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NEXT MEETING

Date: January 20, 1998
Time: 9:30 a.m.
Topic: **B.C. Medicine Today**

Location: Stanley Park Pavilion
Speaker: Dr. Granger Avery
President of the B.C.
Medical Association

Minutes - Probud Club of Vancouver - Dec. 16, 1997

Attendance: 114.

Fred Cotton opened the meeting at 10:20 am. Brice Macdougall reported that Dr. Granger Avery, President of the B.C. Medical Association, will be our speaker in January, Jim McPherson then discussed the proposed trip to the Boeing plant and a hand count showed 100 were intending to go.

Brent Scott then introduced our speaker, Mr. Eric Newell, C.E.O. of Syncrude. Mr. Newell, in turn, introduced his two guests:

1. Dr. Martha Piper, President of U.B.C.
2. Wayne Nystrom, President of N.L.K. Consultants.

Mr. Newell then discussed the tar sands industry, which produces 25% of Canadian crude oil. The tar sands contain 1.7 trillion barrels, from which 500 billion barrels of crude oil can be extracted. Syncrude is the largest mine in the world, the largest tar sands company, and employs 3500 people. He then discussed the Syncrude 21 plan for improvement and extension of their operation, with improved technology, a new pipeline, and costs of six billion dollars.

Mr. Newell then discussed the National Oil Sands Task Force, which involves both industry and government. The vision for the industry is to produce oil, jobs, and tax revenue. The challenge for the industry is to satisfy shareholders, and all other stakeholders, even as aboriginals and the environment. One out of every four dollars spent by Syncrude goes toward environmental performance.

Mr. Newell then spent significant time discussing the problem of global warming. He felt his problem to be of great importance and to solve it we will need: 1. public support Canada wide; 2. scientific knowledge and research; 3. education - ie. schools, consumer groups; and 4. world wide action. How much action will be enough? No one knows.

A wide-ranging question period then followed, and then Mr. Bob Paul thanked our speaker for his most excellent talk. The meeting adjourned at 11:45 am and 80 people attended the luncheon.

Al Knudsen, Secretary