



NEWSLETTER

PROBUS CLUB VANCOUVER

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

November 2008

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

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Next Meeting: Tuesday November 18, 2008

Time: 9:30 AM

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

Speakers: Calvin D. Helin

Topic : New Hope For Native People

UPCOMING EVENTS

Activities Survey Top Ten List - Page 4

Calvin D. Helin



Calvin D. Helin is a member of the Tsimshian Nation from the northern B.C. community of Lax Kwalaams (Port

Simpson). He is of the clan of Ginaxangiik, and his family crest is Gisbudwaada (Killerwhale).

He has studied karate with Sensei Nomada since 1981 and is a third degree black belt.

He has an extensive background in law, business, and community service. Mr. Helin holds a Bachelor of Laws from the University of British Columbia and was admitted to the Law Society of British Columbia in 1992. He has helped create several businesses and not-for-profit organizations including the Aboriginal Peoples Television Network in 2001 and the National Aboriginal Business Association in

2005. Mr. Helin has published a book and numerous papers and has written numerous columns on Aboriginal issues. He is President and Chief Executive Officer of Orca Spirit Publishing and Communications Inc.

Helin is author of *Dances With Dependency: Out of Poverty Through Self-Reliance*, already a best seller in Canada and poised to enter the international market.

Against advice, Helin took out a loan on his house to print an initial 11,000 copies. The book has since sold 15,000 copies with little publicity and has been updated for the U.S. market.

Helin, 48, lives in a lovely 5,000-square-foot home near Quilchena Golf Course ("I'm a lousy golfer") in Richmond with his wife Vernita, daughters Georgina and Denise, son Lewis, and grandson Lucius.

Abridged Minutes of the October 14th Meeting

Attendance: 157 members and guests

1. **Calling Meeting to Order.** George Adams, the President of the Club called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

2. **Announcements.** George Adams announced that:

- The speaker at the next meeting will be Calvin Helin, speaking on aboriginal matters.
- Members interested in forming a book club starting in November or December should contact Fred Cotton or Eric Hayne at 604-922-5181 or email ehayne@telusplanet.net.
- Financial statements are available at the Membership Services Desk for those interested.

3. **New Members Introductions.** In the absence of the Membership Chairman, his deputy, Conrad Rademaker, introduced the following new members: Alan Wilson, John Brady, Vernon Krause, and Perry Hadman.

4. **The Talk.** George Adams announced that John Tennant would act as moderator for presentations to be given by each of the guest speakers, Peter Ladner and Gregor Robertson mayorial candidates for the City of Vancouver.

Peter Ladner said he was running for mayor to provide leadership, action and accessibility at City Hall. He wanted to ensure safer and cleaner streets.

He said that he had served on the City Services and Budget Committee, and had good relations with the City Staff. He was Vice-chairman on the Metropolitan Vancouver Council, and had served as Alderman for six years. His concerns were that the City had become unaffordable for many, and property

crime and violence were a real problem.

His priorities were as follows:

- reduce crime, making property and streets safe,
- work with others on homelessness and drug treatment,
- make Vancouver more affordable, and keep taxes in check,
- ensure a successful Olympics and Paralympics,
- have a sustainable environment with well-paying jobs and good quality of life,
- develop and promote the arts in a culturally vibrant city.

Gregor Robertson said that the City faces a number of challenges: homelessness, affordable housing, global economic problems, 2010 Winter Olympics and taking advantage of its opportunities, environmental change, opportunities for the young so they can afford to live here. He wants Vancouver to be more than just a resort city.

He said that stronger leadership is needed, and that three years were wasted in nasty politics in City Hall, by a vacuum in the mayor's office, a long civic strike and increased property taxes.

He said that vision must be the start, to envision where the City should be heading. He said that he would engage the people of Vancouver in this vision. He wants to end homelessness by 2015.

He wants to make Vancouver the greenest city in the world, where there is small business viability. He wants to encourage creative capabilities in the arts. He wants to make neighbourhoods stronger and safer, combating drugs and crime.

He wants to rally people around the city to make a real commitment for what the City can be tomorrow, to get people active and working together, so that all are involved.

Mr. Ladner and Mr. Robertson were invited to present rebuttals.

Robertson asked Ladner why he didn't vote against some issues he was against, instead of voting for Sam Sullivan's position, such as climate change action and tax changes. Ladner said that he works in collaboration and on compromise with his fellow Non-Partisan Association members on City Council. He said he voted to require a reduction in greenhouse gases and to have 29% social housing in South East False Creek after the 2010 Olympics.

Ladner asked Robertson why he thinks he could, without experience in municipal government, expect to be a good mayor. Robertson replied that he would work with the other Vision Vancouver members of City Council, and that he wanted to focus his efforts on Vancouver.

