



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 Probud go to www.probus.org

President:

Gordon Thom
604-739-0714

Director

Probus Canada
Pidge McBride
604-274-0446

Past President

Tom McCusker
604-261-4763

Vice-President

Denis Creighton
604-922-6469

Secretary

Bill Weatherall
604-263-3069

Treasurer

Bill Manson
604-988-2365

Speakers

Committee

Fred Cotton
604-266-7060

Membership

Committee
John Hoyle
604-926-2667

Visits and

Entertainment

George Adams
604-926-0906

House Committee

Doug Lambert
604-266-2422

Newsletter Editor

Roy Williams
604-926-4727

Membership Services

Ted Daem
604-732-7758

Historian and
Archivist

Next Meeting: Tuesday, September 13, 2005

Time: 9:30am

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

Speaker: Earl G. Drake

Topic: China, Dramatic Growth and Big Challenges

SEPTEMBER 2005

DR. EARL G. DRAKE



Dr. Drake received his B.A. and M.A. in history and political science from the University of Saskatchewan.

Subsequently he took one year of PhD studies at the University of Toronto in History.

1990 to date (Vancouver) - Adjunct Professor, Simon Fraser University at David Lam Centre for International Communications. **Project Director**, China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development. **Vice Chairman**, Canada China Business Council. Author: *A. Stubble - Jumper in Striped Pant; Memoirs of a Prairie Diplomat* (University of Toronto Press, 1999)

1987-90 (Beijing) - Ambassador of Canada to People's Republic of China

1984-87 (Ottawa) - Assistant Deputy Minister for Asia-Pacific, at Department of External Affairs and International Trade

1982-83 (Jakarta) - Ambassador of Canada to Indonesia

1975-82 (Washington) - Executive Director, the World Bank Group.

Represented Canada, Ireland, Jamaica and ten other Caribbean nations

1972-75 (Ottawa) - Vice-President for Multilateral Programmes; at Canadian International Development agency (CIDA).

Director, Caribbean Development Bank

1968-72 (Paris) - Deputy Permanent Representative to Organization for Economic Cooperation & Development (OECD) - Representative to Development Assistance Committee

1964-68 (Ottawa) - Director, Executive Aid Officer. Director of Planning for predecessor agency to CIDA

1962-64 (Kuala Lumpur) - First Secretary, Canadian Embassy, Malaysia, Burma and Thailand. Resident in Malaysia & co-accredited to others

1959-62 (Ottawa) - Desk Officer, Department of External Affairs. Responsible for relations with India and Pakistan

1956-68 (Karachi) - Second Secretary, Canadian High Commission, Pakistan

1952-55 (Saskatoon and Regina) Archivist and Historian - Assistant Provincial Archivist, Govt. of Saskatchewan. Author: *Regina, The Queen City* (McClelland & Stewart, 1955)

Minutes of the August 9th Meeting

Attendance: 103 including 4 guests

President Gordon called the meeting to order at 10:05am and asked **John Hoyle** to introduce our three new members: **Lindsay Mann**, University Professor; **Eugene Kaulius**, banking background and **Harry Richards**, insurance. President Gordon presented all with their recognition pins and welcomed them into the Club. He then called for the Committee Reports.

Treasurer, Bill Manson: Bill reported that all cheques were "in the mail."

Speaker Committee, Fred Cotton: Fred said that next month Earl Drake would speak on China.

Visits and Entertainment, George Adams:

George thanked **Bev Machesney** for another successful Bard on the Beach evening. **Don Farquhar** said booking for the September 15th Princess Louisa Cruise has not reached the minimum required and will likely be postponed until next spring. **Jack Farley** said the October 1st Probus football night is only 50% sold so about 45 additional participants are required. **George Adams** said a Storyeum tour is planned for October and a visit to the CBC Archives for November. In December, a trip to the Boeing Aviation Museum will be offered.

Nominating Committee, Tom McCusker:

President Gordon presented the Committee's recommended slate of Officers for next year. A motion of acceptance was made, seconded and carried. The report appears elsewhere in the newsletter.

Newsletter, Roy Williams: Roy said that all copy for September issue must be in by August 16th.

President Gordon again encouraged members to get involved in the Club's activities. He then asked **Norm Weitzel** to introduce our speaker, Dr. Timothy Ball, Climatologist.

