



NEWSLETTER

PROBUS CLUB OF VANCOUVER

PO Box 74539, KITSILANO, Vancouver, BC, V6K 4P4

Enriching members with topical, entertaining speakers and social activities

www.probusvancouver.com

May, 2019

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Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 14th at 9:30 am
Location: H.R. MacMillan Space Centre
Speaker: Mark Dwor
Topic: "Bitcoin, Blockchain and Smart Contracts"

NEXT MONTH'S SPEAKER

June 11th: Vanessa Ascough

Topic: "First Attempted Round the World Flight"

AT OUR MAY 14 MEETING, THE SOCIAL TIME WITH COFFEE & TIMBITS WILL BE IN THE VANCOUVER MUSEUM ON THE MAIN FLOOR OF THE BUILDING.

MARK DWOR



Mr. Dwor is a retired member of the Law Society of British Columbia. He is a member and leader of many professional, arts, and other community organizations, with a strong emphasis on charity and not-for-profit governance. The co-founder and chairman of the Canadian Academy of Independent Scholars, Mr. Dwor has also been a member of the Boards of Variety, the Children's Charity (for 28 years); Osteoporosis Canada (for 6 years); and the Vancouver Children's Festival (for 3 years). Mr. Dwor recently served a three-year term as a member of the Board of Management of the Canada Revenue Agency where he was Chair of the Advisory Subcommittee on Cryptocurrency and Blockchain Technology.

Tuesday, June 4th

**Tour of the Stave Falls Dam
Museum, Lunch at the Mission Springs
Micro-Brewery and
Tour of The Westminster
Abbey Mission.**

This outstanding day long outing has been put together by our excellent Activities Committee. We are hoping that it will include a short organ recital in the Abbey

Depart from the Planetarium at 8:30 and return at 5:30pm. Bring your own coffee. Probus parking passes will not apply for this event. Pay for parking or park offsite. Limited street parking is available in the area but carpooling is advised.

Cost is only \$80 per person.

Similar tour without museum visit has sold out at Brock House for \$99 per person!

24 signed up to date and we want to fill 38 seat bus. Open to spouses and guests and offered to other Probus clubs. Should be a great day of fellowship and exploration. Please refer to page 5 for all the details

EMILY CARR SITE MAP

For those members who are planning to attend the Emily Carr Tour on Tuesday, May 7, the site map has been posted on our website under the Activities/Emily Carr tab

There's a special place in hell for people who 'REPLY ALL' to group emails. And it's right next to the special place for people who SEND group emails and don't BCC.

Report of the April 9th Meeting

Attendance: 165 Members and Guests

President Peter Scott opened the meeting, welcomed the members and guests present, especially our speaker, Dr. Paul Budra. Peter Hamilton put out a request for a couple more people to join the Membership Committee; he then introduced three new members (see page 3). Chris Finch gave a run down of the activities planned by the committee. Details are on pages 4,5 and 6. Raymond Greenwood thanked his Member Services Team. Hugh Chaun introduced Dr. Budra.

The middle of the 19th century was the peak of the Victorian period and Shakespeare's popularity was at an all-time high. One in four plays performed in North America during this time were written by Shakespeare and the actors in these plays had rockstar status. Even the exam to enter the British Civil Service included questions on Shakespeare. To some however, the glamour and wisdom of Shakespeare's works did not mesh with the mundane details available on his personal life. Conspiracy theorists started popping up in the 1850's, arguing that Shakespeare's plays must have been written by someone else. People such as Thomas Looney, Allan Tarsia, and Delia Bacon point to the worldliness in his writing as being the reason for which Shakespeare could not have written his own plays. How could a middle-class country boy write of royalty and travel? They used their romantic biases to determine what traits they would expect the true author to have. They then combed through history books to suggest a long list of potential authors including Sir Francis Bacon, Christopher Marlowe, Queen Elizabeth I, and the 17th Earl of Oxford, Edward de Vere. Many of these theories have been easily debunked.

