



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

...to find more about Probus go to www.probus.org

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604-266-7060

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Committee
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604-732-7758

Historian and
Archivist

Peter McCabe
604-224-4870

Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 8th 2005

MARCH 2005

Time: 9:30am

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

Speaker: Honourable Colin Hansen

Minutes of the February 8th, 2005 meeting

Attendance: 160 including 8 guests

President Gordon called the meeting to order and extended a Probus welcome to all. After the eight guests were introduced, we welcomed the following new members:

Ted Fritz-Clarke (accounting background), **Ralph Fraser** (aircraft marketing), **Michael King** (legal background), **Garry Bowell** (forest products industry), **Neil Desaulniers** (forest products industry), **Jim Rogers** (financial adviser).

John Hoyle introduced new members as president Gordon presented them with their Probus pins. **Fred Cotton** quipped that this was a very special event as the new members received the pins during their installation. Gordon thanked **Tom McCusker**, **Pidge McBride** and **George Adams** for the well planned and executed Presidents Luncheon and then called for committee reports:

Treasurer, **Bill Manson** - Bill said that we had a very successful month!

Probus Canada, Director **Pidge McBride** - Pidge reemphasized the

Muskoka Rendezvous 2005 and said he would stay after the meeting to give out registration forms. He said the maximum registration is five hundred and that those interested in attending should move quickly.

Speaker Committee, **Fred Cotton** - Fred said that Colin Hanson would be our March speaker and that the CBC Board Chair, Carol Taylor would be speaking very soon. Fred then mentioned that the China trip is progressing well, but that more bodies are required. This will be a very special trip and events such as a luncheon with a group of mature UBC, MBA students currently studying in China, and others happenings, are planned.

Visits and Entertainment, **George Adams** - George said that Vancouver Port security is too tight to make a worth while visit. A harbour tour is a viable alternative and if there is sufficient interest it could be planned for next year.

. George then called **Don Farquhar** to present a proposed trip to Princess Louisa inlet this spring. The plan is to overnight on the sunshine coast and boat up to and back from Princess Louisa the following day.

Chris Lee addressed the Hycroft Manor and Old Shaughnessy tour scheduled for April 19th.

Chris Lee was then asked to introduce our speaker.

Retired provincial Court Judge Wally Craig spent 26 years in the Vancouver Criminal Division at 222 main Street. His retirement took place in 2001 at age 71. Wally feels that the criminal justice system and the judiciary have operated, for some time, without a real sense of law and order. This situation has changed Vancouver into a place where property crime is rampant and sentencing is too light. He pointed out that by constitution, the first priority of our criminal justice system is to provide "peace, order and good government." This implies that law-abiding citizens should be secure against violence and property loss, and that judges should sentence criminals in a manner that assures this in all our communities. In his opinion this is not being done.

Through the years things have changed dramatically. Academic criminology teachings of the '60s and beyond, instructed that the crimes were committed because of personal and social problems, which required treatment not punishment. In the '80s however, these same teachers had to admit the rehabilitative programs did little to prevent individual repetitive crimes. An amendment to the criminal code states in part that prior to a prison sentence all other reasonable alternatives must be considered. The amendment laid the grounds for the "conditional sentence"; a disposition ranging between probation and prison. The public was assured that the forthcoming penalties would be just as protective as a jail term, an assurance that proved wrong.

Today, social activists, criminologists, reform-minded judges and even Corrections Canada support this restorative justice, fewer and shorter jail sentences and court orders such as community service work, curfews, abstentions from alcohol/drug and treatment programs. This results in a "catch-and-release" program that is very difficult to over-see and frustrates those who work to maintain law and order. This additional strain on the police, prosecutors, probation officers, and legal-aid-lawyers, bogs the justice system and the offenders laugh at our "toothless tiger tactics."

Judges have a Constitutional duty to assure protection for the law-abiding citizens. This duty is being slighted to the extent that "Fortress Canada" has been springing up all around us. Our responsible citizens are baring windows, installing multiple locking devices and security systems. We, with little piece of mind, are building gated communities, securing doors on apartment blocks and providing guards at multiple residences, banks and the like.

