



NEWSLETTER

PROBUS CLUB VANCOUVER

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

...to find more about Probus go to www.probus.org

September 2007

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604-922-1515

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Probus Canada
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604-274-0446

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604-926-4727

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604-261-9669

Historian and Archivist

Gordon Thom
604-739-0714

Annual Meeting: Tuesday September 11, 2007

Time: 9:30 AM

LOCATION: CHANGE OF VENUE

**Point Grey Golf and Country Club
3350 South West Marine Drive**

Speaker: Steve Davis

Topic: The Potential for Power Independence in
BC

UPCOMING EVENTS

**September 13 - Capilano Watershed
Bus Tour**

**September 28 - Holland America
Repositioning Cruise**



STEVE DAVIS

President IPPBC and
Principal, Steve Davis &
Associates IPP Consulting
Ltd

IPPBC is the voice of
Independent Power

Producers of BC. Its mandate is to develop a viable independent power industry in British Columbia that serves the public interest by providing cost-effective electricity through the efficient and environmentally responsible development of some of the Province's energy resources.

Steve Davis & Associates is a Vancouver-based consulting firm providing commercial, financial and strategic market advice to IPP developers, investors, and suppliers on developing green power projects in BC.

Steve has been developing green IPPs in BC since 1990. He ran the project development subsidiaries for BC Gas and Ledcor and developed biomass, co-generation

and small hydro IPP projects in BC for 12 years prior to setting up his IPP consulting business in 2002.

Steve has been an IPPBC Director since 1992 and President since 2001. He has co-authored or project managed the following IPPBC documents:

- Economic Impacts of Electricity Exports (KPMG 1992).
- Review of BC Hydro's Resource Acquisition Policy (1995).
- BC Electricity Market Restructuring Recommendations Report (2001).
- Commentary on Interim Draft Energy Plan (2002).
- "Cost of Importing Electricity" Submission to Minister of Finance (2004) and several detailed Commentaries on BC Hydro Electricity Purchase Agreements (2002/03/04 and 2005).

Since 2002, Steve's consulting company has:

- identified sites and done due diligence for companies looking to invest in IPP projects.
- Created pro formas for small hydro projects.

- Analyzed dozens of BC IPP projects and development companies.
- Presented BC Power Market Outlook presentations to senior executives.
- Reviewed agreements between IPPs and First Nations and Local Governments.
- Prepared hydro and wind site tenure applications for IPP developers and assisted on preparing hydro wind and biomass IPP project proposals to BC Hydro.

Steve has a Civil Engineering degree from UBC and an MBA from the University of Western Ontario.

Minutes of the August 14th Meeting

Attendance: 123 including guests

President Jack Farley welcomed us to what's become our alternative venue, the Point Grey Golf and Country Club. He then asked the meeting to recognize **John Leonard**, the North Shore Club's recently elected BC representative to the Probus National Board. John succeeds our **Pidge McBride** who has held the position for several years. Jack then passed the mike to Past President **Denis Creighton**, the chair of the Nominating Committee, to present the proposed slate of officers and committee managers for the upcoming year. (see separate report within).

Lloyd Doige then had the pleasure of introducing this morning's speaker, Dr. Michael Byers, Research Chairman in Global Politics and International Law at the University of B.C.

Michael started by explaining that the initial topic of today's talk was somewhat more general than his present intention. This appeared to be due to recent Arctic activity announcements by Steven Harper. He quickly covered his earlier topic by summarizing his new book, *Intent For A Nation*, which basically takes exception to a 1965 publication by George Grant, *Lament for a Nation*. The core message of Grant's book is that Canada as an independent nation has ceased to

exist due to capitulation to the US over nuclear warheads in Canada. "Not so," says Michael's book and offers the following reasons why: 1) Both Paul Martin and Jean Chretien said no to the US on major issues regarding their missile defense system and the Iranian war. 2) Area wise, we are the second largest country and has only 32 million people. 3) We are the eighth largest economy in the world. 4) Canada is a member of GATT, WTO, Nato and Norad. Further, we're the US's largest trading partner. 5) We have no sworn enemies and are a peaceful society with a good International reputation. The book sums Canada up as a powerful peace-loving nation that is prepared to act independently when the need arises!