Paul Budra, on the other hand, reads Shakespeare's poems and plays and doesn't see a rich, educated, noble, but a true country boy. This is exemplified by his detailed descriptions of plant life and agriculture in many of his plays in which he mentions over 180 plant species and parts. Shakespeare's works allude to strong agricultural knowledge.

Gardens, gardening, and even individual flowers are often used as symbols and metaphors for the political state in Shakespeare's writings. The longest of these is in the play Richard II in which the royal gardener gives orders to his helpers to prune the garden using only political terms. In Henry VI, Shakespeare uses red and white roses to dramatize the beginning of the family rivalry between the House of Lancaster and the House of York.

In Hamlet, Ophelia's madness is demonstrated through her handing out symbolic flowers to members of the court. Ophelia eventually falls into a brook and drowns while trying to pick some flowers. In A Mid-

summer Night's Dream, Shakespeare explains that pansies, also called love-in-idleness, were originally pure white in colour, until cupid struck them with his arrow. In a Winter's Tale, Perdita hands out symbolic flowers to the guests at a party tells the story of Proserpina, Ceres, and Pluto to explain why the earth is divided into a growing season and a non-growing season. Perdita and the King of Bohemia discuss cross breeding and genetically modified seeds, an ongoing conversation among farmers today.

Back in the Elizabethan era, gardens were primarily used for agricultural and medicinal purposes. An example of one of these is in the play Henry VI. These gardens had vegetables that lasted long periods of time such as cabbages, onions, and turnips to be used in pottage. Until the end of the 16th century, fruit was considered to be unhealthy, throwing the body's humors off balance. They also had aromatic bushes such as lavender onto which people would dry their freshly washed linens as the clothesline had not yet been invented. In the late 16th century, there was an explosion of ornamental gardens amongst the upper class, due to the increased availability of cheap, clear, glass windows. These gardens are always square in shape with some kind of border.

Today's typical Shakespearian garden is primarily a 19th century creation, built to accommodate every plant mentioned in Shakespeare's work. Considering all the new flower varieties and the fact that Shakespeare lived in a mini ice-age period, it would be very difficult to recreate and maintain a garden exactly like the ones that Shakespeare would have known.

These gardens were created under the same principles that the American Acclimatization Project used to bring every species of bird mentioned in Shakespeare to North America. In 1891, they released over 100 European starlings in Central Park, causing an invasive species infestation that continues today.

Symbolism of different plants in Shakespeare's plays:

Pansy – Thoughts

Rosemary - Remembrance

Fennel – Flattery

Columbines – Infidelity

Daisy – Love and innocence

Violets – Fidelity

Rue - Regret

Medicinal uses of plants in the Elizabethan period:

Sweet Marjoram – Medicinal against madness

Sage – Increase intelligence

Rosemary – Increase memory

To read the Questions & Answers, please go to our PROBUS website at www.probusvancouver.com, click on "Speakers" and then on "Dr. Paul Budra"

Rotarians' Investment Club

The May meeting will be on Thursday, May 30th at the RVYC on Point Grey Road, commencing at 6.30 pm sharp, with a no-host bar at 6.00 pm. Our Speaker is

Mark Webster, Director, ETF Distribution, Bank of Montreal Global Asset Management

Topic: What accounts for "market volatility"?

Is it Hedge Funds, Day Traders, Margin Calls, Media or ETFs? Is it how they are managed?

If you wish to attend, please inform our new President, Richard Higgins, email bravo@shaw.ca, by Tuesday evening May 28th, as we must give RVYC the exact head count. We get charged for "no-shows" and will request reimbursement for unfilled seats.

Guests are asked to please bring a cheque for \$75.00 for the excellent 3 course dinner with dinner wine, which includes gratuities/taxes etc.

An Agenda is available upon request to Richard Higgins or myself and we look forward to seeing you at one of our meetings.

An "Information" sheet is available about our Club which started in 1998 by contacting me.