Plea-bargaining, a joint submission by the prosecution and defense to persuade the judge to impose a lesser sentence in exchange for a guilty plea, is dramatically on the rise. Today it is thought that four out of five sentences are stipulated by plea-bargain and not judges. By administering a bargained, lenient sentence the judge infuses society and particularly the victim with the strong feeling that unless the punishment fit the crime, justice has been compromised.

Wally described the downtown east side as a nineteenth century Victorian hell. He said the degradation started shortly after World War Two when heroin trafficking intensified on Skid Road. At first, hard-nosed judges kept control by administered severe sentences.

Today, with growth and the changing legal attitudes, we are now confronted with more than 15,000 hardcore addicts in the lower mainland. The hard noses are long gone, giving way to an indifferent new generation of judges, prosecutors and politicians. Now Skid Road is a cesspool of narcotics, property crime, violence and murder.

Wally closed on a note of hope in part attributed to a letter he received last September from a reformed addict. She had started reading Wally's book before she realized he was the judge that incarcerated her as a girl of eighteen, 25 years earlier. She now works on Skid Road trying to improve the life of others suffering from her earlier plight. She felt compelled to write Wally expressing her agreement with the book's message and even admitting he was right to send her to jail!" To learn more and supplement his book, please go to Wally's website www.realjustice.ca.

President Gordon then asked Ken Meredith to thank the speaker.

Bill Weatherall, Secretary

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We celebrated Valentines Day by toasting our sweethearts Friday February 11th. It was a



beautiful day for lunch at the Point Grey Golf and Country Club when several Probus Club members accompanied by their charming wives came to enjoy a delicious meal,

pleasant thoughts and all in a mood associated with St. Valentines. My thanks to Chris Lee who said grace and later thanked the staff for their excellent service. The response by Vivienne Adams to my toast to the ladies was

unexpected but much appreciated by the gentlemen present. Thank you also to Pidge McBride, George Adams and others involved in organizing this enjoyable event.

At the last regular meeting you may recall that Michael Jacobson suggested that any members interested in lunch might gather at Chianti's on fourth Avenue. A few of us did join Michael and carried on our fellowship and inspired discussion following Wally Craig's presentation about our criminal justice system or lack thereof. Many of you had other commitments and could not make it after the February meeting but Michael will be at the Member Service desk at the next meeting. Let him know if you are interested in lunch. It is intended to be, for those of you looking, an informal and casual place for lunch after our meetings. Michael, thank you for your suggestion.

At a recent meeting Roy Williams, our Newsletter editor announced that the Newsletter will be offered to members by email. This announcement was well received based on your show of hands and should save us considerable in terms of postage and time stuffing and mailing the envelopes. Our thanks to Roy for his ongoing leadership service to the Probus Club Vancouver. Roy, we all sincerely appreciate your current role in keeping us so interestingly well informed through the Newsletter.

Roy is the Past President and Charter Member of our Club. Roy was born in Winnipeg in 1927 and went on to the University of Manitoba where he obtained a B.Com.(Honours). He was

a member of the 1952 Canadian Olympic Basketball team. Roy, a CLU (Chartered Life Underwriter) and a CFP (Chartered Financial Planner) had a 54 year association with Great West Life. He served as President of both the Winnipeg and Edmonton Life Managers Association and on the boards of the Winnipeg Rotary Club and the Winnipeg Blue Bombers. His retirement focus is golf, travel, digital photography, computers and Probus. He's also interested in opera and model airplanes. Roy is married to Lenore and they have four children and nine grandchildren.

I look forward to seeing you all at our march meeting
Gordon Thom, President

NOTICES

Member Services Desk: Ted Daem

Cash Desk: Ken Warner, Bob Barnbrook

Greeters: Art Jeffery, Bob Swannell, Keith Goddard

VISITS AND ENTERTAINMENT PLANS

The committee has established the following outline programmes for the year. Except for the April activities, dates are still open and subject to change. Details of specific outings will be provided closer to the date.