Dr. Ball told a startling story and used a good deal of entertaining humour to make his point. He shocked us by saying that Kyoto was dead, but substantiated his position by illustrating that Kyoto and indeed, portions of the UN report on climate change were primarily the erroneous work of Michael Mann as published in the Mann, Bradley and Huges 1998 Report. Canadian scientists McIntyre and McKittrick, who used the same data sources but got entirely different results, challenged this Report. They found that the conclusions of the Report were based

on selective and unscientific use of data. While this challenge received little media attention, the Editorial Board of the publishing journal ordered a correction. Dr. Ball attributes this coverage shortfall to the media's lack of understanding that this was the single research article on which Kyoto and the UN climate change report was based. The 1998 Report showed dramatic global warming trends at the end of the 20th century. On the other hand, McIntyre and McKittrick concluded that this period was quite normal and the sun caused the warming trend, which began in the 1680's. Dr. Ball explained the natural phenomena where the large portion of the sun's heat passes through the atmosphere and warms the earth. The air at ground level heats and rises to create global warming. Conversely, the entire focus of the Kyoto strategy is based on the theory that man-made carbon dioxide (CO2) as a greenhouse gas traps heat in the atmosphere. The speaker used a chart to illustrate that CO2 accounts for only 3.6% of greenhouse gases and that only 0.117% of this is man created. He used other overheads to show that, through long time periods, abnormal weather patterns are experienced. These are not an indication of climate change! Most climate changes result from variations in the earth's orbit around the sun and tilt of its axis.

The Canadian Government has focused its entire global warming policy on Kyoto, which is based completely on the failed and discredited single study. Despite opposing scientific evidence, this position still exists. We are spending huge amounts in this regard, \$3.7 billion plus since 2000 and a \$6 billion allocation in the latest budget! Is it possible that government is committed to make the public believe that climate change is both real and human induced? Dr. Ball concluded by voicing strong objections to our Canadian economy being negatively affected by such waste.

During the question period we learned that: Dinosaurs became extinct by a meteorite attack, causing a dust cloud, which lowered the temperature to a point where they could not survive.

The US decision not to ratify Kyoto was scientifically wise and financially prudent. The Senate rejected it on a 95 to 0 vote. The rest of the world will likely adopt the energy policy described by President Bush at the recent G8 Conference.

Denis Creighton thanked the speaker.

Bill Weatherall, Secretary

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Summer is drifting towards September, a new year for Probus, and the end of my very rewarding and enjoyable year as your President. Thank you all for your continued enthusiasm and cooperation, especially those who created events or attracted interesting speakers. Thank you

also for the very fulfilling opportunity to serve as your President. I look forward to my continued role on the Management Committee as Past President as our very capable former secretary and current Vice-President Denis Creighton commences his term as your President. I am sure that with your continued support his leadership will provide another great year for all of us in Probus.

This September John Hoyle is leaving his role on the Management Committee where he has been serving as Chair of the Membership Committee. It was John, as a long time member of the Rotary Club of Vancouver, who stepped forward when the then President of Rotary suggested that the Rotary sponsor a Probus Club for Vancouver. John was given \$500, which was quickly repaid, to start our Club and it was John who brought together a group of founding members and recommended that Fred Cotton become our Charter President. John's initial and very significant contributions to our Probus Club of Vancouver are very much appreciated today by all of us. Thank you John. Our immediate Past President Tom McCusker now joins our group of Past Presidents who continue to serve and inspire our Club. Tom has just served as Chair of our Nominating Committee and has offered to take over the continuing role as Club Historian. Dr. Tom McCusker was born in Vancouver in 1924. He attended high school in California and also at Prince of Whales in Vancouver before obtaining his BSC at UBC and his DDS from the University of Toronto. Tom married Joy and they had three children and now have six grandchildren. Tom has served as President of the Medical Services Assn., the BC Arthritis Society and as Chairman, BC Life Insurance Co. and Dental Director, Sea Board Life Insurance. He is a honorary member of the Canadian Dental Association, a member of the UBC Big

Block Club and served on the Board of Management of the UBC Alumni Association. He enjoys golf, tennis, travel, fishing, financial affairs and gardening.

I look forward to seeing most of you at our next meeting when Denis and the new Executive and Management Committee will assume their roles for the coming year of stewardship of Probus. May you all enjoy Probus as much as I have done. Thank you again for letting me become involved.

