



NEWSLETTER

PROBUS CLUB VANCOUVER

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Clubs for retired and semi-retired professional and business persons, former executives and others
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OCTOBER 2003

President:

Tom McCusker
604-261-4763

Director,

Probus Canada:

Pidge McBride
604-274-0446

Past President:

Don Farquhar
604-948-9908

Vice-President:

Gordon Thom
604-739-0714

Secretary:

Denis Creighton
922-6469

Treasurer:

Stew McKenzie
604-261-5858

Speakers Committee:

Fred Cotton
604-266-7060

Membership

Committee:

John Hoyle
604-926-2667

Visits & Entertainment

George Adams
604-926-0906

House Committee:

Doug Lambert
604-266-2422

Newsletter Editor:

Roy Williams
604-926-4727

Membership Services:

Bill Weatherall
604-263-3069

Historian and Archivist:

McCabe
604-224-4870

Next Meeting: ** WEDNESDAY October 15, 2003**

Time: 9:30am

Location: H.R. MacMillan Planetarium and Space Centre, Lower Level

Speaker: Jake Kerr, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Lignum Ltd.

Minutes of September 9th, 2003, Attendance: 142 and 5 guests

After your Executive learned from our guest speaker that he was due downtown for a press conference at 10:30 A.M. (the "learning" coming at 9:40 A.M.) it was decided that Chief Cst. James Graham of the V.P.D. should speak first and the rest of Probus, second.

Tom McCusker, eschewing the Presidential right of passage (handing over of sword and shield by Past President - **Farquhar** wasn't even in town!) declared himself to be President (3 times) and **Chris Lee** introduced our speaker (the "Galloping Chief") who stated that his views were his and NOT those of the V.P.D., the Vancouver Police Board, the City of Vancouver, his family, the Provincial or Federal Governments or, the world (in general) and spoke for about 25 minutes, including questions, and then ran for the exit. ("Anne Drinnan will kill me if I don't get there on time!").

Among the topics, thoughts, statements, comments and musings of the Chief were: professional policing began in England in 1829, "everybody" is interested in policing and has an opinion on the police (the press have too many), the police are in the public eye ("that's the way it is"), there are 2 or 3 issues (organized crime, grow ops, literacy), commercial grow ops, the fines are so small ("price of doing business"), no one goes to jail, V.P.D. is GREAT (no corruption), we are studied world wide, police services do not turn a profit (quality and excellence), under constant scrutiny and shrinking budgets, police (V.P.D.) represents 20% of Municipal tax, Courts are doing a good job, ("sure I'd like to drop the hammer the odd time, but..."), process (protests, S.C. of B.C., injunction), but chief's patience thin on protests that have moved beyond legitimate, literacy (back to basics - ed.

comment) fundamental e.g. the higher the literacy/education rate, the lower the crime rate (local newspapers, President of UBC, car dealers e.g. 16 Honda Civics provided by Co. to 16 V.P.D. liaison officers in V.P. Schools, Raise A Reader, ("we're doing it", I don't have a problem with it and I'm the Chief"), V.P.D. has over 1,000,000 contacts with the public in a year, some 150 complaints and may have to discipline 2 or 3 officers, his strong support and affection for his officers (their mentoring and off duty time spent in community), the Pension Board problem and large retirement numbers ("we've got to suck it up and move on"), to fill vacancies V.P.D. looking to younger, non university or college graduates, back to strength in about 1 1/2 years, independence of Chief (responsible to Police Board), don't play politics, rule of law, referred to the City Wide Enforcement Team ("give them back the neighbourhood"), reference to the drug problems and the soon to open first injection site ("we're dealing with them"), talked about his 4 new Deputy Chiefs (all from with V.P.D.) and 9 horses on the Park Squad, Canada needs leadership now or people loose confidence in and support of the officers that provide the service, police officer always under scrutiny, second guessing but the V.P.D. is "in great shape" and "morale couldn't be higher," as he began his sprint for the door, Graham in answer to a question about closed circuit TV, indicated that the V.P.D. would like to see "some model" but that there may not be long term benefits.

McCusker then returned to the stage and reported on the Executive and Committee changes for 2003-2004, advising that **George Adams** would be handling Visits and Entertainment, **Gordon Thom**, Vice President,

Stew McKenzie, Treasurer and **John Hoyle**, Membership. He also thanked **Bill Wallace** and **Dick Matthews** for their long service to the club. **Leo Sauve** also not an Executive as Greeters merged into Membership Services under **Bill Weatherall**. **McBride, Creighton, Cotton, Lambert, Williams** and **McCabe** were left at their respective posts. **Tom** reminded the members of the "60 minute" job always done by **Doug Lambert** and **Fred Cotton**, thanked **Chris Lee** for getting Chief Cst. James Graham and he also reminded the members that "you're where we get our speakers," adding that **John Tennant** had arranged for Jake Kerr of Lignum to be our October speaker and that the October meeting would be **Wednesday Oct. 15**.

At this point, the President mentioned that he would like to see **Norm Weitzel** carry on the Tim Bit concession as a continuing Probus Project. **Gordon Thom**, commenting that "George doesn't know as much..." thanked **John Hoyle** for the races, mentioned the Aquarium on September 24th, bridge commencing October 1 (contact V-P **Thom** or member **Zaleski**), West End walking tour filled, December 2 date for Orpheum Theatre Tour by Art Jones and thanked all (even wishing **George Adams** the best) who had helped in past years.