John Sullivan—johnws@telus.net

Res: 604-263-4486—Office Direct Line: 604-714-4773

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Our ever active Member Services Chairman, Raymond, has arranged for our social time with the usual coffee and Timbits, will be in the Vancouver Museum on the main floor of the building. this will be an opportunity for our members to view the current exhibit in the museum.

At our April meeting, Peter Hamilton asked for a couple more members to join his Membership Committee and I pleased to report that Jim Matkin and Alan Whitchelo have stepped up in response to Peter's request. Thank you Jim and Alan.

Our speaker, Paul Budra, kept us well amused during his excellent talk. In that context, the Activities Committee has been approached by Bard on the Beach to see if we want to return this year, following the enormous success of last year's production of As You Like It. those members and guests who went had a wonderful evening enjoying Beatles music! It seems that they are planning a similar production for this year's season.

Now that the weather seems to be getting closer to the warm summers that we have enjoyed recently, some of our members will be travelling around our beautiful BC. Let's hope that we don't have another terrible forest fire season this year, though.

We are still hoping to fill the bus for the Tour of the Stave Falls Dam Museum and Westminster Abbey on Tuesday, June 4. We just need a few more to sign up. Unfortunately, I will be in Kelowna that week so I won't be able to go. This promises to be a highlight of the year for those who attend . . and it's \$20 less than a similar tour offered by Brock House (and theirs is without the Museum Tour!)



PROBUS FRED COTTON BOOK CLUB



The Book Club meets at 9:00 a.m. on the first Wednesday each month (except July and August) at the White Spot, Georgia & Cardero.

Upcoming books we will discuss:

May 1: Washington Black by Esi Edugyan

June 5 Claws of the Panda by Jonathan Manthorpe

A list of books read since the Club began in 2008 may be found on the Club website by clicking the "Book Club" link

For further information contact Ken Yule at kjqc@shaw.ca or 604-266-4563.

Thanks to our April Member Services Team

Cashier—Stuart Clyne

Greeters—David Steer & Bob Adams



Welcome New Members



Alex Jeletzky
Lawyer

Roger Pearson
Agricultural Supplies



Barry McBride
Microbiologist



WALKING TOUR “UNDER THE VIADUCT” WITH JOHN ATKIN

“The Georgia Viaducts, the only visible reminder of the grander city-wide freeway plan of the 1950s, will soon be a memory with their impending demolition. On this walk we’ll explore the history and development of the current and previous viaducts, the freeway fight and explore a few of the lingering scars still evident on the local landscape.”

Meeting point—Hunneybee Restaurant at Gore and Union Streets

Starting Point—The corner of Gore and Union Streets

Date: Tuesday, May 21st—9:30 for 10am

25 MEMBERS ONLY—\$20 PER MEMBER

John Atkin is a well-known and extremely knowledgeable Vancouver historian, researcher and tour guide. The first Georgia Street Viaduct was built between 1913 and 1915. The narrow structure included streetcar tracks that were never used. At one point, every second lamppost was removed to reduce weight. It was replaced in 1972 by the current viaduct, which is structurally separated. The current Georgia Viaduct was envisioned in the early 1970’s as forming part of an extensive freeway system for Vancouver. However, communities were opposed to the idea of demolishing structures to build the freeway system and the plan was scrapped. The freeways would have required demolishing buildings in neighborhoods including Strathcona, the Downtown Eastside and Chinatown. A predominantly Black Canadian community called Hogan’s Alley was bulldozed in building the viaduct.

On October 27, 2015, Vancouver City Council voted to demolish the twin viaducts. A new six-lane road configuration that merges Expo and Pacific boulevards is in the planning stages.

John has given many walking tours for Probus in recent years. **His tours are always popular, so, as this tour will be limited to 25 members, we suggest you sign up as soon as possible.**

ITINERARY

9:30 AM – ARRIVE FOR COFFEE AT THE HUNNEYBEE RESTAURANT

10:00 AM – WALKING TOUR STARTS

APPROXIMATELY 12:00 NOON - GUIDED TOUR ENDS WHERE IT STARTED

Arriving by bus

#22 buses leave from Burrard Station Bay #4 at 8:52, 9:02, 9:07 and 9:13 and arrive at Gore and Union by 9:30. Various other buses that go over the Granville Bridge connect with the #22 at Granville and West Pender.

