



# NEWSLETTER

# PROBUS CLUB VANCOUVER

#252-2025 West 42nd Avenue, Vancouver, B.C. V6M 2B5 Phone and Fax (604)261-6818  
Clubs for retired and semi-retired professional and business persons, former executives and others

October 2008

...to find more about Probus go to [www.probus.org](http://www.probus.org)

## President

George Adams

604-926-0906

[george\\_adams@telus.net](mailto:george_adams@telus.net)

## Past President

Ted Daem

604-732-7758

[allanbrock@shaw.ca](mailto:allanbrock@shaw.ca)

## Vice President

Nick Thornton

604-263-2418

[nickts@shaw.ca](mailto:nickts@shaw.ca)

## Secretary

Ted Horsey

604-731-6213

[efhorsey@telus.net](mailto:efhorsey@telus.net)

## Treasurer

Bill Manson

604-988-2365

[mansbill@telus.net](mailto:mansbill@telus.net)

## Speakers Committee

Fred Cotton

604-266-7060

## Membership Committee

Don Newman

604-263-5740

[The\\_newmans@telus.net](mailto:The_newmans@telus.net)

## Activities Committee

John Cruickshank

778-330-7617

[johncruickshank@shaw.ca](mailto:johncruickshank@shaw.ca)

## House Committee

Doug Lambert

604-266-2422

## Newsletter Editor

Roy Williams

604-926-4727

[roywitch@shaw.ca](mailto:roywitch@shaw.ca)

## Membership Services

Bill Sexsmith

604-261-8293

[bpsexsmith@shaw.ca](mailto:bpsexsmith@shaw.ca)

## Historian and Archivist

Gordon Thom

604-739-0714

[thomga@telus.net](mailto:thomga@telus.net)

**Next Meeting: Tuesday October 14, 2008**

**Time: 9:30 AM**

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

**Speakers: Gregor Robertson and Peter Ladner**

**Topic : Meet the Next Mayor of Vancouver**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

The Activities Committee is hard at work planning for future events.

## GREGOR ROBERTSON



Gregor Robertson is Vision Vancouver's mayoral candidate in this November's civic election. He brings a broad range of experience and a

fresh perspective to Vancouver politics; whether as a successful entrepreneur, a climate change advocate or as an elected MLA, Gregor has promoted the values of sustainability, fiscal balance and citizen consultation. He is living proof that business success can happen while acting responsibly toward people and the environment.

Gregor is passionate about building a sustainable and prosperous future for Vancouver and BC. Prior to entering politics, Gregor co-founded Happy Planet, and grew the Vancouver-based socially responsible company up to 50 employees in 10 years.

## PETER LADNER



Councillor Peter Ladner was first elected to Vancouver City Council in 2002 and re-elected in 2005. He is the Non

Partisan Association nominee for Mayor in the upcoming municipal election in November 2008.

Councillor Ladner is vice president and part owner of the Business in Vancouver Media Group, which he co-founded by establishing the award-winning Business in Vancouver weekly newspaper in 1989. He has more than 35 years of journalistic experience in print, radio and television and is a frequent speaker on business and community issues.

His community and business experience includes participation in the Vancouver City Planning Commission and the Capital Campaign for the

**Gregory Robertson cont.**

Happy Planet strives to produce exceptional juices, promote health and nutrition, support family farms and communities, and "grow a progressive business from which happiness flows." Happy Planet was awarded the Vancouver Mayor's Environmental Award for exemplary achievement in 2003.

As the MLA for Vancouver-Fairview, Gregor served as the Opposition Critic for Small Business and Co-Chair of the Caucus Climate Change Task Force. Since being elected in 2005, Gregor has lead a successful campaign to protect affordable rental housing in Vancouver, worked to ensure that every public high school in the province has a copy of Al Gore's *An Inconvenient Truth*. Most recently, Gregor put forward two private members bills mandating clear food labeling and the regulation of carcinogens, toxic substances and genetically engineered food.

Raised in Vancouver and a fifth-generation British Columbian, Gregor earned a Bachelor's degree, majoring in English and biology. He and his wife Amy traveled extensively and then established and managed an organic farm in the Fraser Valley for 7 years.

In 2004, Gregor was named to Canada's "Top 40 under 40" brightest achievers in The Globe and Mail.

Gregor has a long record of involvement in the community. He was a founding board member of the Tides Canada Foundation, and has served on a number of other boards, working for sustainable farming and forestry, and to protect wild salmon.

