

Shorelines

NEWSLETTER OF THE PROBUS CLUB OF NORTH SHORE VANCOUVER

June 2015

www.probus-northshorevancouver.ca

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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, June 8th

with speaker

Dan Potts, BSc, MBA

“The Costly Impact of Site C and

The Clean Energy Act on BC Hydro Customers (All of US)”

Our speaker for the June meeting will be member Dan Potts, a former Probus North Shore President, who has investigated the Economics of Site C and the Clean Energy Act and will explain in his presentation how Site C and the Clean Energy Act will increase the cost of electric power sold to BC Hydro customers by more than \$1.0 billion per year compared to the available market alternative.

Dan has a BSc degree in Chemical Engineering and a Masters in Business Administration. He spent over twenty years serving as the location manager at five different pulp and paper mills in North America. These capital and energy intensive facilities required large amounts of thermal energy and electric power and typically included cogeneration to produce electric power for internal consumption. His last assignment, lasting over ten years, was serving as the Executive Director of what is now known as the Association of Major Power Consumers in BC (AMPC). This organization represents BC Hydro's industrial customers in various regulatory proceedings as well as serving as a voice of the major consumer on governmental issues.

Dan is now retired, lives with his wife in West Vancouver and spends much of his time golfing, fishing and visiting with his four children and nine grandchildren and reading BC Hydro's annual reports.

Happy Father's Day

Mark Your Calendars with these Important Dates



Next Meeting at the Chief Joe Mathias Centre

- Monday, July 13th, 2015

Special Events - see page 2 for more details...

- Museum of Anthropology Tour at UBC, June 16th
- Bard-on-the-Beach, Dinner and Show, July 19th

President's Notes



A significant number of our Members continue to be active both physically and mentally even though many of us are long past what used to be known as our retirement date. Remember that retirement was not only when we stopped working but also stopped being physically as active as when we were in our 40's and 50's.

A while back I attended a couple of seminars about the "Aging Athlete". The proposition that was put forward at the sessions was that you can continue to exercise literally forever! Interestingly, there has been little research carried out as to how frequently and how intense we should carry out physical exercise. So in some respects, those of us who like to stay fit, are on our own in terms of how much stress we subject ourselves to. Apparently, as the Boomers age, there will be a significant increase in research and guidance as to what works best for us in order to ensure that we remain fit and healthy.

Many of you will know of Olga Kotelko who passed away in mid-2014 at 95 years of age. She had numerous track & field records and competed until just before she passed away of a brain hemorrhage. She was tested extensively at I believe McGill when she was about 93 and she had also undergone some testing about 10 years earlier. Her bone mass had improved at 93! While it is way too complex for my short letter, her chemistry, muscle make up and other key elements were those of a much younger person.

The research into how one can retain energy, strength, flexibility and other elements of youthfulness into old age is seriously beginning. It may well be that we will not necessarily live longer. However, we have the potential to retain our vitality and health much longer than heretofore thought. Now that's worth an investment in time and effort. We have the time. Do we have the commitment?

Barry Heselgrave

Contact - president@northshorevancouver.ca

Special Events - June & July

Museum of Anthropology Tour at UBC

This event will take place on Tuesday, June 16th and is open to members and guests. Travel to the museum at UBC will be by carpool to arrive when it opens at 10:00 am. We will be guided around the spectacular collection of First Nations artifacts housed in an architectural masterpiece building by Arthur Ericson.

The tour will conclude at 11.30, when we will drive the short distance to the Westward Ho restaurant at the University Golf Club for a two-course lunch. (Salad starter and choice of main course, drinks not included) Cost per person, payable in advance, is \$47. The number of attendees is limited to 25 and tickets will be assigned on a first come first served basis. The event is coordinated by John Walker, hiljon@telus.net.

John Walker



Bard on the Beach

We have booked seats for Shakespeare's "Comedy of Errors" for 19 July. This year our seats will be slightly compromised in an effort to control costs. A picnic dinner, cash bar and bus are in place. The total cost will be \$75 per person. Once again we are hopeful that Christopher Gaze will provide an introduction to the play with or after dinner.

John Pennefather, who has organized the tour, and Barney Blondal and Gary Grant will be at the Special Events table on 8 June to take registrations. John can be reached by phone at 604.926.1428 or by e-mail at jpennefather@shaw.ca.

Greeters at May Meeting



Greeters President Barry Heselgrave and Grant Gisel

Museum of Flight Photos

It was a great outing for those members who attended the Museum of Flight in Langley. The volunteers were wonderful hosts. They took our members in two groups around the various exhibits and filled them in on myriad details about the numerous aircraft. It was a very interesting morning. The lunch in the nearby Airport restaurant was also very good.

Darryl Stodalka



Brief Backgrounds of a Few New Members Introduced at Recent Meetings



Ian Marshall (*member since April 2015*) was born in Surrey, England. He has lived in Toronto and then moved to West Vancouver in 1975. He obtained a B.A. in Economics and Political Science from Carleton University in Ottawa and an LL.B. from Queen's University in Kingston. He was employed as Associate General Counsel with Placer Dome Inc. He is also a Director, Secretary and Chair of the Scholarship Committee with the Sir Wisnton Churchill Society of B.C. Ian enjoys travel, hiking, kayaking, writing and history.