April 19th - Tour of Hycroft manner and

Shaughnessy followed by lunch (Chris Lee)

April 25th - Golf at University Golf Course followed

by dinner (Bill Kennedy, Don Newman)

May - Visit to Minter Gardens and lunch (Bill Adams & Fred Cotton)

June - Tour of Steveston Village, Cannery Museum and Japanese Village (George Adams)

- Cruise to Princess Louisa Inlet, including overnight stay (Don Farquhar) or September

August - Bard on the Beach (Bev Machesney)

September - Visit to Langley Winery & lunch (J. Hill)

- BC Lions Football game (Jack Farley)

October -Tour of Storeyum and lunch

(D.Winram)

November - Tour of CBC Archives (C. Lee)

December - Visit to Boeing Aviation Museum, Everett (Lloyd Doidge)

PROBUS GOLF TOURNAMENT

Mark your calendar for the 9th Annual Probus Golf Tournament to be held on Monday, April 25th, 2005. See insert for detail.

March Guest Speaker

Honourable Colin Hansen

Colin Hanson was appointed Minister of Finance on December 15, 2004. Prior to that he served as Minister of health Services since June 4,2001. He previously served as health critic for employment and investment and for labour. He sat on the select standing Committees on Crown Corporations and on Economic Development, Science, Labour, Training and Technology.

He also sat on the Official Opposition Caucus Committees on Health and Economy.

He was first elected in 1996 to represent the electoral district of Vancouver-Quilchena and was re-elected in 2001. He received his Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from the University of Victoria. in 1975.

Before his election to the Legislative Assembly, Mr. Hansen and his wife Laura owned and operated a small business they established in 1988. Prior to that he was Vice-President of finance and administration for the Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada.

Mr. Hansen served as a director of the Vancouver-Yokohama sister city society and Chair of the Vancouver Museum Board of trustees.

Colin and Laura Hansen have two children and live in the Dunbar area of Vancouver-Quilchena.

HYCROFT/SHAUGHNESSY TOUR
TUESDAY, APRIL 19, 2005 10:00 AM - 2:00PM

10.00 - Assemble at Hycroft, 1489 McCrae Ave., Vancouver. Welcome, name tag distribution and introduction of tour hosts. Historic background presentation

10.30 - Tour of historic Hycroft, one of the first houses built in the elite CPR Shaughnessy subdivision

11.30 - Shaughnessy tour with author/historian John Atkins

12.30 - Lunch at Hycroft, catered by Culinary capers.

1.15 - Concluding observations, questions and answers

2.00 - Acknowledgements and adjournment

Total cost for use of Hycroft, lunch and tour guide is \$36.00 each. The tour is limited to 33 Probus members and wives/partners. Please complete the enclosed registration form with name(s) and phone numbers together with full payment by cheque made out to Probus Club Vancouver, mail the cheque and completed registration form to the Probus Office, 252 - 2025 West 42nd Ave., Vancouver, B.C. V6M 2B5. Your prompt attention is suggested to avoid disappointment.

HYCROFT/SHAUGHNESSY TOUR REGISTRATION, APRIL 19/05

NAME(S): _____

PHONE # _____

Enclosed is a cheque for \$36.00 each made out to Probus Club Vancouver.

Please return your cheque and registration to:

Probus Club Vancouver, 252 - 2025 West 42nd Ave., Vancouver, B.C. V6M 2B5

Registration

PROBUS 10TH ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

Monday, April 25th, 2005 UBC GOLF COURSE

Name _____

Phone _____ Handicap _____

Cost - \$130, Dinner only - \$48.00

Includes - Golf - First Tee Time 11:00a.m.

Lunch - Sandwich or hotdog, beverage and snack

Dinner - 6pm Terrace buffet

Plus - pull cart, 1 bottle of water, prizes, 1 mulligan per nine.

Power cart - call UBC Pro Shop to reserve 604-224-1818

Mail cheques to Probus Club Vancouver, #252 - 2025 West 42nd Ave., Vancouver, V6M 2B5

Further Information please call: Bill Kennedy 604-731-4244 or Don Newman 604-263-5740

Last date for registration April 21st, 2005