Gregor and Amy have four children: Terra, Satchel, Jinagh and Johanna. He is an ardent bike commuter, and in his spare moments he plays soccer, explores the great outdoors, and gets musical.

**Peter Ladner cont.**

Vancouver Public Library. He has also served on the boards of Leadership Vancouver, International Centre for Sustainable Cities, the UBC Alumni Association, New Media BC, the Forum for Women Entrepreneurs and the international Association of Area Business Publications. He is the Honorary Chair of the Subaru Vancouver International Half-Iron and Sprint Triathlon.

His local and regional appointments include: Chair, City Services and Budgets Committee Vice-Chair, Metro Vancouver Board (formerly GVRD) Member, Vancouver Economic Development Commission Former Director, TransLink Board of Directors

Councillor Ladner is a fourth generation British Columbian. The town of Ladner is named after his great-grandfather. He lives in Kitsilano with his wife, Erica. They have four children ranging in age from 19 to 28. He is a long-time commuter cyclist as well as a keen runner, skier, kayaker and singer. He holds his age-group record for the 50 km Knee-Knacking North Shore Trail Run.

**Minutes of the September 9th Meeting**

Attendance: 180 members and guests

Outgoing President, **Ted Daem** opened s the 2008 Annual General Meeting of the Club with special thanks to three retiring Management Committee members: **Lloyd Doidge** of the Activities Committee, **Tremayne Perry** of the Membership Services Committee and **Lindsay Mann**, the retiring Secretary. He acknowledged the good work of **Bill Manson** as Treasurer, **Jack Farley** for chairing the Nominating Committee for the incoming Executive and also recognized the contribution of **Gordon Thom**, Historian and Archivist.

Finally, in recognition of the outstanding contributions made by **Roy Williams** as Newsletter Editor and for recording all the newsletters, financial and other documents on electronic disc, the outgoing President declared Roy to be an Honorary Life Member of the Club.

The outgoing President then thanked all Executive members and Committee chairmen and members for their valuable contributions to the year.

He then read out the members of the 2008-2009 Management Committee and their respective deputies as proposed by the Executive Succession Committee.(see masthead).

**George Adams**, the incoming President thanked **Ted Daem** for his many contributions, not the least of which is his irrepressible sense of humour and presented him with the President's pin.

Prior to the calling upon the guest speaker the following announcements were made:

1.The Vancouver Curling Club has an opening for 4 curlers, every Tuesday and Thursday starting September 30. Coaching is being offered. If you are interested contact **John Cruikshank**.

2. **Gordon Thom** advised the meeting that there are several openings in the Investment Club and that now is a thrifty time to buy in. There are also openings for bridge players on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday evenings of each month.

**Don Newman** was called upon to introduce and present membership pins to four new members (see "Welcome To Our New Members").

**Mark Cullen** introduced our distinguished speaker, **Mr. David L. Hahn**, President and Chief Executive Officer of British Columbia Ferry Services Inc.

Those of us hoping to hear a description of effective management practices in turning around what was described as a highly politicized and

demoralized organization were not disappointed. Mr. Hahn outlined the change from a Crown Corporation to an independent, regulated commercial company under the jurisdiction of an independent regulator, the British Columbia Ferry Commissioner appointed under the Coast Ferry Act.

BC Ferries operates as a private business, which is:

- financially accountable
- directed by an independent business-oriented Board of Directors
- party to a new labour agreement
- has the ability to finance with private sector lenders
- able to focus on its customers
- has greater flexibility in decision making
- has expanded business opportunities.

The first five years of Mr. Hahn's mandate were devoted to reestablishing confidence with the customer base, refurbishing vessels and commissioning new vessels, building better terminals and establishing labour stability and not without some operational hiccups.

All retained earnings are invested in infrastructure;

- Estimated investment 2007-2012 is \$1.2 billion
- 7 new vessels to be added between 2007-2009.

Mr. Hahn then provided a very favorable comparison between BC Ferries and other major ferry corporations as to size and relative cost to the users. He described actions taken to put BC Ferries on the map.

He concluded with the challenges facing BC Ferries: high fuel costs leading to surcharges, security at the terminals and aboard vessels, the need for a greater presence in tourism, and new business opportunities such as providing management services to others.

After a number of questions and answers, David Stowe thanked the speaker for his authoritative and direct description of the present and future direction of BC Ferries.

