

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*

NEXT MEETING: March 21, 2000
TIME: 9:30AM
LOCATION: Stanley Park Pavilion
SPEAKER: Herb Grubel
TOPIC: The Merit of a North American
Monetary Union

Minutes from February 15, 2000

Attendance: 101, including 8 guests who were introduced by their sponsors.

President Williams announced that the golf tournament will be held at the University Golf Club on May 1st. \$115.00 gets you fees, sandwich lunch and dinner. For those wishing to attend dinner only the cost is \$40.00

Fred Cotton announced a Spring Flower, Minter Gardens tour on Wednesday, April 19. The \$45.00 cost will include a bus ride, and lunch with Brian Minter. Female guests are welcome.

Pidge McBride has organized two Seattle Museum of Flight tours for March 7 and April 11. The bus and admission is \$45.00 - lunch is on you.

The President introduce the guest speaker, Mr. Joseph Peschisolido, who began by stating that we need to have a principled outlook on every aspect of politics. The Trudeau vision way of life has been with us for 35 years and it will be difficult to challenge this liberal orthodoxy. Ronald Reagan was able to do it in the USA by pointing out that the "Democrats have become too extreme and no longer reflect our way of life". Mr. Peschisolido feels that Ontario is ready for a shift to conservatism but that the Trudeau vision has to be erased from Quebec before building a

conservative way of life can begin in that province.

The Trudeau vision for keeping Canada together included coast to coast bilingualism and an official multicultural society. Chretien added "Special Status" for Quebec, this concept to be interpreted by the judiciary not the politicians. The "Notwithstanding Clause" has fallen from disuse, allowing the courts to fill the vacuum and to take over many culturally important areas such as determining native rights in BC.

With his recent experience serving with the bicultural commission in Quebec he believes the Trudeau vision no longer has strong support in Quebec, and there has been a shift away from the desire for "Sovereignty" to an interest in "renewed federalism". The "Bloc vs Liberals" activity in Parliament today does not reflect what the people of Quebec want. This gives a great opportunity for Canada to realign the powers between Ottawa and Quebec through referenda on the division of power in Canada. This would promote integration rather than the current division being caused by Trudeau's vision of Canada.

The **National Alliance** offers a linkage for the disparate areas of Canada - Ontario, Maritimes, Quebec and the West. They propose that language and culture become provincial responsibilities, that welfare be paid federally, but administered provincially with federal standards in place; that immigration quotas should be based on talent, not country of origin. A flat tax rate of 17% while maintaining current deductions would be created. This would remove 2 million low income earners from the tax rolls. The current spending by governments is a mess in part because there is a mismatch between the power

March 2000

President:
Roy E. Williams
926-4727

Past President:
Pidge McBride
274-0446

Vice-president:
John Hopkins
985-8422

Secretary:
Don Farquhar
948-9908

Treasurer:
Bill Wallace
222-2365

**Speakers
Committee:**
Brice Macdougall
922-5321

**Membership
Committee:**
Dick Matthews
922-0358

**Visits and
Entertainment:**
Tom McCusker
261-4763

**House
Committee:**
Doug Lambert
266-2422

**Greeters
Committee:**
Norm Weitzel
925-3574

Rotary Liaison:
John Hoyle
926-2667

and the money - The Feds supply but the provinces control the distribution.

How is Canada going to change the Trudeau mandate. Not by the Conservative Party whose current leader is a follower of Liberal policies and will continue the destruction of the Conservative Party as a result. He believes that the divided right needs to group under one banner - the National Alliance which would include Reform, Conservative and the small "c" conservatives in the Liberal Party. This new party would scrap all the multicultural legislation and would attempt to integrate immigrants into the Canadian way of life rather than trying to maintain their cultures after their arrival in Canada. The language legislation would also be repealed.

He feels the next 12 months will determine the future of the small "c" conservatives in Canada. He plans to be a part of the process by running for the leadership of the National Alliance.

Following a lively question period the speaker was thanked by **Pidge McBride** for his interesting and provocative speech.

Don Farquhar, secretary

MARCH MEETING GREETERS ARE:

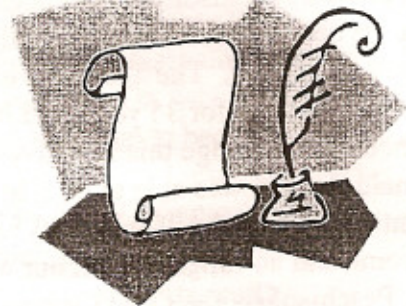
Neil Gray
Newt Hopkins



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Article 1(a) of our constitution entitled "Aims and Objects" states "The purpose of the Probus Club is to provide regular meetings for retired and semi-retired professional and business persons, former executives and others with like backgrounds who in their retirement, appreciate and value the increased social contacts and opportunities, meeting others, holding discussions and hearing addresses on topical subjects, and arranging visits by members to places and organizations of appeal."