REGISTRATION

REGISTER ONLINE WITH PAYPAL (PREFERRED)—OR

At the Activity Desk at the PROBUS meetings on and May 14, with cash or cheque OR

Mail this registration form to Doug Graham, 2068 West 35th Avenue, Vancouver, BC. V6M 1H9 enclosing your cheque

Additional information: Doug Graham at douggraham@telus.net

Deadline for Registration and Cancellation is Tuesday, May 14

MAKE CHEQUE PAYABLE TO PROBUS CLUB OF VANCOUVER

NOTE - YOU ARE NOT REGISTERED UNTIL PAYMENT IS RECEIVED

I plan to attend: Name _____

Phone Number: _____ E-mail: _____

Cheque enclosed for: _____ Cash enclosed for: _____



TUESDAY, JUNE 4, 2019
BUS TOUR TO THE STAVE
FALLS DAM MUSEUM AND
WESTMINSTER ABBEY IN
MISSION—GUESTS WELCOME
\$80.00 PER PERSON



Stave Falls Dam is a dual-dam power complex on the Stave River in Stave Falls, Mission. The dam was completed in 1912 for the purpose of hydroelectric production. To increase the capacity of Stave Lake, the dam was raised in 1925 and the Blind Slough Dam constructed in an adjacent watercourse 1,600 ft. to the north, which was the site of the Stave Falls. In 2000, the dam's powerhouse was replaced after a four-year upgrade. The powerhouse was once British Columbia's largest hydroelectric power source and is a National Historic Site.

Westminster Abbey is a community of Benedictine monks in Mission established in 1939 from the Abbey of Mount Angel in Oregon. The abbey is home to the Seminary of Christ the King and is a member of the Swiss American Congregation within the Benedictine Confederation. The abbey's official name is the Abbey of Saint Joseph of Westminster. Since 1939 the order has been located in Ladner (1939), Burnaby (1940) and Mission (1953). Construction on Mt. Mary Ann occurred in stages and culminated in the abbey church in 1982. Father Braganza is the current abbot. The abbey's bell tower is a landmark, visible for miles in the Fraser Valley.

ITINERARY

8:30 AM—ARRIVE AT THE PLANETARIUM PARKING LOT, BOARD COACH (BYO COFFEE IF YOU WISH)
(NOTE THE USUAL PROBUS PARKING CARD WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE FOR USE—PAY PARKING ONLY)
9:00 AM—COACH DEPARTS FOR STAVE FALLS
10:30 AM—ARRIVE FOR DAM MUSEUM TOUR
12:30 PM—DEPART FOR MISSION SPRINGS MICRO-BREWERY
1:00 PM—BUFFET LUNCH AT BREWERY (INCLUDED)
1:45 PM—DEPART FOR WESTMINSTER ABBEY
2:00 PM—TALK AND TOUR OF THE ABBEY CHURCH, WALK IN THE GARDENS TO THE LOOKOUT
4:00 PM—COACH DEPARTS FOR RETURN TRIP
5:30 PM—ARRIVE BACK AT THE PLANETARIUM

DUE TO PARKING COSTS, IT MAY BE ADVISABLE TO ARRANGE SOME CAR-POOLING

REGISTRATION

Register online with PayPal (preferred) OR

At Activity Desk at Probus meetings on May 14, by cheque or cash OR

Mail this registration form to Chris Finch, 105-5760 Hampton Pl, Vancouver, BC. V6T 2G1 enclosing cheque

Additional information: Richard Earthy at rdearthy@gmail.com or Chris Finch at cafb@shaw.ca

Name: _____ E-Mail _____ Phone: _____

of Guests: _____ Cheque enclosed for: _____ Cash enclosed for: _____

NOTE: YOU ARE REGISTERED WHEN PAYMENT IS RECEIVED