President George Adams adjourned the meeting to lunch at Milestones.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



The stated purpose of Probus Clubs is "To stimulate thought, interest and participation in activities at a time in life when it is easy to become complacent and

self-centred."

With an extraordinary variety and high calibre of speakers and activities members of Probus Club, Vancouver have enjoyed an abundance of stimulation of both thought and interest but participation is another thing. A major part of the burden of establishing, organising and running this Club has been borne by a very few. As you can imagine, that burden has increased dramatically in line with an exponential growth in membership since the Club was formed in 1997. It is my hope that this burden can be spread more widely.

In this regard, Jack Farley and Ted Daem have done some excellent work planning for succession and providing continuity in maintaining the strength of this Club.

I am delighted that Roy Williams' conscientious dedication has been deservedly recognised with an Honorary Life Membership of the Club. The Newsletter which Roy produces is a credit to our Club and an envy of others.

I'm not sure that it is easy, as the purpose states, to become "complacent and self-centred" at this time of life but I can assure you that the Management team is determined that you will not

become a victim of complacency just as long as you participate fully in the activities of the Club.

George Adams, President

## NOTICES

**It is with regret we announce the passing of Bill Forbes on August 23rd and Robin Bell-Irving on August 28th. Our condolences to their families. Donations will be made by Probus to the Lions Gate Hospital Foundation.**

**Member Services Desk:** Bill Sexsmith, Tremayne Perry

**Cash Desk:** Craig Arnold, Brent Scott

**Greeters:** Barry Done, Thomas Laing, Norman Barr

## WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS

Merv Hanson – Investment Advisor

Alan Leard – Accountant/General Contractor

John Nasedkin – Dentistry/Prosthodontics

Willem Stronck – Architect/Property Development

## 1st Annual Meeting

The 1st annual Meeting of the Probus Club Vancouver was held Sept 16, 1997 at the Stanley Park Pavilion. The Club had received its charter to become a Probus Club in May but had been meeting for almost a year. Fred Cotton, President chaired the meeting, Pidge McBride was named Vice President and Doug Lambert was listed as Chair, House Committee, the position he continues to hold. Treasurer, Bill Wallace proposed a budget with a surplus of \$654 based on dues of \$40. It passed unanimously. The roster with 82 paid members was circulated.

Gordon Thom

Historian and Archivist

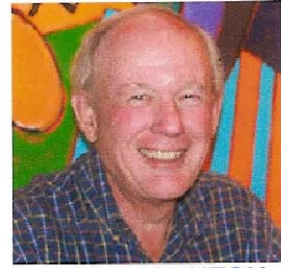
**PROBUS CLUB OF VANCOUVER  
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE – 2008-09**



**GEORGE ADAMS  
PRESIDENT**



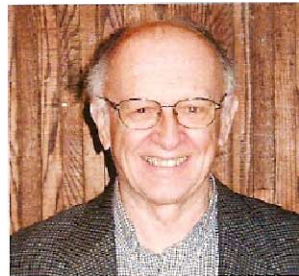
**TED DAEM  
PAST PRESIDENT**



**NICK THORNTON  
VICE-PRESIDENT**



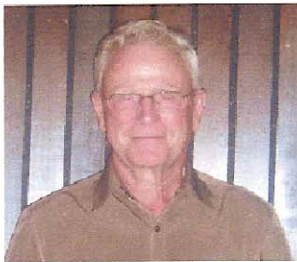
**TED HORSEY  
SECRETARY**



**BILL MANSON  
TREASURER**



**FRED COTTON  
CHAIRMAN  
SPEAKERS COMMITTEE**



**DON NEWMAN  
CHAIRMAN  
MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE**



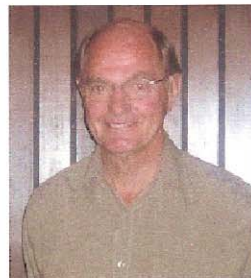
**JOHN CRUICKSHANK  
CHAIRMAN  
ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE**



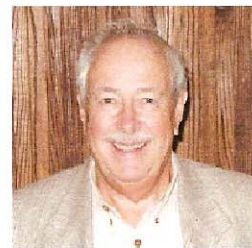
**DOUG LAMBERT  
CHAIRMAN  
HOUSE COMMITTEE**



**ROY WILLIAMS  
NEWSLETTER EDITOR**



**BILL SEXSMITH  
CHAIRMAN  
MEMBERSHIP SERVICES**



**GORDON THOM  
HISTORIAN &  
ARCHIVIST**