

# Shorelines

## NEWSLETTER OF THE PROBUS CLUB OF NORTH SHORE VANCOUVER

September 2015

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

Vol. 13, No. 9

### Management Committee

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**House:**

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**Membership:**

Jack Yasayko  
604-926-9087

**Speakers:**

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, September 14<sup>th</sup>**

*with speaker*

**Dr. Angus Reid**

Chairman, Angus Reid Institute

*“Current Federal Election and the Consequences for Canada”*

The Annual General Meeting will take place prior to our guest speaker’s presentation. We ask that our PROBUS members visit <http://angusreid.org/> and bring their questions to the September meeting for Dr. Reid to address.

The Angus Reid Institute was founded in October 2014 by Dr. Angus Reid, Canada’s best-known and longest-practicing pollster. He’s spent more than four decades asking people what they think and feel about top social, governance and economic issues. From 1979 to 2001, he was founder and CEO of Angus Reid Group, which grew into the largest research firm in Canada, with revenues of \$60 million. It was sold to Ipsos SA in 2000. From 2004 to 2013 Angus was CEO of online panel company Vision Critical. He retired from the VC board in May 2014.

Angus has written numerous columns on economic, social and governance issues and well as the best-seller; *“Shakedown: How the New Economy is Changing our Lives”* (1996). He has a B.A. and an M.A. in Sociology from the University of Manitoba, and in 1974 he received a Ph.D. in Sociology from Carleton University in Ottawa.

He is the recipient of a Canada Council Doctoral Fellowship, the Entrepreneur of the Year award, and was inducted into the Marketing Hall of Legends (2010).

### Mark Your Calendars with these Important Dates



**Next Meeting at the Chief Joe Mathias Centre**

- Monday, October 5th, 2015. Due to Thanksgiving, our meeting is one week early.
- Review of AGM Materials, *see page 2 for more details...*

## President's Notes



This is my last letter as President of our PROBUS Club and I want to share with you a few reflections on the past year.

Under Gord Adair's guidance, the Management Committee (MC) has worked as a team to find speakers for you who are relevant, timely re the issues of our world and sometimes even controversial. I hope that we have succeeded. Your Special Event's Committee under the leadership of Colin Ritson and Recreational Activities, with Phil Boase providing the guidance, have provided a broad range of experiences and activity options for you.

Behind the scenes, Alistair Duncan tends the books, Ian Burden the secretarial activities, Jack Yasayko keeps us on track with stellar membership services and Grant Gisel ensures that things run smoothly at both Cap and the Chief Joe Mathias Centre. Darryl Stodalka sees that our communications flow and Linda Metcalfe works tirelessly on the newsletter, communiques, reminders of meetings and keeps your MC on track. Don Leier as Past President and Mike McMahon as Vice-President provide good advice and take on volunteer tasks to ensure that the Club runs smoothly.

There are several volunteers who you generally do not see whom we should recognize. Ken Bryden writes up the notes on each speaker, a major undertaking, while Bill Guernsey works with Jack on membership. John Barker works with Grant on House related matters. There are also others who step in and help including John Low with speakers, Kutty Variath as back up to Ken Bryden and Ed Frazer with camera. Thanks to all for their efforts.

I hope that we have met your expectations in the past year with our speakers, activities and venues. Further, I anticipate that the upcoming year will provide a host of new surprises and the opportunity for your MC to ensure that the speakers and events are enjoyable, thought provoking and generally enrich our knowledge of the world around us.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to serve the Members of our Club.

