



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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Tom McCusker
604-261-4763

Director,

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604-948-9908

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604-739-0714

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604-988-2365

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604-266-7060

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Committee:

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604-926-2667

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604-926-0906

House Committee:

Doug Lambert
604-266-2422

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604-926-4727

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Bill Weatherall
604-263-3069

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ter McCabe
604-224-4870

Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 13, 2004

Time: 9:30am

Location: Royal Vancouver Yacht Club, 3811 Point Grey Road, Vancouver

Speaker: "Red" Robinson

JANUARY 2004

Minutes of Tuesday, December 9, 2003

Attendance: 170 members and 10 guests

Timing is everything, or **Fred Cotton** does it again!

On page B3 of the *Vancouver Sun*, dated December 9th the *Sun* said "In New Direction - welcome to Pat Jacobsen's challenging world - after Wednesday's vote, it may get a lot more complex" and "Translink now owns or manages a transportation grid worth approximately \$5 billion; a robust 10-year wish list the agency has come up with would see it's empire nearly double in value" and then set out details of the above under the heading, "Size and scope of Translink, ridership, employees, major projects, budget, fares, population demands, traffic demands, how we get around, how we now pay for it" and "The three and ten year plan."

Did I mention that our speaker on December 9th was **Pat Jacobsen**, CEO

of Translink, The Greater Vancouver Transportation Authority, or that she was most articulate with a delightful sense of humour?

Apart from the foregoing, **Tom McCusker** came back from someplace and thanked **Gordon Thom** for "doing" November, **Art Jones** for "doing" the Orpheum and allowed **Don Farquhar** a moment to flog **Donald Luxton's** book. The name **Doug Lambert** was again mentioned by committee heads for praise and thanks and **John Hoyle** advised of a substantial wait list of 38.

Finally, **Bill Manson** promised at the next meeting to give us the details of his bookkeeping chores.

For those of you who have long since blue boxed your *Sun* newspaper, here's more information from the CEO.

Ms Jacobsen began by talking about challenges ("Consensus in a land of extremes" and dealing with the usual suspects - "groupies who follow transportation") after announcing that she was delighted to be with us, "a widow in a room full of men."

Population should double in next 20 years with 1.5 cars per 1 person. Limited expansion in lower mainland (water, mountains, and border). Port expansion with more containers i.e. more trucks. Employment (over 50% outside of centre of City, office parks, green field sites - commuter problems). 22 different municipalities - a recurring theme through her remarks! Alternative to vehicles. Kids staying at home (can't afford housing) and buying cars.

Problem (starting point) is a decade of under investment in transportation infrastructure. Transit must become more viable.

Student passes (U Pass) will charge to tuition (35% of SFU, over 40% UBC). Talking to Orca Bay (transit pass in Canuck ticket prices). Expanding transit corridors (Richmond, Broadway). Smaller buses (White Rock, Langley). Rapid Transit (Airport/Richmond, Vancouver, Coquitlam). 3rd crossing (no, not Burrard, the Fraser) to relieve Port Mann Bridge - major choke point.

Balancing revenue streams or where the hell do we get the money? 25% from increase in transit fare, 50% from property tax (\$20 per \$100,000 of assessment) and 25% parking tax (the so-called mall tax - DPC and other commercial parking lots already taxed).

Jacobsen and her Board obviously are hoping that Paul Martin, the son of, will

put his municipal musings into effect by rebating (or a portion thereof) B.C.'s share of the federal gas tax - a significant stream indeed.

How about increasing resident density? - particularly in Burrard Inlet i.e. New West, Burnaby, Vancouver - people live closer to core - another way of reducing number of cars.

Transit linkage. Developers have to provide sewer, water etc. now - why not a transit component? Must continue to try to keep Victoria's attention and keep Province involved and, above all, look at REGIONAL GOVERNMENT - those terrible 22 again! Too much competition between!

Questions brought out that "skytrain's fare evasion rate" is around \$3,000,000 annually and to fix it with turnstiles etc would cost \$60,000,000. Jacobsen did indicate that planned extensions of skytrain would include gates and other anti-evasion stuff, that Cambie Street had been chosen over Oak, Arbutus and Granville as the best for all in rapid transit, that dedicated truck routes (have in Surrey, but gain of no freeway in Vancouver you loose in no truck routes), that Translink looking at waterways (Marine Ways) of interurban ferries (passenger only) Burrard Inlet, Bowen, Ambleside, Point Grey, that present Cambie plan calls for tunneling as far south as 41st (because of grades) and looking at proposals south of 41st for below grade, at grade, that Massey Tunnel not in plan because not regional.