President requested a show of hands on possible Rocky Mountain Railtours in 2004 but there did not seem to be much interest.

Meeting ended at 10:50 A.M. with announcement that North Shore Probus would have it's inaugural meeting Tuesday September 16th with over 100 members.

Denis Creighton, Secretary.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As we start the new year Probus is in good hands. We have an excellent set of Directors. This year we have three new members as directors. Stew McKenzie has agreed to take over the job of Treasurer. John Hoyle is our new Membership Chairman. George Adams is taking over the Visits and Entertainment Committee. Gordon Thom will be our Vice President. With this group and the members that have continued their commitment to Probus we should have a very successful and interesting year. Fred has an excellent array of speakers and George will have a very exciting number of trips and entertainment for us. I would like to thank Dick Matthews and Bill Wallace for the long service that they have given to Probus over the years. As I said at the last meeting the more that you become involved with Probus the more you will enjoy the club.

Thanks,

Tom McCusker

President

P.S. When you receive the questionnaire in the next mail would you please indicate the type of speakers you would prefer.

NOTICES

MEMBERS SERVICES DESK:

Bill Weatherall

GREETERS: Laurie Moranda,

Ken Meredith

It is with regret we announce the passing of Murdo MacIver on September 2, 2003. Our condolences to his family. A donation will be made in his name by Probus to charity.

CHANGE IN MEETING DATES:

November Meeting - Since Remembrance Day falls on Tuesday, November 11th, the Probus Club meeting will be on **Wednesday November 12th.**

Probus Club Tour of the Historic Orpheum

10am December 2, 2003

This complimentary two-hour tour of "The Grand Old Lady of Granville Street" will be conducted by Vancouver Civic Theatre Board, Art Jones and some of his volunteer Orpheum Tour Docents.

You will not only visit back stage, on stage, and even above the great dome but also you'll discover some of the hidden secrets of this fantastic structure from two stories below street level to eight stories above. You'll hear details of how this ornate entertainment palace was built in a remarkable nine months in 1927 and stories of many of the legendary entertainment stars who have walked its boards. You'll visit the British Columbia Hall of fame's starwall gallery and learn from its president about this organization and the things it is doing to preserve and foster our entertainment industry legacies...and then, with any luck, the Probus group might even have a chance encounter with the Orpheum's very own resident Phantom!

*The group will meet and enter the theatre at the
SMITHE STREET ENTRANCE.*



PROBUS CLUB BRIDGE

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

First Session: Point Grey Golf Club, Wed. 7:30pm.

October 1, 2003.

Subsequent Sessions: October until April with a Christmas break. 2 tables hosted by members' homes every 2nd Wednesday 7:30p.m. Tea, coffee and desert provided by hosts.

For more information: please contact Zack Zaleski at 604-266-1811. E-mail: Zaleski@shaw.ca.

Members who are interested are asked to complete and return the enclosed form.

Walking Tour of the West End: A Century of Residential Change.

**The following are registered for the Tour
and Lunch on Tuesday, October 21/03
from 10am-2pm**

Norm and Linda Weitzel	Dean Winram
Stew & Bobbie McKenzie	Ed & Margaret Legg
George & Vivienne Adams	Norm & Bernice Barr
Tony & Katie Wooster	John MacGowan
Peter & Anne Morley	Lionel Funt
Gordon & Helen Thom	Tom & Joy McCusker
Frank & Eileen Robertson	Bill Kennedy
Dick & Jacquie Nelson	Chris & Mary Lee
	Doug & Bev Lambert

**Please meet at the Roedde House Museum, 1415
Barclay Street at 10:00 am for registration,
introductions and orientation before leaving on our
walking tour.** Be sure to wear comfortable walking shoes.

There is some off-street and on-street parking. Chris Lee will provide further parking details at the October 15th Probus meeting. Do not hesitate to Call Chris at 604-926-1022 if there are any question or changes.

JAKE KERR

Jake Kerr is the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Lignum Limited.

Lignum is one of Canada's largest, privately-held forest products companies. Founded in 1946, the company has its head office in Vancouver and operations in Williams Lake, British Columbia. It is the oldest forest products company still in the hands of the original owners in the province of British Columbia.

Lignum is known for its innovation in sawmill design and technology and operates one of the most modern lumber processing plants in the world. The company is also engaged in forest products marketing and has been an innovator in the establishment of joint venture marketing agreements with major customers world-wide.

Jake was educated at the University of British Columbia and received his MBA degree in Economics and Finance from the University of California at Berkeley. In October 2000, he received an Honorary Doctorate of Laws Degree from Simon Fraser University, Burnaby. He is a recipient of the Order of Canada and the Order of British Columbia in recognition for his significant contributions to the province and the country.

He was previously employed by the International Paper Company, New York, New York and was engaged in the advertising business at Botsford Advertising in San Francisco, California.

Jake is a Director of the Bank of Nova Scotia and the Vancouver Foundation. Over the past 20 years he has specialized in trade matters and has represented Canadian lumber interests in Ottawa and Washington. Jake is a member of the Chief Executives Organization and Past Chairman of the International and B.C. Chapters of the Young Presidents' Organization.

Jake's hobbies include art collecting, fly fishing, tennis, golf and the San Francisco Giants. He has five grown children and four grandchildren.