



# 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*

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**NEXT MEETING: Tuesday November 20, 2001**  
**TIME: 9:15 AM**  
**NEW LOCATION: H.R. MacMillan**  
**Planetarium and Space Centre - lower level**  
**SPEAKER: The Honourable Garde B. Gardom**  
**TOPIC: To be announced**

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**Minutes from October 16, 2001**

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**Attendance: 123 and 7 guests**

President Norm Weitzel opened the meeting at 9:50 A.M., advising of the death of George Sayers and that the Club's condolences would be sent to the family. He also referred to the venue of the meeting and that thanks were due to Doug Lambert. A Management Committee meeting is scheduled for October 30th and members were urged in completing the questionnaire to make suggestions for speakers. Fred Cotton announced the next speaker would be the former L.G. Garde Gardom. Bill Wallace reported \$6,500 in bank. Dick Mathews said there was still a wait list. Tom McCusker advised Night In Vienna filling up and January's luncheon meeting going well with tickets to be sent out in mail. Doug Lambert reminded those present that the next meeting would also be at the Planetarium. Brice MacDougal, after giving a summary of the activities of Rotary Vancouver and Rotary International introduced the speaker Verona Edelstein, former High Commissioner to Tanzania and Ambassador to the Democratic Republic of the Congo, inter alia, who spoke on Africa (2nd largest in area with 20% of earth's land and 2nd in population with approximately 13% of world total and having largest desert - Sahara, 9,000,000 sq. km.).

In her view Africa was "the last new frontier" with some 53 countries. "It cannot be said that the continent is not without its problems...", political (civil wars), economic (drought,

starvation), health (aids) etc., but she wanted to talk about the renaissance of Africa from the "good" or better side as exemplified by Tanzania (a country of east central Africa on Indian Ocean, German protectorate in 1891, passed to British in 1920 on Tanganyika, independent in 1961, joined with Zanzibar in 1964 to form Tanzania). The country has a population of some 32,000,000 with it's administrative capital being Dar es Salaam and it's legislative capital, Dodoma and official languages of Swahili and English (68% literacy) contrast with the massive violence (genocide) and millions of dead in the ethnic conflicts in Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo and Rwanda (Africa's most densely populated country) in the 90's. In the period 60-65 most of the African nations were born with their transformation into multiparty countries occurring in the 80's-90's. A majority of these countries have "held" i.e. the multiparty systems have survived.

Tanzania is an extraordinarily beautiful country with Mt. Kilimanjaro (highest point in Africa), Serengeti Plain, Masai Steppe and Ngorongoro Crater. Julius Nyerere first democratic leader. In 1964 the country had no infrastructure and 80% agricultural. In 10 years real progress was made but also mistakes made. Nationalizing companies, the effect of the 1973 Arab oil embargo, drop in prices, resulted in economic collapse. By 1984, country on its knees and Nyerere resigned in '85. His successor introduced multiparty system and freedom of speech but the economic transformation was very difficult. During this period (from socialism to liberal economy) World Bank and I.M.F. were involved. Also, the spread of English. Tanzanians are very warm, friendly and have great respect for their elders. However, many Tanzanians in conversation will merge the wish/dream with the reality i.e. a much needed water line was spoken of as if it were in place. The current President has made reforms and promoted growth (inflation

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**November 2001**

**President:**  
Norm Weitzel  
604-925-3574

**Director,**  
**Probus Canada**  
Pidge McBride  
604-274-0446

**Past President:**  
John Hopkins  
604-985-8422

**Vice-president:**  
Don Farquhar  
604-948-9908

**Secretary:**  
Denis Creighton  
604-922-6469

**Treasurer:**  
Bill Wallace  
604-947-0340

**Speakers Committee:**  
Fred Cotton  
604-266-7060

**Membership  
Committee:**  
Dick Matthews  
604-922-0358

**Visits and  
Entertainment:**  
Tom McCusker  
604-261-4763

**House Committee:**  
Doug Lambert  
604-266-2422

**Newsletter Editor:**  
Roy Williams  
604-926-4727

**Greeters Committee:**  
Leo Sauve  
604-925-2702

**Rotary Liaison:**  
John Hoyle  
604-926-2667

**Historian and  
Archivist**  
Peter McCabe  
604-224-4870

reduced, balanced budgets). Speaker referred to conversations she had had with President in which he said Tanzania could use more support i.e. investment from Canada for its natural resources and that education and aids were major concerns of his government.

**Question Period:**

1. Why Northern Scandinavian countries, with relatively harsh climates, had developed far sooner than African countries (largely because of African countries colonial states until mid 20th century).
2. World Bank, IMF roll in Africa (at first more colonial but now more interested in the development of the countries of Africa).
3. Other African countries with a future (Ghana, Malawi, Mozambique, Botswana and Namibia). Kenya has numerous ethnic groups crowding countryside resulting in intense competition for arable land. Zimbabwe (formerly Rhodesia) is mired in Mugabe's land acquisition/forceful taking of millions of acres of white-owned land and Burundi, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Rwanda and Sudan (Islamic) all have almost insurmountable problems (chronic civil war, genocide, poverty, starvation, political disorganization).
4. U.S./ Afghanistan - U.S. must remain engaged, see it through, work with and stay with the Afghans.