NOTICES

Gordon Thom

IMPORTANT NOTICE

October Meeting Date Changed to October 18th, 2005

PRINCESS LOUISA CRUISE

This event has been postponed until next spring

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT 2005

The Nominating Committee comprised of Tom McCusker, Doug Lambert and Pidge McBride submitted the following slate of nominees for the 2005-2006 year.

President: Denis Creighton

Past President: Gordon Thom

Vice-President: Jack Farley

Secretary: Bill Weatherall

Treasurer: Bill Manson

The following have agreed to serve as Committee Chairmen:

Speakers Committee: Fred Cotton

Membership Committee: Nick Thornton

Visits & Entertainment: Don Hudson

House Committee: Doug Lambert

Newsletter Editor: Roy Williams

Membership Services: Ted Daem

Historian & Archives: Tom McCusker

Any additional nominations (with prior agreement to stand) must be conveyed to the Nominating Committee at least 24 hours in advance of the Annual Meeting.

Member Services Desk: Ted Daem

Cash Desk: Lorne Bohlman, Bob Swannell

Greeters: Jim McPherson, Ray Casson, Michael Shield

Tentative arrangements have been made for this tour to Everett, Washington on Tuesday, December 6th. Participants will leave by bus at 8:30am and return about 5:30pm. Complete details will appear in the next newsletter

VISITS AND ENTERTAINMENT

PROBUS FOOTBALL NIGHT

SATURDAY OCTOBER 1ST, 2005

BC Lions vs Saskatchewan Roughriders

Time is running out on this opportunity to experience a unique evening of fun, fellowship and exciting football in the President's suite at BC Place Stadium. Spouses and friends of Probus Members are welcome!!

Arrangements have been made to have Gerald Roper, former guard and Ian Sinclair, former centre give a chalk talk to the group. Don Taylor, former running back and President of the BC Lions Alumni will be with us and Luis Passaglia will be joining us at half time.

HERE IS THE SPECIAL

PROGRAM:

5:30PM - Cash bar opens for the evening

6:15pm - Dinner served featuring delicious light snacks

7:10pm - kick -off

Price \$65.00 per person

For those who enjoyed this event last year, Jack Farley promises greatly improved food and beverage service!

So don't delay! Complete the enclosed order form today!

P.S. The Probus Office Address on the orange order forms given out at the last meeting was incorrect. The correct address is shown on the enclosed Order Form.



VISIT TO STORYEUM

Tuesday October 4th, 2005

Arrangements have been concluded for Probus Vancouver members and their guests to visit Storyeum which is located in the heart of historic Gastown at 142 Water Street in Vancouver. Much has been written about this fascinating addition to the cultural scene where the history of Vancouver is presented in a dramatic way.

The Visit will take place on Tuesday, October 4th starting at 11:00am but you should plan to arrive at 10:30am.

If you would like to attend, please send the enclosed application form, together with your cheque to Probus Club office.

Arrangements have been made also for a luncheon at the Old Spaghetti Factory following the Storyeum tour. Please indicate on the application form whether you will be taking advantage of this opportunity to join your fellow Club members at this long-established cornerstone of Gastown. The cost for the lunch is not included in the Storyeum price.

Your early attention to this matter will be appreciated and, if you have any questions please contact Dean Winram at 604-736-4246. For more information on Storyeum you can refer to their website at www.storyeum.com.

BOEING AVIATION MUSEUM TOUR

Registration
PROBUS FOOTBALL NIGHT
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1ST, 2005

NAME: _____

PHONE# _____

Please reserve _____ tickets for me at \$65.00 each

Enclosed is a cheque payable to Probus Club Vancouver. Mail to: Probus Club Vancouver, 252-2025 West 42nd Avenue, Vancouver, B.C. V6M 2B5

Please Mark the envelope "Football Game"

PROBUS STORYEUM VISIT AND LUNCH
Tuesday 4th October, 2005

APPLICATION FORM (Please Print)

Please submit this form to the office together with your payment (\$18.00 per head) for the Storyeum visit. The cost of lunch will be additional and for your own account.

Member's Name _____

Guest Name _____

WILL YOU JOIN US FOR LUNCH AT THE OLD SPAGHETTI FACTORY FOLLOWING THE VISIT TO
STORYEUM? **YES / NO**

Forward to: Probus Club Vancouver, 252 - 2025 West 42nd Avenue, Vancouver, B.C. V6M 2B5

Please mark your envelope "Storyeum"