



NEWSLETTER

PROBUS CLUB VANCOUVER

#252-2025 West 42nd Avenue, Vancouver B.C. V6M 2B5 (604) 261-6818

Clubs for retired and semi-retired professional and business persons, former executives and others

NEXT MEETING: May 15, 2001

TIME: 9:30 AM

LOCATION: Stanley Park Pavilion

SPEAKER: Iona Campagnolo

TOPIC: The Fraser Basin Council

Minutes from April, 2001

Attendance 80 including 1 guest.

President John Hopkins opened the meeting.

Two requests were made for volunteers: anyone who might help our recent guest Lillian establish a Probud Club in the Delta Ladner area; and anyone with computer skills who would like to help update the club's membership roster.

LaConner Tour: 76 people braved inclement weather to see the tulips. Positive reports suggest people enjoyed themselves notwithstanding the weather.

Indian Arm Boat Trip - May: 59 are signed up with a wait list of 8. There is room for a single.

Proposed Fort McMurray Trip: A date for the trip is being negotiated for early June. The capacity of the aircraft is 47. A full flight is necessary to enable a reasonable price for the charter. If you are interested, please advise Doug Lambert ASAP.

Membership: Membership vacancies exist at present.

Gordon Thom introduced our speaker Jack Blaney, Senior Fellow, Morris J. Wosk Centre for Dialogue, Simon Fraser University, who in turn introduced two colleagues who would participate in the presentation: Anne McCaw and Alan Aberbach.

The Morris J. Wosk Centre for Dialogue is a world class Conference Centre located in our city. Reports from conference attendees who attend events all over the world praise the Centre.

Jack Blaney spoke of an impulse he had 8 years ago to save the then empty TD Bank building and transform it into a destination conference centre tied to SFU's downtown campus and to the new hotel (the Delta Vancouver Suites) which was then in the planning stage. His dream was shared in a 30 minute meeting with Peter Eng, Chairman of Allied Holdings Group with the resulting commitment of the site and derelict building to the Centre. Mr. Blaney also shared the dream with Joe Segal, along with the need to raise \$12 million (later raised to \$20 million) to build this "jewel in the city." A council of prominent local citizens, led by Joe Segal, raised the necessary funds including the anchor private donation of \$3.5 million by the Morris Wosk family. The Federal government, the only public money in the facility, contributed \$4 million.

The name, a Centre for Dialogue, characterized the unique features of the facility. The showcase main conference room is circular without podium, enabling easy dialogue among 154 participants. State of the art technology exists, which is not intrusive to conference proceedings as can sometimes be the case. Simultaneous translation for up to 7 languages at the same time is possible. The Centre has smaller meeting rooms, which have much the same technology offered in the main amphitheater. The Centre is the only B.C. member of the International Association of Conference Centres and the Centre's facilities meet the association's exacting design standards.

The Centre is expected to operate without operating subsidies. National and international companies and organizations are current clients. The Federal government is a major client. It's unique facilities augment the conference product offering of the city's largest hotels. The Centre

President:
John Hopkins
985-8422

Past President:
Roy E. Williams
926-4727

Vice-president:
Norm Weitzel
925-3574

Secretary:
Don Farquhar
948-9908

Treasurer:
Bill Wallace
947-0340

**Speakers
Committee:**
Fred Cotton
266-7060

**Membership
Committee:**
Dick Matthews
922-0358

**Visits and
Entertainment:**
Tom McCusker
261-4763

**House
Committee:**
Doug Lambert
266-2422

**Greeters
Committee:**
Leo Sauve
925-2702

Rotary Liaison:
John Hoyle
926-2667

**Historian and
Archivist:**
Peter McCabe
224-4870

partners closely with hotels that have limited conference facilities to market itself to clients. SFU has no booking priorities.

Probus members are requested to help spread the word of this new and world-class facility in Vancouver.

The following additional information emerged from the question period; the Vancouver Tourists Bureau estimates that the Centre has directly and indirectly added hundred's of new jobs to Vancouver; the facilities are friendly to the disabled and have received the endorsement of several local high profile disabled persons.

Alan Aberbach, SFU's Director of Seniors' Programs at the downtown campus gave members a spirited promotion of the University's offerings to seniors, both credit and non-credit courses. This program is unlike other course offerings in the city - they are not recreational. SFU believes that as a senior you will not use your time to participate if you are not learning something new! There are programs for everyone. He spoke movingly of a personal experience to demonstrate the benefits of seniors engaged in adult learning. Being intellectually alive has been shown to have positive impacts on seniors' physical health.

Seniors statistically have an average of 7 hours free time per day. They need to find things to fill that time. Engage in adult learning. SFU offers courses of 6 to 10 weeks with one, two and one-half hour class sessions per week. Most classes are either in the morning or afternoon, this being the preferred time for seniors to attend.

He spoke of the creation of the Opsimath Club (opsimaths being those who learn late in life). The club has raised funds to assist young students and recently has embarked on a fund raising endeavour to raise a \$1 million endowment, the annual interest from which will be sufficient to guarantee the financial viability of seniors programs at SFU for years to come.

Probus members are encouraged to get your name on the Seniors Program mailing list by calling 291-5212 or e-mail seniors@sfu.ca. The Seniors program brochure will be sent out around July 1.

George Baldwin thanked the speakers for an entertaining and informative presentation, as well as the invitation to see the Centre's magnificent facilities.

Geoff Walsh acting for Don Farquhar, Secretary

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Probus Club Constitution states the "Aims and Objectives" of the Club are to meet regularly for fellowship and to listen to Speakers and as well arranging appealing visits and events.