Tremoyne Perry thanked the speaker and the meeting adjourned at 11:00 A.M. (with some additional material from National Geographic World Atlas)

Denis Creighton,  
Secretary.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



At time of writing, all comments on the H.R. MacMillan Planetarium and Space Centre have been very positive. The parking, seating and acoustics have been mentioned as being superior to our previous location. And, we will get better at setting up the reception area and coffee service!

As you may have heard, the Stanley park location will become more difficult to secure and likely totally unavailable to us in the near future pending proposed renovations. As a result we are pleased to have the Planetarium as an alternative. Doug Lambert has searched hard and long for a new venue and it appears he has found it. As always we continue to be open to your comments and suggestions. But at least we will not be without a home for our meetings. I look forward to seeing you at the Planetarium for our November Meeting.

Norm Weitzel  
President

## NOTICES AND ENTERTAINMENT:

- It is with regret that we announce the passing of George Sayers on October 2, 2001. Our condolences to his family. A donation will be made in his name by Probus to the B.C. Rugby Union, Youth Fast Track Elite Athletic Development Program.
- A Visual display of military courage and heroism during World War II will be for viewing at the West Vancouver Senior's Centre for the month of November. This collection is the property of member Ron Penhall.

**PARKING:** The parking at the planetarium is shared with the Vancouver Academy of Music. On November 20th, the day of our next meeting, the Academy has a "Music in the Morning" concert at the same time as our meeting. The concert is well attended and parking will be tight.



If Possible, please car pool as much as you are able. Also, additional pay parking (\$1 for 2 hours) is available past the Archives towards the Marina for those who don't mind a bit of a walk. Your wife might be at that concert! And remember, hell hath no fury like a woman without a parking spot!

## November Greeters:



**Hank Hanson**  
**John Hoyle**

## The Honourable Garde B. Gardom Q.C., B.A., LL.B.

Garde B. Gardom was born in Banff in 1924 and attended Magee High School in Vancouver. He graduated from the University of British Columbia with a B.A. and an LL. B.

He pursued his career in Vancouver as a barrister and solicitor until 1966 when he was first elected to the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia for the riding of Vancouver-Point Grey. Mr. Gardom was a Member of the Legislative Assembly from 1966 until 1986.

In December 1975, Mr. Gardom joined the Cabinet of British Columbia as Attorney-General and Government House Leader - ultimately becoming the Province's longest-serving Government House Leader. In 1979, he became British Columbia's first Minister of Intergovernmental Relations, as well as Chairman of the Legislative Committee, Member of the Treasury Board, Planning and Priorities Committee and Director of the Insurance Corporation of British Columbia. In 1985, he became responsible for the Official Visits Program for EXPO '86, and was host to dignitaries from all over the world.

Mr. Gardom was an outspoken advocate for public accountability and participated in a number of legislative measures including the inception of *HANSARD*, the development of a broadened legislative Committee System and the televising of debates. He introduced B.C.'s Ombudsman Act, Family Relations Act, sponsored Auditor General, Fair Expropriation and Aboriginal Communities Legislation. He strongly supported the objectives of the Crisis Centre for people in danger, was part of the team that resolved the Skagit Valley dispute with the United States, and has long been an advocate for banning animal leghold traps. Mr. Gardom was a long-time proponent of Legal Aid, the right to sue the Crown, and Aid for Victims of Crime - all of which measures now form part of the law in B.C. He initiated *COUNTERATTACK* against Drinking and Driving in 1978, promoted processes for the peaceful resolution of Doukhobor issues and spearheaded British Columbia's position during the constitutional negotiations leading to the patriation of the Canadian Constitution from the UK in 1982.

In 1987, after retiring from politics, Mr. Gardom was appointed Agent-General for British Columbia in the United Kingdom and Europe. Based in London, he represented British Columbia in the United Kingdom and in many European countries until 1992.

Mr. Gardom has been an avid promoter of British Columbia and of Canada all of his life. He is a strong supporter of our youth and our military, police, fire fighters and paramilitary forces. He is Honorary Colonel of the British Columbia Regiment (Duke of Connaught's own), a Primary Reserve unit of the Canadian Forces.

Garde and Helen Gardom enjoy their dogs, the outdoors, fishing, gardening, cutting wood and various sports, especially rugby, tennis, skiing and football.

The Honourable Garde Basil Gardom was sworn in as the 26th Lieutenant-Governor of British Columbia on April 21, 1995, and his term came to an end on September 25, 2001.