



NEWSLETTER

PROBUS CLUB VANCOUVER

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Clubs for retired and semi-retired professional and business persons, former executives and others
...to find more about Probud go to www.probus.org

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Next Meeting: ** WEDNESDAY November 12, 2003**

Time: 9:30am

NOVEMBER 2003

Location: H.R. MacMillan Planetarium and Space Centre, Lower Level

Speakers: Garth L Warnock, MD, MSC, FRCSC

Keith G. Dawson MD, PhD, FRCPC, FACP

Topic: Diabetes

Minutes of Wednesday, October 15, 2003, Attendance: 130 and 7 guests

In a touching ceremony following the start of the meeting, President McCusker thanked Past President, Farquhar, for his past services, handing him a book on what was stated to be birds, saying, "don't worry Don, we didn't spend any money, it was left over from the Convention." Farquhar, for his part, allowed as how his interests were now on other "birds" (Oxford Dictionary of Current English - "bird: a young woman").

The members were then treated to the introduction of five new members on stage by John Hoyle while McCusker (still President) wandered around in ever diminishing circles saying, "I can't find the pins "and" where are the badges?" hands a flutter, and finally promising the new members (for the record, Owen Owens, Mike Catliff, Geoff Mynett, Doug Seager and Duffy Welsford) that they would find their identities in the badge box at the November meeting.

George Adams and Chris Lee then talked about past events, upcoming guests (prior to next Newsletter) and further events e.g. Orpheum Tour is now December 3 and Fred Cotton and Bill Ibbott (with an assist from Roy Williams as the official timepiece for Ibbott's remarks) spoke on November's (remember it's Wednesday, November 12) speakers are Dr. Keith Lawson and Professor Garth Warnock of UBC on diabetes, Pat Jacobsen (Translink) in December and January Red Robinson.

Reference was also made to the Management Committee's decision to bring in all people on the waiting list and encourage members to try and recruit "younger" (60-65 year old) members.

Members were also reminded of the Muskoka Rendezvous in 2005 for the Canadian Probud Clubs. The guest speaker, John Kerr, the Chairman and Chief Executive Office of Lignum Limited

("ligneous" - consisting of or resembling wood) was introduced by John Tennant

Mr. Kerr began by reminding us that the coastal forest industry used to drive the B.C. economy but that the interior forest industry was now the driver and that the forest industry was 12% of GDP and directly employed 85,000 people.

He also reminded us that, during the period when the Softwood Lumber Agreement was in place, the industry was stable and there was a reasonable return on investment. In other words, "it worked." This was Mr. Kerr's main theme i.e. forget the NAFTA panel's decisions that (most recent 3 American, 2 Canadian all agreed U.S. Trade Commission had failed to prove harm to U.S. lumber) and other related dispute "resolutions" and have lumberman talk to lumberman ("not their lawyers!"). U.S. believes in free trade if it suits them. Softwood lumber dispute is a lawyer's dream and the client's nightmare. The "resolution" of the recent NAFTA panel's decision might not occur until 2007 - that "drag on" factor. A quota would provide certainty. Kerr feels that the Chretien/Pettigrew ineptitude means no chance for a political solution until at least the Government in Ottawa changes with continued doubts about the sincerity of present U.S. Administration - U.S. will not, in long run, agree with Free Trade.

Consolidations in the industry are a factor - "small companies go broke, Skeena Cellulose goes on forever."

First Nations can't be ignored and must be dealt with creatively and urgently but there must also be more emphasis on a "return to shareholder."

In the question period, Mr. Kerr pointed out that trees infected by pine beetles, had commercial value but had a bluish colour wood. He also said that except for trees at the heart of a fire, singed trees were loggable and usable. The only sure kill for the bark beetle was a very cold winter.

He reminded us that in the U.S. the timber was largely privately owned whereas in Canada it was largely publicly owned i.e. by the crown provincial.

When questioned about the export of raw logs he was obviously not as comfortable and said it was a "tough subject" and largely a coastal matter.

In answer to another question he told the members that Canada represented 34% of U.S. softwood industry and that, yes, the Canadian \$ was a big factor i.e. its rise as against the U.S. \$. He appeared to favour the so called hardball approach i.e. the linkage of other Canadian "problems," natural gas, oil, water etc. to a settlement of the softwood dispute. He also pointed out that you had large U.S. forest Co.'s with large interest in the B.C. forest industry and that while progress had been made one couldn't just walk away from the U.S. and deal with Japan, China and India because each of those countries represented complex cultural issues re: the commercial importation of lumber i.e. even with a duty, or whatever, the U.S. is a HUGE market! Bob Swannell thanked our speaker.

Denis Creighton, Secretary



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

All is well in Probus Land. I have found the badges and pins for the new members and Don has received his pin.

I will be away for the next meeting so Gordon Thom will handle the meeting.

I do wish to thank Dr. Murray Newman for giving up his time to take our group through the Vancouver Public Aquarium. It was a very interesting experience. Murray gave us a history of the Aquarium. How it was founded under his leadership and the financial help and enthusiasm of various citizens of Vancouver who put together one of the finest Aquariums of the world.