Dr Byers then moved onto the Arctic, which he feels is of such importance to Canada today that immediate and aggressive action must be taken to protect our sovereign interests. This is, in part, due to global warming and Michael gave some persuasive arguments to accept this trend as fact, scientifically assess its likely progression and take the necessary steps to protect our interests. Through recent hands-on experience, he has seen the usually heavily iced-over Arctic waterways ice-free, as late in the year as October. He offered as a scientific fact that ice-free ocean surfaces absorb 80% of the sun's heat compared with 20% when the surface is covered with ice and snow. Dr. Byers sees two major problems concerning our north; The allusive Northwest Passage (NWP), could soon become a viable reality. Secondly, there are five countries radiating out from the North Pole and the 1982 UN Convention on the Law of the Sea, provided for each of these to submit their claim for rights beyond their 200 mile limit. This is strictly about the Arctic seabed and the estimated 25% of the world's undiscovered oil and gas reserves lying thereunder. Canada ratified the Convention in

2003, which obligates a submission by 2013. Such a submission must be backed by scientific evidence, through seabed mapping, that our claim is more viable than that of other contenders. Further, claims are subject to challenge just as Canada, Denmark and the US are protesting against the Russian submittal already being processed. Ottawa has committed 70 million dollars to date but more money and personnel will be required. This to assure our timely submission to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf, (a body of scientists elected by parties to the UN Convention). Dr. Byers also suggests that a joint submission by Canada and the US could be viable. In addition, he recommends that Ottawa call a summit meeting of the leaders of the Arctic Countries along with the Inuit, to discuss climate change, access to the continental shelf, the regulation of new shipping routes and potential security threats.

Dr. Byers concluded by saying that securing Canada's rights in the Arctic Ocean will require serious investment of money and personnel, as well as imaginative and proactive high-level diplomacy.

During the question period we learned that:

- In 1969, Exxon's ship "Manhattan" failed in it's experiment to deliver Alaskan oil to the eastern seaboard via the NWP. It took two icebreakers to break her free.
- Our Ice strengthened patrol vessels recently announced by Ottawa are multi-purpose naval ships and not suitable for heavy ice breaking purposes as required in the high Arctic.
- During the cold war the US mapped the entire arctic ocean floor including areas within our 200 mile limit. Canada should forgive and work with the US to get our submittal (joint or otherwise) into the Commission. Technology exists that allows some arctic charting by aircraft and submarines.
- Seismic information must be gleaned either through the use of icebreakers or by actual ice drilling and explosions.
- International law is not the same for the Arctic and the Antarctic. One reason is that much of the Arctic ice cap locates over water and is subject to shifting

where as the Antarctic sits firm on earth.

- Similar to last year, certain parts of the Arctic have been ice free in the past. What concerns scientists today is the frequency of warming, Much evidence exists of permafrost melting. One example was the forced shut down of a British Petroleum pipeline in Alaska', the supporting permafrost becoming unstable.
- Russia's North Sea Route is the NWP's counterpart. The Russians are currently charging a half million US dollar transfer fee per vessel crossing. They are likely not to be interested in the probable international squabble over the future of the NWP.
- It is likely that Ottawa will acknowledge the importance of the Arctic. Steven Harper has already taken several steps in this direction.
- As the Arctic starts to reach full importance expect a whole new round of negotiations with the First Nations. Hopefully they will strive for full Canadian ownership.
- Dr. Byers appears to accept the concept that a 2-degree temperature rise would allow the Peace River to provide food enough for the world. He suggested however, that other changes (ie similar to the pine beetle) could have a negative effect on crop yields.
- Thinking optimistically, global warming would result in a reduced over-all demand for energy.

George Adams thanked the speaker.

Bill Weatherall, Secretary

REFLECTIONS FROM THE PRESIDENT



A quarterback is only as good as the other players on the team -- and so it goes with Probus.

This has been an interesting, exciting and rewarding year for me -- and

our Management Team made it happen.

Some members of the Team are stepping down and I would like to thank them for doing a superb job. To **Don Hudson** for organizing a number of great outings and events; to **Pidge McBride** for his

contributions to Probus Canada and arranging our meetings at Point Grey; to **Bill Weatherall** for doing a yeoman's job in cranking out the minutes of our Management Committee meetings and the notes in the Newsletter on our guest speakers; and finally to **Denis Creighton** for his words of wisdom at our Management Committee meetings.

It has been a great year and I wish **Ted Daem** and the new Management Committee continued success in building a strong and effective PROBUS CLUB OF VANCOUVER.

Ciao, Jack

NOTICES

It is with regret that we announce the passing of **Peter Ketchen** on August 7th, 2007. Our condolences to his family. A donation will be made by Probus to the Nature Trust of B.C.

