

Shorelines

NEWSLETTER OF THE PROBUS CLUB OF NORTH SHORE VANCOUVER

April 2016

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, April 11th

with speaker **Dr. Paul Evans**

Professor, Institute of Asian Research and Liu Institute for Global Issues, UBC

“Troubled Waters: China and Maritime Disputes in its Neighbouring Seas”



Dr. Paul Evans is a professor of Asian and trans-Pacific affairs at the University of British Columbia, cross-appointed to the Institute of Asian Research and the Liu Institute for Global Issues. He is a former CEO of the Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada. His most recent book, *Engaging China: Myth, Strategy and Aspiration in Canadian Policy from Trudeau to Harper*, was published in 2014. It should be re-titled “*From Trudeau to Harper to Trudeau*.” A bio-sketch and selected publications are available at <http://www.iar.ubc.ca/AboutUs/IARFacultyStaff/Faculty/PaulEvans.aspx>.

Dr. Evans will be speaking on the topic “*Troubled Waters: China and Maritime Disputes in its Neighbouring Seas*.” Understanding and adjusting to a China that is a major player in the global economy, proactive in international institutions, and increasingly assertive in its Asian neighborhood, is top of mind in capitals around the world. No subject is more contentious and currently volatile than maritime disputes in the East China Sea and South China Sea. Beyond the matters of contested territory and sovereignty, the disputes tell us something about broader Chinese intentions, the underlying geo-political contest with the United States, and some urgent threats to living marine resources. The presentation will look at the ingredients of the problem, potential paths to solution, and options for a Canadian role.

Please Note:

**April meeting is at the Chief Joe Mathias Centre
100 Capilano Road, North Vancouver**

Mark Your Calendars with these Important Dates



Next Meeting at the Chief Joe Mathias Centre, North Vancouver

- Monday, May 9th - Capt. Bill Noon, “Franklin Expedition”
- Special Events, *see page 2 for more details...*

President's Notes



I enjoy salmon and like to catch it myself when I can. That is one reason why I am fully supportive of salmon conservation. Accordingly, I enjoyed Dr. Brian Riddell's presentation at our March meeting. Of particular interest to me was his review of salmon research and the fact that in spite of a great deal of research which has been undertaken regarding salmon, so much remains unknown. If you missed the meeting, I recommend that you read Ken Bryden's excellent summary of Dr. Riddell's presentation in this issue of Shorelines. As well, we hope that Dr. Riddell's complete presentation will soon be posted on our website. When it is posted, you may see it by clicking on "Speakers" and then on his presentation. You may also review any other past presentations that have been posted for your enjoyment.

Bill Sexsmith has been our regional director of PROBUS Canada since 2013. He has, with the support of our club among others, been re-elected to another term. Congratulations Bill and thank you for your good work and for volunteering at the national level.

I recently spent two nights attending the well organized C.I.S. men's basketball Final 8 held at UBC this year. A large number of volunteers was crucial to the running of this tournament. Unfortunately, on the first day of the final, UBC was bounced from the championship round by number one ranked Ryerson. This put a significant damper on attendance thereafter. However, the quality of play at the finals was outstanding and it reminded me of the importance of teamwork. Our monthly meetings require the joint efforts and cooperation of Michael Coady's Speakers committee, which finds, reviews and arranges for our speakers and the audio/visual support required by them; Grant Gisel's House committee, which arranges the venue and its amenities; Jack Yasayko's Membership committee, which receives members and deals with their questions; Darryl Stodalka's Communications committee, which records our events for Shorelines; and of course Linda Metcalfe, the person who does all of the coordinating. Beginning next month our Past President Barry Heselgrave will be searching for volunteers for the 2016/17 session for both the Management and other committees. To the extent that you can, I hope you help to make his search an easy one for him and for your fellow members. We cannot run without our volunteers.

St. Patrick's Day and Easter are behind us. Spring is now here, so it's time to unpack the golf clubs and join Phil Boase and his group on the fairways or get out in the garden. Unfortunately, whether I'm golfing or gardening, I'm usually in the rough, a place I hope you avoid.

Mike McMahon

Contact - president@probus-northshorevancouver.ca

Special Events

Walking Tour of Coal Harbour
Monday, May 16th 9:00 - 11:30 AM
No-Host Lunch to Follow Tour
Lead by Our Outstanding Tour Guide John Atkin

Coal Harbour has played a large role in the history of Vancouver. It was the coal seam on the shoreline that excited interest in the area and prompted the sale of the West End to three men from New Westminster. They had hope of developing "New Liverpool, the future metropolis on the West Coast". The harbour attracted the Canadian Pacific Railway, as they chose it as the terminus for the trans-continental railway. Along with the railway, Coal Harbour would become home to the Boeing Aircraft factory and the Denman Arena where the Vancouver millionaires won the Stanley Cup.

With the rise of containerization, inner city freight yards became redundant and in the 1990s the land was sold for redevelopment. And it is this carefully considered and planned area that is the subject of the tour. We will be looking at the planning, zoning and architecture of this series of waterfront neighborhoods that make up the Coal Harbour area.

The tour will start at 9:30 am and take approximately 2 hours. It will cost \$15.00 and go rain or shine. We will meet at the Cauldron (Olympic Torch) on Jack Poole Plaza. The tour will begin and end at this site.

The tour will be limited to 30 walkers including members and their partners or guests. If required, a waiting list will be started.

Participants will make their own travel arrangements to and from the tour. Public transport is suggested. Lunch will be extra at your cost.