We were shown all the interior workings of the building. It was amazing to see the number of volunteers that give up their time to educate the young of our community and to guide the many visitors to the facility.

We saw the Dolphin pool with lonely Spinnaker. It was a sad time when the aquarium had to loose the Orca Whale. Spinnaker needs companions desperately.

So if you have time to write to the Parks Board to support the effort to allow the Aquarium to have more Dolphins please do so.

There is always great enjoyment from the visitors when Spinnaker is performing.

I have always felt that the Vancouver Public Aquarium is one of the greatest assets of our city.

I will see you all in December.

Tom McCusker
President

NOTICES

MEMBER SERVICES DESK:

Bill Weatherall

GREETERS: Ray Casson

Jack Merchant

CASH DESK: Frank Willis, Lorne Bohlman

Probus Club Tour of the Historic Orpheum Theater

December 3, 2003

This tour, which was scheduled for 2nd December is now re-scheduled for **Wednesday, 3rd December**. If you are interested in going on this tour and regardless whether you submitted an earlier application, please complete the **Registration** Form which is included with this Newsletter and send it to the PROBUS Club office as soon as possible.



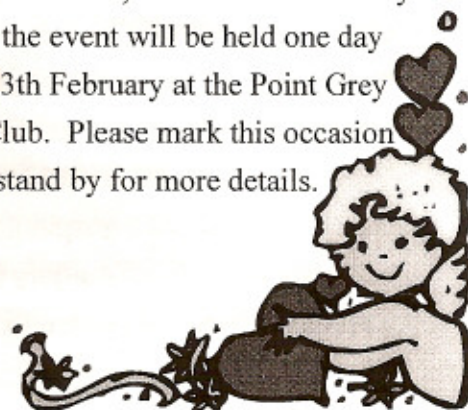
PRESIDENTS' LUNCHEON

The Presidents' Lunch will be held following the regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, 13th January.

Once again it will take place at the Royal Vancouver Yacht Club. Further information will appear in the next Newsletter.

VALENTINE'S DAY LUNCHEON

Next year's Valentine's day falls, surprisingly, on 14th February and once again, Probus Club will be arranging a lunch for members and their ladies to mark the occasion. However, since Valentine's Day falls on a Saturday, the event will be held one day earlier, on Friday, 13th February at the Point Grey Golf and Country Club. Please mark this occasion in your diaries and stand by for more details.



Garth L. Warnock, MD, MSc, FRCSC

Dr. Warnock was born in Alberta, where he completed his undergraduate medical degree after studies at the University of Lethbridge and the University of Alberta. He went on to complete a residency training program in surgery where he developed research interests in the transplantation of pancreatic islets of Langerhans for type 1 diabetes. He furthered his research experience at the Nuffield Department of Surgery in Oxford, and then returned to the Faculty of the University of Alberta, supported throughout his career by investigator awards from Alberta's Heritage Foundation for Medical Research. His research contributions included improvements to the separation and preservation of islets of Langerhans, definition of the critical mass of transplanted islet cells to reverse the insulin dependence, and definition of strategies to prevent auto and allo-immune injury to transplanted islets of Langerhans. He conducted clinical studies in islet cell transplant and the initial long-term success after islet cell transplantation worldwide. He subsequently participated with a research team that led to a consecutive series of persons achieving insulin independence after islet cell transplantation. Dr. Warnock has maintained an active clinical career, and has promoted avid support of undergraduate and postgraduate education programs. He promoted research through the Canadian Association of Surgical Chairs, and the Canadian Association of General Surgeons. Dr. Warnock joined the University of British Columbia in 2001, where he is currently C.N. Woodward Professor, and Head of the Department of Surgery and Surgeon-in-Chief of Vancouver Hospital. He continues research in pancreatic islet cell transplantation, teaching students, and clinical surgery for persons who have gastrointestinal and pancreatic disorders.

His dream: To advance the scientific and surgical community at Vancouver Hospital to the international forefront of cell transplant therapies for diabetes and other human disorders. So far in 2003, six patients have received pancreatic islet cells transplants at Vancouver Hospital. The islet cells were harvested at the Ike Barber Human Islet Transplant Laboratory, which was created through a \$2.5 million gift from Mr. Barber.

Keith G. Dawson MD, PhD, FRCPC, FACP

Dr. Dawson is Emeritus Professor of Medicine at U.B.C. Born in New York, he was educated at Princeton University, Columbia University and later McGill University. He is a Canadian citizen.

Dr. Dawson received a Certificate of Special Competence in Endocrinology from the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons in 1986. He was Head, Department of Medicine, Shaughnessy Hospital, and Head, Division of Endocrinology, University Hospital. He has been Director of the Diabetes Centre at both Shaughnessy and Vancouver Hospitals. He served as an elected member of the U.B.C. Senate, 1990-1993, Faculty of Medicine.

Dr. Dawson is the author of numerous papers on research in Diabetes published in many journals and presented at various national and international conferences. He is a past Chair, Clinical and Scientific Section of the Canadian Diabetes Association, with which he continues to pursue many interests. In 2002 he was a member of the steering and Expert Committee for revision of Clinical Practice Guidelines for Diabetes Mellitus in Canada.