CHANGE OF VENUE

There is a chance that the strikers will still be picketing the Planetarium & Space Centre, Therefore the annual meeting has been moved to:

Point Grey Golf and Country Club
3350 S.W. Marine Drive
Vancouver



SEA TO SKY TRIP - Britannia Mines
Photo by John Banfield - June 19, 2007

Member Services Desk: Tremayne Perry
Cash Desk: Alan Brown, Bob Wadsworth
Greeters: Gordon Thom, David Stowe, Frank Anfield

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT-2007

The Nominating Committee comprised of Chairman, Denis Creighton, Jack Farley and Ted Daem submitted the following slate of nominees for 2007-2008

President: Ted Daem
Past President: Jack Farley
Vice-President: George Adams
Secretary: Lindsay Mann
Treasurer: Bill Manson

The following have agreed to serve as Committee Chairmen:

Speakers Committee: Fred Cotton
Membership Committee: Nick Thornton
Activities Committee: Lloyd Doidge
House Committee: Doug Lambert
Newsletter Editor: Roy Williams
Membership Services: Tremayne Perry
Historian & Archives: Gordon Thom

Any additional nominations (with prior agreement to stand) must be conveyed to the Nominating Committee at least 24 hours in advance of the Annual Meeting September 11, 2007

**LAST CALL FOR CAPILANO
WATERSHED BUS TOUR
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2007**

A bus has been reserved for Probus Vancouver on Thursday, September 13th at 12:30PM for a GVRD organized and guided tour of the Capilano watershed. The tour is four hours long and starts at the Grouse Mountain Tramway parking lot. There are several stops enroute and bathroom facilities are available. The GVRD has advised there are good photographic opportunities. The cost of the tour is \$20.00 which covers a gourmet box lunch, water, soft drinks and gratuities for guide and driver. Weather is obviously a factor in what you wear. If it is showery, some rain gear is in order and remember it will be cooler in the watershed area than in the city. Above all, wear comfortable warm clothing and shoes.

We want everyone there at least 15 minutes before departure. The bus will be in the upper parking lot next to the Tramway unloading area. The cost for all day parking is \$5.00.

As the GVRD says, "this is a chance to see where your drinking water comes from." Also hear what the GVRD is doing to ensure both the quality and quantity of Vancouver's water.

We have had good response but there are still seats available...so sign up using the form in this newsletter! Friends and relatives are welcome. The co-ordinator of this event is Richard Landahl (604-271-8413).

**HOLLAND AMERICA
REPOSITIONING CRUISE**

Lloyds Travel has advised us that our repositioning cruise for Sept. 27 needs to be changed as the **Ms Oosterdam** will be in drydock at the end of the Alaska cruise season.

Consequently, we have replaced our cruise with the following:

September 28 - Ms. Volendam - 4 Nights

Vancouver-Astoria-at sea-at sea-San Diego
Inside Cabin - \$540.00; Outside Cabin - \$610.00
Verandah Cabin - \$740.00

However due to the change of plans, you may also book on the following cruises

September 26, MS Zaandam - 5 nights Vancouver –

Victoria – Astoria– at sea – at sea – San Diego
Inside Cabin - \$699.00; Outside Cabin - \$782.00
Verandah Cabin - \$1055.00

September 29, MS Zuiderdam - 4 nights

Vancouver – at sea – at sea – at sea – Los Angeles
Inside Cabin - \$589.00; Outside Cabin - \$670.00
Verandah Cabin - \$790.00

In addition to the above costs, the return air fare will be in the order of \$350.00. All costs shown are in Canadian dollars.

We have also been advised that if you can organize a group booking in the order of ten people, you can discuss the possibility of a group fare reduction. Also, if you wish to arrange a visit to Las Vegas or another city, that too can be arranged by Lloyd's. Lloyds Travel also advised that the heavy booking season for repositioning cruises is just starting and so if you are interested you should contact them as soon as possible in order to get the accommodation you would prefer.

The contact at Lloyds Travel is as follows:
Jude Harms - Lloyds Travel & Cruises
206 – 906 West Broadway, Vancouver, BC
V5Z 1K7 Phone:604-872-5464, ext.104

Capilano watershed Tour September 13, 2007

Registration Form

Name _____

Number of tickets @\$20.00 _____ Total Cost \$ _____

Drop off at next meeting or mail to: Probus Club Vancouver, 252-2025 West 42nd Ave., Vancouver, B.C. V6M 2B5