In our third year of operation we are attempting to arrange more opportunities for members to socialize by offering various trips and events. The proposed visits to the Museum of Flight in



Seattle and Minter Gardens in B.C. along with the golf tournament have already been announced. Other events are in the planning stages.

We hope a significant number of members will take advantage of these events and enjoy the fellowship that goes along with them. Good participation will encourage the visits and entertainment committee to seek out additional opportunities for trips to places and organizations which would appeal to our members.

Sincerely,
Roy E. Williams
President

VISIT'S AND ENTERTAINMENT NEWS

Trip to Museum of Flight Seattle: By the time you read this, we will have had our first trip to the Museum of Flight on March 7th. Our next date is April 11th. Those who have indicated they would like to go, please bring your cheques to our March meeting. We still have room for more members on this trip. If you are in doubt, ask someone who participated in the March 7th trip. It's a great experience.

Some Details For This Trip:

1. Bus leaves Ash and 49th Ave., near Oakridge (ash is 1 block West of Cambie) at 8 am.
2. There will be an additional pick-up at the Town and Country Inn at the South End of the Deas Island Tunnel.
3. Arrive at 11 AM and have lunch before tour at 12:30.
4. Leave for home about 3 PM.
5. Be sure to have adequate I.D. for border - passport preferable.
6. Also, make sure you have medical coverage.
7. The cost is \$45.00 (plus lunch). Please bring your cheques etc. to March meeting - We look forward to having you with us - it will be a great trip!

LAST CALL

Bus tour of the Fraser Valley including visit/tour/lunch at Minter Gardens April 19th. Contact Chris Lee at 926-1022 or Probus office for reservations. Cost \$45.00 per person. Pick-up at Sea Bus Terminal 9am. Also at Ash and 49th Ave. near Oakidge (ash is 1 block West of Cambie) at 9:30am.

If anyone is interested in forming a group for an activity such as bridge, walking, line dancing or whatever, please contact the Probus Office with a contact name and a notice will be put in the newsletter.

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More than any time in (B.C.) history mankind faces a crossroads. One path leads to despair and utter hopelessness, the other to total extinction. Let us pray that we have the wisdom to choose correctly.

Woody Allen

HERBERT G. GRUBEL

**PROFESSOR OF ECONOMICS (EMERITUS) SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
DAVID SOMERVILLE FELLOW IN TAXATION AND FINANCE, THE FRASER INSTITUTE**

1. Has been a professor of economics at Simon Fraser University since 1972 and retired in 1999. Is a Senior Fellow at the Fraser Institute since 1997.
2. Was born and raised in Germany, has a BA from Rutgers University and a PhD in Economics from Yale University.
3. Has taught full time at Stanford, the University of Chicago and University of Pennsylvania and had temporary appointments at Universities in Berlin, Singapore, Cape Town, Nairobi, Oxford and Canberra.
4. Was the Reform Party Member of the Parliament of Canada for Capilano-Howe Sound from 1993-1997, serving as the Finance Critic 1995-1997.
5. Has published 16 books and 180 professional articles in Economics dealing with International Trade and Finance and a wide range of economic policy issues.

SUBJECT: LATEST MERGERS

In the wake of the Exxon/Mobil deal and the AOL/Netscape deal, here are the latest mergers we expect to see:



- Hale Business Systems, Mary Kay Cosmetics, Fuller Brush, and WR Grace Company merge to become Hale Mary Fuller Grace
- Polygram Records, Warner Brothers and Keebler Crackers merge to become Polly-Warner-Cracker
- 3m and Goodyear merge to become MMMGood
- John Deere and Abitibi-Price merge to become Deere Abi
- Zippo Manufacturing, Audi Motors, Dofasco and Dakota Mining merge to become Zip Audi Do Da
- Honeywell, Imasco and Home Oil merge to become Honey I'm Home
- Denison Mines, and Alliance and Metal Mining merge to become MineAllMine
- Federal Express and UPS merge to become FED UP
- Xerox and Wurlitzer will merge and begin manufacturing reproductive organs.
- Fairchild Electronics and Honeywell Computers will merge and become Fairwell Honeychild
- 3M, J.C.Penney and The Canadian Opera Co. will merge and become 3 Penney Opera

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