The Management group achieves this criteria in an outstanding way and they are to be commended for their efforts.

There are some very interesting Speakers coming in the future and you will notice in this Newsletter the upcoming events.



Eighty (80) members were present at the April meeting held downtown at "The Morris J. Wosk Centre for Dialogue". the Centre is a world class facility and truly one of Vancouver's "jewels".

After the meeting, the Management Committee held a meeting and I wish to thank them all for their support and efforts.

Look forward to seeing you Tuesday May 15th, at our regular monthly meeting, at the Stanley Park Pavilion.

**John Hopkins
President**

NOTICES

- **It** is with regret that we announce the passing of Peter O'Neil on April 4th. Our condolences to the family. A donation will be made by Probus to the Lions Gate Hospital Foundation.
- **SYNCRUDE TRIP** - We're still short of passengers which we need to keep the cost in line, so ask your friends and relatives to join us. With 47 people going the cost should be approximately \$500.00. Remember it's just the one day and we're presently looking at June 7. Please notify the office at 261-6818 if interested.

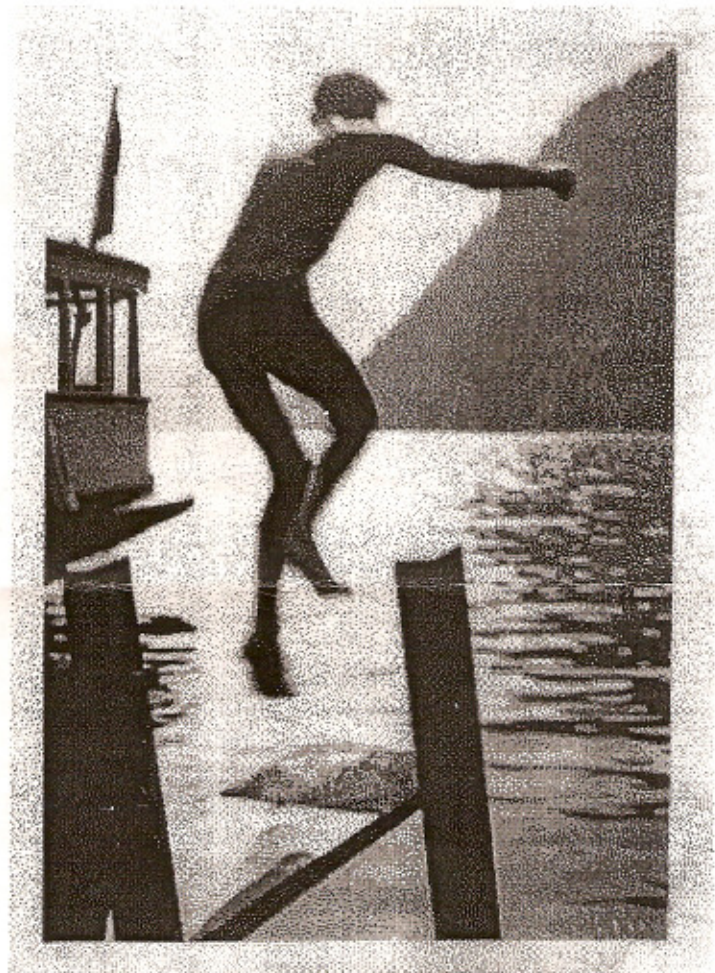
MAY GREETERS:

Cowan McKinney
Sandy Pinkerton



ALL ABROAD!

Everything is in place for our Indian Arm Cruise including permission from the Royal Vancouver Yacht Club to land at Wigwam Inn on May 23rd. We have one single space available, otherwise the trip is fully booked and we have 2 couples on the waiting list. Please call Chris Lee at 926-1022 if there are any cancellations or if you would like to book the single space.



ROY WILLIAMS TAKING THE PLUNGE AT WIGWAM IN THE LATE 1930'S

IONA CAMPAGNOLO

Born to a pioneer family on Galiano Island, Iona Campagnolo was educated and has lived much of her life in Northern British Columbia. Her first taste of public service came in 1966 as a Prince Rupert School Trustee. She went on to become Board Chair before serving as an Alderman until 1973. A radio broadcaster between 1965 and 1974, she was named B.C. Broadcast Citizen of the year for 1972. That same year she was awarded the prestigious Order of Canada. Not leaving her penchant for the airwaves completely behind, she has been since 1979 a panelist on the U.S. Public Television "The Editors," a show which examines Canada-U.S. relations.

Serving in parliament during much of the 70's, her name became synonymous with the Liberal Party of Canada. Interestingly, she was only the fourth woman in Canadian history to enter the Federal cabinet. She served in Prime Minister Pierre Elliot Trudeau's government as Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs and Minister of Amateur Sport. She became the first woman president in the history of her party.

Iona Campagnolo was the founding Chancellor of the University of Northern British Columbia, and only recently completed her six year appointment. Her dedication and national profile helped to establish this young university across the country. Her concern for justice for all peoples, especially women and Native peoples of British Columbia, have shaped the social conscience of the university and the development of its academic programs. To the Haida, she is Saan ag X s-wah, or Person Who Sits High. To the T'simpsean she is Haq-ba-quo-too, or Mother of the Big fin.

Today Iona Campagnolo sits as Chair of the Fraser Basin Council, a body committed to the economic, environmental and social sustainability of the Fraser River. The importance of the basin is great, as it provides for one-quarter of the province's landmass, 2.6 million people, and 80 percent of B.C.'s gross provincial product.

On the international stage, too, she is known for her involvement with education and sustainable development. Her involvement in observing human rights around the globe clearly established her as an outstanding world citizen. But she is first and foremost a British Columbian.