*Barry Heselgrave*

Contact - [president@northshorevancouver.ca](mailto:president@northshorevancouver.ca)

## 2015 AGM Materials

**All materials for the AGM are being sent to members prior to the AGM. Please review these items listed below as copies will not be provided at the meeting.**

The 2015/2016 proposed slate for the Management Committee (*listed in August Shorelines*) and the AGM materials including:

- an Agenda,
- Directors' Annual Report,
- Minutes from the 2014 AGM, and
- Financial Statements as at August 31, 2015

### REMINDER

**If you have not already done so, please mail your cheque, along with your letter mailed to you for Membership Renewal or bring both along to the September meeting.**

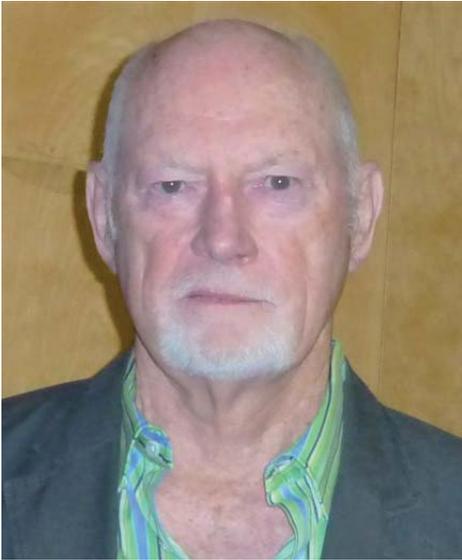


## August Meeting Greeters

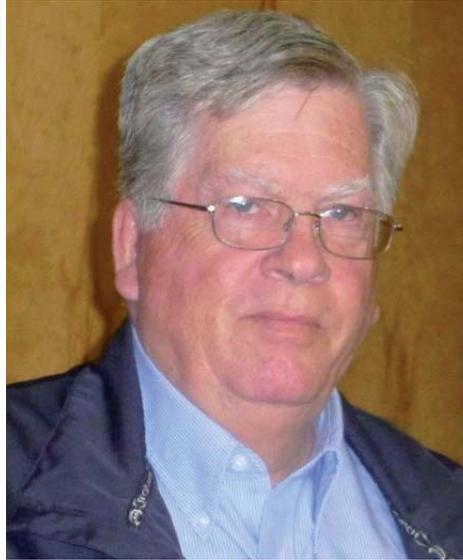


**Greeters Alistair Duncan and Colin Ritson**

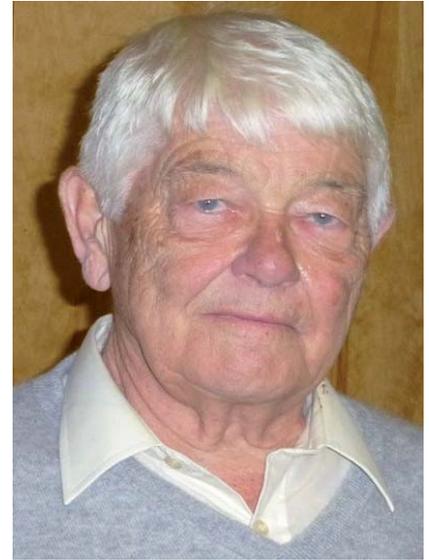
## New Members Welcomed and Introduced at August Meeting



**Barney Campbell**  
Lawyer



**Bruce Carter**  
Manufacturing



**Gary Hammonds**  
David Oppenheimer Group

## When Insults Had Class

*These glorious insults are from an era that valued cleverness with words; an era when the leaders of society didn't need to use profanity or the middle finger to make their point. Hope you enjoy them!*

Sir Winston Churchill vs. Lady Astor:

Lady Astor: "If you were my husband I'd give you poison."

Sir Winston: "If you were my wife, I'd drink it."

A Member of Parliament to Disraeli:

Member: "Sir, you will either die on the gallows, or of some unspeakable disease."

Disraeli: "That depends, Sir, upon whether I embrace your policies, or your mistress."

"He had delusions of adequacy." – Walter Kerr

"He has all the virtues I dislike and none of the vices I admire." – Winston Churchill

"A modest little person, with much to be modest about." – Winston Churchill

"I have never killed a man, but I have read many obituaries with great pleasure." – Clarence Darrow

William Faulkner (about Ernest Hemingway): "He has never been known to use a word that might send a reader to the dictionary."

