



NEWSLETTER

PROBUS CLUB VANCOUVER

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Clubs for retired and semi-retired professional and business persons, former executives and others

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday October 8, 2002

TIME: 9:30 AM

**LOCATION: H.R. MacMillan Planetarium
and Space Centre - Lower Level**

SPEAKER: John Lounds

President, The Nature Conservancy of Canada

Minutes of September 17, 2002

Attendance: 118 (4 guests)

The meeting opened with a "lineup" conducted by our about to become Past President, **Norm Weitzel**, who introduced the "new" Executive, **Don Farquhar** (President), **Tom McCusker** (Vice President), **Bill Wallace** (Treasurer) and **Denis Creighton** (Secretary). This emotional moment was somewhat marred by the absence of **Wallace** (and the usual concern about the state of the Club's finances) and the response of **McCusker** to the request for his V-P report, "no report because I didn't know what I was doing." At 10:04 A.M. **Weitzel** became Past and was given his P.P.'s Pin by President **Farquhar**. **Gordon Thom** (Visits and Entertainment) canvassed the meeting on interest for the scheduled Bowen Island trip on October 3 and members **Bridge** commencing later in October. Neither appeared to have engaged significant members' interest. Reference was also made to possible YVR and skytrain (administration offices) tours and **Bill Lane** reminded members of the October 25 (9:30A.M.) tour of the Beatty Street (B.C. Regiment) Armoury. **George Adams** introduced our Speaker, **Craig Richmond**, Vice President Airport Operations, Vancouver International Airport Authority who immediately "took off" giving us a computer overhead presentation of YVR on February 20, 2010 at the conclusion of the Whistler Olympics, (so smooth that you forgot about the opposition to the Whistler-Vancouver 2010 Olympic Bid). 21 million passengers, 415,000 takeoffs and landings on both

runways at the same time, non stop service to numerous international destinations, 31,000 people jobs, 2B - 3.5 B impact (GDP).

To get there, and further, Canada must liberalize (pun?) its air policy (e.g. foreign ownership limits, carrying of domestic passengers by foreign carriers (cabotage), open skies). YVR to become EDC (export distribution centre) with seamless transport modes (rapid transit to airport).

The reduction of Corporate Capital Tax and fuel taxes, perimeter clearance (Canada-U.S.) and flow of traffic, biometric identification, gateway council (urban congestion) all are helpful. Payments (rental) to Fed. Government by 2010 will be 120 M. annually.

YVR funds two professorships at UBC and BCIT has YVR campus.

July 2002 was 10th anniversary of Authority and with the redevelopment of YVR there is now a sense of place.

We were given a look back at September 11 with the incredible community response from the lower mainland. Some 34 foreign aircraft plus a large number of domestic aircraft recalled or not taken off and all "parked" at YVR.

Reference was made to the new security entity for baggage, cargo etc., since September 11 but, interestingly enough, not passengers i.e. passenger screening is not handled by new Security Service but by the individual airlines, as in the past.

Some of the matters raised in the Question Period were the lack of business travel, financial problems of large carriers (e.g. United Airlines), the Southwest Airlines/Westjet Airlines (leaders in employee profit sharing) and good corporate earnings, the unfairness to air travelers of the Fed. security surcharge (too much e.g. on a shorthaul flight 65% of fare), Airport Improvement tax (everybody does it but don't collect it like YVR). YVR's subsidiary which handles the management of other airports (e.g. Kamloops, Fort St. John, Moncton, Hamilton, Chile),

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**Visits and
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John Hoyle
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Archivist**
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new aircraft (Airbus 380 with 550 people), claimants of refugee status at YVR (55,000 - 60,000 passengers at YVR in a busy day in summer)

Don Farquhar thanked Mr. Richmond.

Denis W.H. Creighton,
Secretary

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

This is the start of the 7th year of Probus Vancouver. Do you suppose the founders of the club expected the overwhelming response from retirees? I credit the past executives and committee chairs for their work in creating our current large membership. Also special thanks to Norm Weitzel for his kind and gracious leadership last year - working for him was a pleasure.



Our club is sponsoring the annual ProbusBC Convention on May 8-9, 2003. All Probus members and their partners will be welcome to join us at the banquet on May 8 at the Tsawwassen Best Western Hotel.