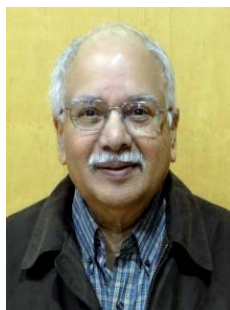
David Petitpierre (*member since March 2015*) was born in Sussex, England. He has lived in West Vancouver since 1977. He received his education in England where he graduated from Ardingly College. He has been a "Jack of many trades". He spent 9 years with a British trading company (2 years in England and 7 years in India). He then worked in Canada with The White Pass and Yukon Route, the BC Resources Investment Corporation and as a management consultant with KPMG. He is a member of the Royal Commonwealth Society (RCS) in the UK and Canada since 1959 (past Chair of the RCS of Canada). He received the Queen's Golden and Diamond Jubilee medals for services to the Commonwealth in Canada. He is also actively involved in the Sovereign Order of St. John of Jerusalem, Knights Hospitaller and with St. Stephen's Church, West Vancouver. David enjoys travel, gardening and golf.



John Walker (*member since September 2014*) was born in Stockport, England and has lived in West Vancouver since 1978. He received his education in England where he graduated from Northern Polytechnic as a chartered quantity surveyor. He is a Fellow of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors. He was primarily employed in construction project management and property management. He was President of Hanscomb Ltd. and President of Texada Properties Ltd. He has travelled extensively with his work to the UK, France, Germany, Belgium, Denmark, Holland, Norway, Tunisia, Egypt, Ghana, Nigeria, Malawi, Lebanon, Syria, Iraq, Iran, Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Oman, Golf States, Fiji, USA and Canada. John was the past chair of Habitat for Humanity of Greater Vancouver. John enjoys hiking, biking and travel.



Allan Whitehouse (*member since May 2015*) was born in a northern mining town Anyox, BC. He grew up near Princeton, BC where he graduated from Princeton High School. He then obtained a Bachelor of Commerce from UBC. Allan began his working career as a Hyster fork lift sales representative for AR Williams in Vancouver and was promoted to Alberta District Manager in Calgary. He came back to Vancouver as a Personnel Manager for Eatons and then joined Finning Tractor to set up their Engineered Systems Department for BC. He returned to Williams Machinery as President for Western Canada. He then joined CAE Equipment as VP for British Columbia. He then became VP, Marketing at Mohawk Oil Company where he retired and set up an import company, CMA Equipment. He retired in 2004.



Kutty Varvath (*member since April 2015*) was born in Palakkad, India and has lived in North Vancouver since 1992. He obtained degrees as a Certified General Accountant and an Associate of Chartered Institute of Bankers, in London England. He has been employed for 32 years in banking in Kuwait and Oman, and 20 years as an Accountant. He is member of the Senior Tennis Association of the North Shore and the North Shore Tennis Association. He enjoys reading, writing and tennis.

Last Month Speaker - Charles Lamman

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



Charles Lamman thanked by President Barry Heselgrave

The State of Government Finances in Metro Vancouver

There are twenty one municipalities in Metro Vancouver, all with financial challenges and specific financing strategies. Charles Lamman, Director of Fiscal Studies, with the Fraser Institute, presented us with many graphs and statistics but emphasized the fact that it is difficult to compare one to the other and come up with clear reasons for their differing outcomes. The issues are complicated, and there is “little available data.”

One thing is clear, expenses, and therefore taxes, are always increasing. From 2002 to 2012, municipal expenses have risen an average of 75%. This is greater than either provincial or federal expenses, but municipal revenues have increased more than either federal or provincial revenues. From 2002 to 2012, municipal spending was up 74% while revenue increased by 86%.

Municipalities have a number of revenue sources: property taxes which have fixed growth, government transfers, user fees, general taxation (mostly property taxes), “other” sources, and developer fees.¹ These fees get passed on to the purchaser. West Vancouver has the highest developer fees, perhaps because of geography. It also has the highest tax revenue.

Government spending for each municipality varies considerably. On an annotated map (possibly 2014), government per capita spending for West Vancouver was \$2118, compared with Vancouver at \$1689, North Vancouver City at \$1541, North Vancouver District at \$1454, and Surrey at \$951. The average amount of municipal spending in Metro Vancouver is \$1384.

The question must be asked why West Vancouver’s revenue and spending is higher than those of North Vancouver when they are not that much different. The lack of an industrial base will be one reason.

Charles Lamman then moved to a discussion of Trans-link. Its operational spending has gone up 105% from 2003 to 2013. This does not include any capital expenditures. 52% of the spending goes to employment compensation. From 2001 to 2012 municipal wages have risen 38% against provincial increases of 19%. Government wages are on average 6.7% above private sector wages, and are higher if benefits are included.

In answer to a question about a third crossing, Lamman said that a third crossing was not the answer to North Shore congestion, but variable tolls might be. There may be some disagreement with that idea.

Ken Bryden

¹ **Developer fees** or “Development cost charges” (DCC’s) are monies that municipalities and regional districts collect from land developers to offset that portion of the costs related to these services that are incurred as a direct result of this new development.”.

A Little Humour?



“What fits your busy schedule better, exercising one hour a day or being dead 24 hours a day?”

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