Ernest Hemingway (about William Faulkner): "Poor Faulkner. Does he really think big emotions come from big words?"

"Thank you for sending me a copy of your book; I'll waste no time reading it." – Moses Hadas

"He can compress the most words into the smallest idea of any man I know." – Abraham Lincoln

"I didn't attend the funeral, but I sent a nice letter saying I approved of it." – Mark Twain

"He has no enemies, but is intensely disliked by his friends." – Oscar Wilde

George Bernard Shaw to Winston Churchill: "I am enclosing two tickets to the first night of my new play; bring a friend.... if you have one."

Winston Churchill, in response: "Cannot possibly attend first night, will attend second... if there is one."

"I feel so miserable without you; it's almost like having you here." – Stephen Bishop

## Last Month Speaker - Dr. William Rees, PhD, FRSC, UBC SCARP

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



**Speaker William Rees is thanked by VP Mike McMahon with a bowl hand crafted by one of our PROBUS members.**

### Our Ecological Footprint

“Marching Toward the Abyss”

*“The human enterprise already exceeds the long-term carrying capacity of Earth; production, consumption and waste generation exceed the regenerative and assimilative capacities of the ecosphere”.* In other words, we are doomed if we don’t change.

Dr. Rees, a widely recognized expert in his field, gave a sobering assessment of our stressed environment. He and Mathis Wackernagel developed the concept of Ecological Footprint Analysis. This is a way of determining how much land and resources each person reasonably needs to sustain himself, on a continuous basis.

Because of our particular human characteristics we have filled an ecological niche too successfully. We adapt, solve problems and change nature when required. We are also masters of fuzzy thinking: “politics is increasingly influenced by neoliberal ideology, religious fundamentalism, climate-change denial, anti-intellectualism and other forms of ‘magical thinking’.” One must also add greed and indifference.

In looking at Dr. Rees’s graphs used to explain our ecological footprint (EFP), many of them are alarming: population increase, energy use, fertilizer consumption,

carbon emissions, even the number of hamburgers served. While the demand could be infinite, the resources aren’t. With the advent of the Industrial Revolution, mankind began atmospheric carbon loading with coal emissions, and then in the later 19th Century developed the world’s oil resources. This huge energy source fuelled our advances and sustained our growing population, but at an increasing cost. This is what we have to deal with today, and what the eco-system can no longer sustain. The long hot summer of 2015 proves this.

Ecological footprints depend on the wealth of each society. Locally the EFP of West Vancouver will be much greater than that of the Downtown East Side. Americans on average need 9.5 ha per capita, Canadians 7.1 and the people of Malawi, 0.5. Only a handful of countries have excess resource capacity. If a country does not have enough biocapacity, then they have a deficit. (See national EFP’s in Wikipedia.) Canada has a biocapacity surplus of about 2.5 times while the US needs twice the resources it has. Globally, It now takes 1 ½ years to replace the resources used in one year. Even if Canada has a surplus, it cannot thrive in an unsustainable world; therefore, we must all cooperate.

Growth becomes uneconomic when the damage exceeds the economic benefits. Further growth makes us poorer rather than richer. Economic damage is caused by droughts, hurricanes, tornadoes, forest fires, etc.

Dr. Rees did leave us with some hope but with a huge task ahead of us. We have the knowledge and skills to gradually turn things around, but do we have the will, time and resources to do it? Our children and grand children will find out.

He recommended the following books: *Factor Five and Factor Ten* on global sustainability (see Wikipedia); *The Lewis Powell Memorandum, The March of Folly* by Barbara Tuchman; and *The Collapse of Complex Societies* by Joseph Tainter.

*Ken Bryden*

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**The PROBUS Club of North Shore Vancouver**



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

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For Information on PROBUS Clubs in Canada, visit

**PROBUS Canada: <http://www.probus.org/canada.htm>**