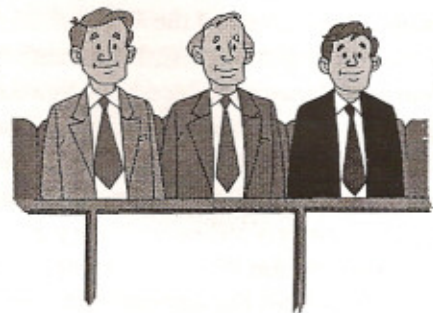
Probus is designed to maintain contact with our old colleagues. We on the executive are working to fulfill that mandate and we hope that we are being successful. The enclosed questionnaire may look familiar, but please send it in with your dues payment, it is the only way we will know how well we are doing and it is helpful in planning activities.

I will close with a quote from Simone de Beauvoir:

"There is only one solution if old age is not to be an absurd parody of our former life, and that is to go on pursuing ends that give our existence a meaning - devotion to individuals, to groups or to causes, social political, intellectual or creative work. In spite of the moralist's opinion to the contrary, in old age we should wish still to have passions strong enough to prevent us turning in upon ourselves."

Don Farquhar,
President

October Greeters: Laurie Maranda,
Tremayne Perry
October Cash Desk: Frank Willis,
Lorne Bohlman
Member Services: Gordon Thom



NOTICES:

The annual dues Invoice and questionnaire are enclosed. Please mail your cheque and completed questionnaire to the Probus Club office or turn in to the Member Services Desk at October meeting. Your suggestions for speakers (or topics) and future trips is necessary to keep our club relevant for all members. We need your input!

Bridge

Probus Members are invited to join with members of the Rotary Club of Vancouver for evening of contract bridge.

- First Session at Point Grey Golf and Country Club
- Wednesday 7:30 pm October 23, 2002
- Subsequent Sessions
October until April with a Christmas break
- 2 tables hosted by members' homes every 2nd
Wednesday 7:30 pm
- Tea, coffee and desert provided by hosts



Members who are interested are asked to complete and return the enclosed form. Please hand in to the Member Services Desk at the October meeting or mail it to the Probus office.

Tour of Beatty Street Drill Hall and B.C. Regiment Museum

Arrangements have been finalized for a tour of the Beatty Street Armouries. This promises to be another exciting event for Probus Club Members. The guided tour will take place on Friday October 25th at 9:30A.M. Coffee and cookies will be provided. There will be a small charge to cover the costs. Parking is available at several lots close to the Drill Hall.

Please complete the enclosed Registration Form if you wish to attend and turn it into the Member Services Desk at the October meeting or mail it to the Probus Club Office by **October 15th, 2002.**

It is with regret we announce the passing of Dr. L.R. "Bun" McBride on September 19th.

Our condolences to his family. A donation will be made, in his name, by Probus to the B.C. Lung Association.

John Lounds
President
The Nature Conservancy of Canada

John Lounds joined the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) in October 1997 as its Executive Director and was appointed President in December 2000. As President, he provides the strategic direction for the rapidly growing organization and continues to build on NCC's existing relationships and partnerships with government, corporations and individuals.

During Mr. Lounds' tenure, NCC has expanded to a decentralized organization with 84 senior volunteers and a staff of 70 operating in seven regional offices. Since 1997 the organization's cash budget has increased substantially and its assets have grown by 49%. During the same period, NCC has increased the number of properties it protects by an average of 43% annually.

Before joining the Nature Conservancy of Canada, John was Executive Director of the Federation of Ontario Naturalists where he led a number of strategic initiatives to build and strengthen the organization, an approach that he is continuing with the Conservancy. He previously worked for the Ontario government in a range of roles relating to the environment, including Program Director for the Ontario Round Table on Environment and Economy.

John has a master's degree in environmental studies from York University and an undergraduate degree in environmental studies, urban and regional planning from the University of Waterloo. He has pursued a lifelong interest in the natural world and enjoys birding whenever he can and exploring wilderness areas by canoe.

The nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) is a non-profit, non advocacy organization that takes a quiet business like approach to land conservation and wildlife preservation. NCC is Canada's only national charity dedicated to preserving ecologically significant areas and places of special beauty and educational interest through outright purchase, donations and conservation easements. Its plan of action is partnership building and creative deal making with any individual, corporation, community group, conservation group or government body that shares the passion.