmon for spawning. As the community grew, culverts replaced open bridges, and long tunnels were put in, such as the one for Lawson Creek from Argyle to the Legion Hall. All this enhanced the roads, and usually prevented flooding, but it did nothing for the salmon. Eventually we woke up to what we had done.

As someone said, "If nothing lived in the streams, no one would care", but the streams are full of life. As well as the salmon, there are little cutthroat trout in virtually every pool, as well as a myriad of invertebrates, such as stone flies, caddis flies and scuds. It's a busy place if you get close enough.

Streamkeepers has a little hatchery on Nelson Creek just above the Upper Levels. Here, about 130,000 fry are raised each year, and distributed to the various creeks. This is done by some of the ninety dedicated volunteers. Streamkeepers has engaged the schools very successfully, with the students from elementary to university level helping in different ways.

Fixing our mistakes takes time and money. Land clearing, buildings and roads above the Upper Levels has lead to fast runoffs and scouring of the creek beds, making the culverts even harder to swim through. Many culverts now have baffles of various designs. A number of creeks have fish ladders which help the salmon, but not entirely. The rearing ponds have been very successful. You can see them in Memorial Park and Hay Park. The logs and

stumps while unsightly, provide cover for the fry.

The most productive creek is Brothers, which joins the Capilano River just at the end of Clyde Avenue. It normally has about 1000 spawning Chum and Coho each year, plus a strong run of Pink salmon every other year. An excellent place to see them from mid October to mid December is at the viewing platform on Keith Road three blocks east of Taylor Way.

The sister organizations are also making a difference for migrating salmon. The Shoreline Preservation Society has the goal of enhancing the intertidal zone for the benefit of plants, fish, and other life found along a shore. You may have seen large boulders being placed at very low tide to break up tidal currents and stop erosion. Similarly, the Estuary Enhancement Project has done great work in improving the estuaries of Lawson and McDonald creeks. Instead of the water spilling over a sill, straight out of a culvert, it now winds through the rocks in a defined creek channel in a much more natural way. Rogers Creek is the next one slated for estuary improvement.

Don't forget to watch for the opening of the Nature House at the mouth of Lawson Creek and Argyle, and enjoy seeing the return of the salmon to West Vancouver.

Ken Bryden

July Meeting Greeters



Greeters Grant Gisel and Mike McMahon

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<http://www.probus-northshorevancouver.ca/>

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

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or by mail to:

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For Information on PROBUS Clubs in Canada, visit
PROBUS Canada: <http://www.probus.org/canada.htm>