George Adams introduced Pat Jacobsen and she was thanked by **Richard Landahl**.

Denis Creighton, Secretary



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I thought that I would like to report to you on the first six months of my term as your President.

We are so fortunate in having such a great group of members on our many committees.

First, I would like to thank Fred Cotton for the exceptional speakers he has arranged for us and the endless number of ideas he puts forward. Also, so many thanks to Doug Lambert for the tremendous amount of work he does gathering all the cash from the special events, cash from the dues, name and numbers of people for the various trips, arrangements for the needs of our speakers plus more.

Thanks to Bill Kennedy for assisting Doug and arranging our Probus Golf Tournament.

Thanks to George Adams for arranging the special events, John Hoyle for keeping ever increasing members roster. Bill Weatherall for manning the service desk. Roy Williams for keeping the Newsletter current and on time and a special thanks to our humorous secretary, Denis Creighton for the excellent minutes that he records for all the meetings. The minutes are accurate and very informative. If you miss the speaker you will have the critique in the minutes.



Due to the great pressure of being your President for the last six months, I am taking a rest in February and March in Maui.

Pidge McBride will chair the February meeting and Gordon Thom will chair the March meeting. See you all in April 2005.

Tom McCusker

NOTICES

PRESIDENTS' LUNCHEON

The Presidents' Lunch will be held following the regular monthly meeting on Tuesday 13th January at the Royal Vancouver Yacht Club. The speaker at the meeting will be "Red" Robinson who is highly entertaining and will, we are sure, set our new year off in fine form.

For Probus Club members, the cost of the luncheon will be subsidized at a price of \$20.00 each (the price for non-members will be \$30.00) - the price includes the normal meeting fee. There will be a no-host bar for those wishing to purchase wines and other beverages.

In order for the Yacht Club to cater for the lunch it is important that we have in advance an accurate count of those attending. If you have not done so already, will you please advise the Probus office (604-261-6818) if you will be attending.

Please bring your cheque with you to the luncheon.



VALENTINE'S DAY LUNCHEON

Our Valentine's Day Luncheon will take place on Friday 13th, February at the Point Grey Golf and Country Club. The price will be \$38.00 per head, which includes wine. This promises to be an excellent event and for those wishing to attend with your wife, partner or "just good friend" please complete the enclosed enrollment form and, together with your cheque, hand it in to the Membership Desk at the January meeting or mail it to the office as shown on the form.

RED ROBINSON

- 1953-1956 First deejay in Canada to play Rock Roll on a regular basis on radio
- 1956 Named Disc Jockey of the Northwest by The Province newspaper
- 1957 Emcee for Elvis Presley Show at Empire Stadium, Vancouver
- 1962-1967 Program Director C-FUN Radio, Vancouver
- 1964 Emcee for The Beatles at Empire Stadium, Vancouver
- 1964-1967 Host of CBC Network TV show "Music Hop"
- 1968-1970 Program Director CJOR Vancouver
- 1977-1979 Host of CBC Network show "Trivia"
- 1979 B.C. Association of Broadcasters "Performer of the Year"
- 1976-2000 Main host of CBC Television "Timmy's Christmas Telethon"
- 1984 Author of "Rockbound," a history of Rock & Roll in Canada
- 1986 Promoter of "The Legends of Rock & Roll" concert series at Expo 86
- 1988 Proclaimed Founding President NABS West, National Advertising Benevolent Society
- 1989-2000 Host of Red's Classic Theatre, a two-hour movie showcase, every Sunday on KVOS TV
- 1993-2000 Host of morning show on C-ISL Radio, Vancouver
- 1995 Inducted into Rock & Roll Hall of Fame located in Cleveland, Ohio
- 1995 Elected to B.C. Entertainment Hall of Fame
- 1997 Red Rock Diner, a '50s musical revue based on Red's early DJ days, at Arts Club Theatre, Vancouver; 8 week run in Kansas City, Missouri in 1999
- 1997 Elected into CAB (Canadian Association of Broadcasters) Hall of Fame
- 2000 Elected to Rockabilly Hall of Fame, located in Memphis, Tennessee

MEMBER SERVICES DESK:

Bill Weatherall

GREETERS: Bev Machesney, Ed Legg

CASH DESK: George Plant,
John Macgowan

