



## MINUTES FROM THE PROBUS CLUB, VANCOUVER

**Date:** February 18, 1997  
**Location:** Stanley Park Pavilion  
**In Attendance:** 30

The meeting started at 9:45 a.m. with Fred Cotton in the Chair. The first item discussed was the need, at present for the financial commitment from the members, but hopefully both the annual fee and the refreshment costs can be reduced in the future.

The Chairman then stated that we will be making a formal application for registration as a Probus Club of Canada. Once we are registered then our members can go, if desired, to any Probus Club meeting anywhere in Canada.

The next area of discussion was the site of possible future field trips, to areas such as:

1. Delta Port/Roberts Bank
2. Super Ferry Construction Site.

The meeting was then turned over to Brice MacDougall and his committee. Brice introduced the speaker, Mr. Philip Eidsvik of the B.C. Fisheries Survival Coalition. His topic was, "The Native Treaty Process - Implications for British Columbia". Mr. Eidsvik gave a very thought provoking, and factual address, the gist of which is as follows:

- Native claims are the most difficult issue in B.C. today, and needs more public attention and discussion.
- These treaties, if implemented, will have an immediate impact on the life of all B.C. residents, not just fishermen.
- His address was then divided into various areas:
  - a) History
  - b) The Law

As to the current state of the law, the Supreme Court of Canada has decided a number of cases in the last twelve months that substantially define the scope and management of aboriginal rights in B.C.

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- c) The Current Treaty Process:
- i) Government is committed to the process without any firm sense of direction;
  - ii) secrecy;
  - iii) conflict of interest in regards to the negotiators; and
  - iv) lack of accountability in regards to negotiators.
- d) The Nisga'a Treaty

This is depicted as an agreement in principle, but there are issues yet to be negotiated. The Speaker then enumerated what he considered to be the many disturbing features in the Nisga'a A.I.P.

The Speaker then distributed a brochure discussing the Nisga'a A.I.P. in more detail, two reports from the Council of Forest Industries in regards to the Nisga'a A.I.P., and the B.C. government approach to treaty settlements.

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

The next meeting will be:

**Date:** Tuesday, March 18, 1997  
**Location:** Stanley Park Pavilion  
**Time:** 9:30 a.m.

Information regarding the speaker and his topic is on the enclosed insert.

*Reminder: Please send in your annual dues to Bill Wallace in the enclosed addressed envelope.*

Yours truly,



Al Knudsen  
Secretary

Enclosures