Moderator Tenant asked the speakers how they would have time to be mayor and fulfill their responsibilities to their families and tend to their businesses. They each explained how they would do it

He asked the speakers what they did not know, and how they would deal with it. Each of the speakers replied to the question.

Questions from the Floor:

- How are we going to control the spiraling costs of the Vancouver Regional District?
- How are we going to solve the homelessness issue?
- Transportation is not working in Vancouver, the roads are too crowded, and the buses are too full, particularly the UBC buses; what can be done about it?

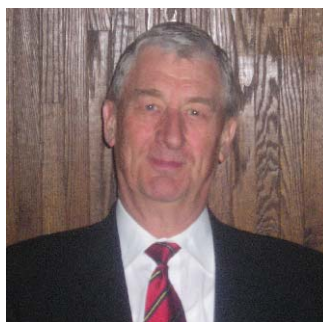
Each of the speakers replied to these

questions.

The meeting then terminated.

Note: This copy of the minutes has been abridged for inclusion in the Newsletter. For the full text of the Minutes, which are included in the Minute Book, please contact the Secretary, Ted Horsey by email at efhorsey@telus.net or by telephone at 604-642-6445.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Congratulations are due to Fred Cotton and his Committee who out-did themselves with last month's speakers. We are all especially grateful to John Tennant for his

gentle control and direction of the proceedings. In one form, moderator is defined as "a substance used in a nuclear reactor to retard neutrons". Whether retarding neutrons or subduing explosions, John handled well a situation which so easily could have become uncomfortable.

There are several members who have not yet submitted their dues for the 2008/2009 year. These were due on October 1 and you are encouraged to make your payment as soon as possible. The questionnaire, included with the renewal sheet, provides members an opportunity to suggest speakers and speakers' topics and to express an opinion on the regular meetings. Of the questionnaires received to date, some have criticized the space available for social time prior to our meetings. We have been holding our meetings at the Planetarium since 2001, prior to which we held meetings at the Stanley Park Pavilion.

The total space available at the former location was much less and in every aspect, the Planetarium is far superior. However, nothing is ideal, optional meeting spaces are few and each has limitations. Even ignoring the cramped social space we are approaching the capacity of the Planetarium. This is a concern for the Management Committee and a reason to place a limit on membership numbers.

NOTICES

ACTIVITIES SURVEY TOP 10 LIST

- 1. Vancouver Olympic Sites Prior to 2010**
- 2. HMC'S Vancouver Cruise to Esquimalt**
- 3. Port of Vancouver Wharves**
- 4. Boeing Plant Bus Tour, Seattle
Boeing Aviation Museum, Seattle**
- 5. Vancouver Police Department**
- 6. Skytrain Control Centre**
- 7. Pitt Lake Area Curise
UBC Triumf and Cyclotron facilities**
- 8. Interwest's Peak to Peak Gondola, Whistler**
- 9. Old Vancouver Walking Tour
Minter Gardens Bus Tour
Valentine's Day Luncheon with partner**
- 10. Fort McMurray Tar Sands
B.C. Rail Trip to Lillooet
Roberts Bank Tour
Bard on the Beach (Shakespeare) Play
Vancouver Airport Tour
Seven Seas Mariner (Radisson Seven Seas Cruises), Tour and Lunch Aboard Ship**



WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS

John Brady – Civil Service Manager
Perry Hedman - Telecommunications
Vernon W. Krause – Physician/Pathology
Alan Wilson – Forest Industry/Property Management

Member Services Desk: Bill Sexsmith
Cash Desk: Craig Arnold, Brent Scott
Greeters: Bud Boyd, Hamish Herman, Ken Stronge

It is with regret we announce the passing of Pat Doyle on Sept 5 and Barry Done on Sept. 10. Our condolences to their families. Donations will be made in their names by Probus to the Canadian Cancer Society and the Rotary Foundation respectively.

The Beginning of Probus Club Vancouver

At the request of their District Governor, the Rotary Club of Vancouver was asked to consider starting a Probus Club in Vancouver. An exploratory meeting attended by 12 people many of whom are still active in our Club and chaired by Fred Cotton, was held Oct 23, 1996 at the Hollyburn Winter Club. The group decided to have a male only club with controversially diverse speakers and that future meetings should be held in Vancouver. Everyone was invited to bring 5 friends to the next meeting.

The first meeting of Probus followed on January 21st 1997 at the Stanley Park Pavilion with 35 people attending. David Mitchell spoke on the Canadian political situation. We have met regularly since that meeting.

Gordon Thom
Historian and Archivist