



PROBUS CLUB VANCOUVER

Clubs for Retired & Semi-Retired Professional & Business Persons, Former Executives & Others

P.O. Box 4116, Main Post Office Vancouver, BC V6B 3Z6
April 2nd, 1997

Minutes From The Probus Club, Vancouver

Date: March 18th, 1997
Location: Stanley Park Pavilion
Attendance: 33

The meeting started at 9:45 AM with Fred Cotton in the chair. Mr. Dave Gresham from Ladysmith was present as a guest. Fred stated we now have thirty-six paid up members and close to one hundred on our mailing list. Our bank balance is \$1,568.00. He then discussed the recent charges of more than \$220,000 being laid under the Elections Act against the organization represented by our last speaker, Mr. Phil Eidsvik.

Fred then discussed the Charter Meeting to be held in May, 1997, and wanted any input from the group as to the program for that day. A possible golf tournament and future possible field trips were discussed. The meeting was then turned over to Brice Macdougall's committee. Brice introduced the speaker, Mr. Gary Jackson, owner of Royal Diamond Casino, Inc. who spoke on "Charitable Gaming in B.C.", a most timely topic because of the recent gambling policies discussed by the NDP government. A few highlights of his speech are as follows:

1. Gross revenues from the Canadian gaming industry in 1996 was \$7.5 billion. This is three and one half times the gross revenue of Canada's forest logging industry.
2. He then discussed the historical and legal perspective of gaming and the thirteen non-profit types of organizations that are entitled to a gaming licence.
3. Roving Monte Carlo casinos started in BC in 1982.
4. On April 1st, 1987 the BC Gaming Commission was established. Profits were shared with 50% to the charity, 40% to the operator and 10% to the government.
5. He then discussed the Canadian gaming scene moving from east to west.
6. He next discussed the new gambling policy of the NDP government.
7. He then discussed the evolution of aboriginal gaming in Canada.
8. He closed his remarks by discussing why gaming is distinct in BC—no active involvement by government as an operator.

The speaker was thanked by Bob Swannell and the meeting adjourned at 11:30 AM.

Next meeting: April 15th, 1997 at the Stanley Park Pavilion at 9:30 AM. Speaker Mr. Kevin Hanson, Communications Manager of Forest Alliance of BC, who will speak to us on the Federal endangered species Bill and other matters.

Al Knudsen
Secretary