You may register and pay at the next meeting (April 14th) or with **John Elliott** (johns.elliott@telus.net) at 604-925-3535. After the meeting, register with John Elliott but payment must be by cheque mailed to: Probus Club of North Shore Vancouver, P.O. Box 92042, West Vancouver, BC, V7V 4X4.

Your registration is not confirmed until your payment is received.

For more information contact:

John Elliott at 604-925-3535 (johns.elliott@telus.net)
or **Colin Ritson** at 604-926-6976 (colinritson@shaw.ca).

John Elliott

Start Your Tour!

New Members Welcomed and Introduced at March Meeting



Roger Garriock (*member since March 2016*) has been a resident of West Vancouver for 20 years. Roger received a BSc. in Civil Engineering and an Honorary LL.D. from Capilano University. His career as a Senior Executive with IBM for 32 years had him located in Toronto, Calgary, Winnipeg and Vancouver. His interests include politics, boating and golf.



Pete Stacey (*member since March 2016*) was born in London, UK and has resided in West Vancouver since 1973. He received an Honours BSc. in Geology from U. Exeter and a D.I.C. Mining Geology from the Imperial College in London. His career was primarily in Geotechnical Engineering with a Swedish Geology Survey, Iron Ore Company of Canada, Golder Associates, and as well as independent consulting. Pete's interests include power boating and travel. He is also on the Membership Committee with the BC Professional Engineers.



L: Greeters Ken Bryden and Carl Hunter



R: Newest members receive their PROBUS pins

To Volunteer or Not?

President Mike mentioned in his Notes that we will soon begin to seek candidates for positions on next year's Management Committee. Canadians are known for volunteering and the history of volunteering goes back a long way. You might be interested in when and how volunteering began in Canada.

Back in 1688 in New France, a crisis was reached in the town of Quebec as the ranks of the destitute were swollen by residents who had lost everything they owned in a major fire a few years earlier. Concerned for their less fortunate neighbours and alarmed at the increasing number of beggars in the streets, public-spirited citizens of Quebec took action to help these individuals.



They established what was probably the first voluntary agency in Canada. Known as the *Bureau des Pauvres*, this agency was managed by a board of volunteer directors (primarily prosperous merchants), run by volunteers and supported by donations from the community. Money, food and clothes were gathered through collection boxes around the town and door-to-door solicitation each month. A landmark in the history of Canadian voluntarism, this community organization was in operation until about 1700, by which time religious charities began taking over its responsibilities.

We have come a long way from 1688. However, volunteering remains a strong tradition among Canadians. I will be meeting with our existing Management Committee in May to identify areas where we need volunteers to carry on our wonderful PROBUS programmes. I will follow up to all by e-mail. Please give some thought as to whether you want to "volunteer" so that we can make our Club even better in the upcoming years.

Barry Heselgrave

Last Month Speaker - Dr. Brian Riddell, President and CEO, PSF

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



President Mike McMahon thanks speaker Dr. Brian Riddell with a bowl hand crafted by a member.

The State of BC's Pacific Salmon:

On March 7, Dr. Brian Riddell spoke to Probus on the state of the salmon on our coast. Dr. Riddell has had a long career with the DFO in fisheries research and management. He is internationally recognized for his research, leadership and accomplishments.

Over exploitation, habitat destruction and a warming environment are the main enemies of the Pacific salmon. Dr. Riddell said that the Atlantic salmon fishery has been destroyed, and we must not let that happen to the Pacific salmon. In 1998, Hon David Anderson said, "Conservation comes first," and there was a huge backlash. *The Policy for the Conservation of Wild Pacific Salmon* was enacted in 2005, but has still not been implemented.

The salmon population is much lower than in the past. Since 1921, the average catch was around 77,000 metric tonnes per year. It peaked in 1986 at 118,000 MT and crashed to 6,000MT, leveling out to 25-30,000 MT. The results are an immense loss of income, and of food resources for us and many other species. Dr. Riddell warned that much of what the media tells us is inaccurate.

Salmon productivity (abundance) and diversity are critical. Homing adaptation to local habitats has led to 9,300 different populations and streams in BC and the Yukon. 85% of those still exist but with lower populations. The salmon need "a good genetic reservoir" to thrive.

The salmon on our coast face many challenges. Over fishing is now controlled, but new problems arise. In the last three years the Blob appeared on the West Coast. The Blob covered the Pacific from our coast to Japan, with temperatures of 3°C higher than normal, bringing warm water fish with it. Fortunately, the Blob is breaking up

now. There is also continuing deglaciation, flood damage due to hotter weather, urban and industrial development and deforestation (pine bark beetle etc), increased disease risk, and of course pollution. But, not to worry, the next glacial period is coming!

Nevertheless, the PSF and other organizations are fighting on behalf of the salmon. With an annual budget that varies between \$7.5 and \$9 million, it is involved in research, making grants, fund raising, and education. This includes the Salish Sea Marine Survival Project, and the Skeena River Program. There is also the Citizen Science Program which does oceanographic sampling using fishermen and their boats to collect data in the Strait of Georgia, all of which is electronically uploaded to Ocean Network Canada at UVIC. This has been very cost effective and produced a large amount of useful data. Furthermore, there are acoustic arrays in the Georgia Strait, tracking devices on seals and salmon, and now genomic studies of salmon and their pathogens. There is another large group fighting for the salmon and that is the First Nations who are committed and effective.

I would like to recommend visiting the Pacific Salmon Foundation website (psf.ca), its links, and particularly www.oceannetworks.ca/, which is fascinating.

Ken Bryden



PROBUS Travel Insurance

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