



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

December 2008

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

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Next Meeting: December 9th, 2008

Time: 9:30 AM

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

Speaker: Daniel E. Friedmann

Topic : "MacDonald Dettwiler - Transforming the World of
Information Solutions"

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 13th – Presidents' Luncheon
at the Point Grey Golf & Country Club

February 12th – Valentine's Luncheon

Daniel E. Friedmann



Mr. Friedmann was born on September 19, 1956 in Santiago, Chile, and immigrated to Vancouver in 1970. He attended the

University of British Columbia, where he received a B.A.Sc. Engineering Physics degree in 1979. He joined MacDonald Dettwiler in July 1979 and continued to work for the company while studying for his M.A.Sc. Engineering Physics degree, which he obtained from the University of British Columbia in 1983.

While still an undergraduate, Mr. Friedmann headed a number of projects, including the development of a new, patented Electric Field Detector, the development of a microprocessor system to aid the disabled, and the development of a high-powered laser.

From 1979 to 1982, at MacDonald Dettwiler, Mr. Friedmann performed various engineering research jobs and helped develop significant new ways of

processing data from remote-sensing satellites. This work laid the foundation for the technology employed in MDA-built remote-sensing ground stations from 1985 on.

From 1982 until 1988, Mr. Friedmann was initially a Product Manager, and then a Marketing Manager, for MacDonald Dettwiler. By 1988, his responsibilities included the marketing and sales of all systems. He was also responsible for developing a plan, subsequently implemented by the company, to establish international offices and operations and to expand from remote sensing into the space, defense and aviation markets.

From 1988 until 1995, Mr. Friedmann served as a Vice-President and then as Executive Vice-President of MacDonald Dettwiler. He was initially responsible for project management, business development, long-term operating plans and operational procedures. In 1992 he was designated

Chief Operating Officer and joined the board of directors. He was responsible for all aspects of the company's operations, including profitability. In March 1995, Mr. Friedmann was appointed to his current position as President and Chief Executive Officer.

From 1996 to present MacDonald Dettwiler has embarked on further expansion into the space and information markets.

Abridged Minutes of the November 18 Meeting

Attendance: 155 members and guests

1. **President George Adams** called the meeting to order at the usual time.

2. Announcements.

- Treasurer **Bill Manson** had nothing different to report.
- The Valentine's Lunch will be on 12 February 2009 with the venue not yet confirmed.
- lunch after the meeting will be at Juliet's Café, 1905 Cornwall Street at Cypress.
- Our House Committee Chairman, **Doug Lambert** asked all members who were delinquent in paying their Club dues (due 1 October 2008) to pay them.

3. New Members Introductions.

Don Newman, the Membership Chairman, introduced the four new members (see "Welcome to our New Members").

4. Introduction of Guest Speaker Mr. Calvin Helin.

The Membership Services Chairman, **Bill Sexsmith**, introduced our guest speaker, Mr. Calvin D. Helin. His topic was "New Hope For Native People".

5. **Mr. Calvin Helin's Address.** Mr. Helin said he was originally a fisherman, but became a lawyer. He was induced to leave Port Simpson by his grandmother and father to help with aboriginal issues in Canada.

The theme of his book "Dances with Dependency: Out of Poverty through Self-Reliance" is that aboriginals should reject dependency on governments for their welfare and work towards independence and self-reliance. He says that the social safety net is harmful. There is a huge groundswell in the aboriginal community by both elders and young people who don't want to continue to be poor and are seeking change.

He says this is important now because aboriginals are in a position of dependency with the attitude that others will take care of them. He says the enemy is the status quo and that everyone in Canada must be part of the solution.

Canada is in the midst of a serious demographic tsunami. From 1951 to 2001, the Canadian population as a whole only doubled, but the aboriginal population increased seven-fold. This creates a critical Canadian problem. At the present time approximately 650,000 aboriginals, receive approximately \$10 billion in transfer payments, and another \$10 billion is paid for services for them. As the percentage of the aboriginal population in Canada increases, so will the costs, with fewer working people to pay the costs. He says there is an "Indian industry" in Canada comprised of people who profit from the continued distribution of government moneys, with little transparency or democracy in its distribution. He claims the demographic tsunami can be a problem or a benefit.

It could be a problem because the large increase in aboriginal population could require much more than the \$20 billion costs now in the federal budget for aboriginals; but it could be a benefit if the status quo is changed so that the large number of young aboriginals are brought into the workforce.

By 2017 this could bring \$71 billion into the federal budget in taxes and could increase the GDP by \$160 billion

Mr. Helin says that there are four waves in Aboriginal Development:

- The **First Wave** covers probably the 20,000 years before Europeans came in contact with aboriginal people in North America. During this period the aboriginal people developed certain traditions, including self-reliance and economic self-sufficiency.
- The **Second Wave** of aboriginal development was the colonial period, when the European powers treated aboriginals paternalistically.
- The **Third Wave** of aboriginal development was living under the results of the Second Wave, when aboriginal people ceased to have the way of life and resourcefulness they had before the "colonialization". They came to rely on "the welfare trap" for their well-being.
- The **Fourth Wave** of aboriginal development, which Mr. Helin would like to see, is for aboriginals to unlearn the helplessness they learned during the Third Wave. He says the best way of life for aboriginals is to work hard. Relief and welfare kills a person.

Mr. Helin says for things to improve for aboriginals the whole community must admit the current state of affairs and recognize it as their problem. He says that education is a key to aboriginals gaining their self-reliance and independence.

After questions, Dick Matthews thanked the speaker on behalf of the members

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



I am looking forward to our December meeting when I will have the opportunity to extend to those in attendance my wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

In the meantime, I take this opportunity to extend to those members who are unable to attend the meeting my warmest regards for a very merry Christmas and a healthy and happy New Year.

There was a time when one extended wishes of prosperity in the New Year but I notice that, as age increases, so good health tends to assume a much higher priority. In any case, the turmoil in the global financial markets needs to stabilize somewhat before we can be reminded what prosperity really is - or was. This present crisis might be more global in nature than earlier upheavals but I was reminded the other day that it was in 55 BC that Cicero stated, "The budget should be balanced, the Treasury should be refilled, public debt should be reduced, the arrogance of officialdom should be tempered and controlled, and the assistance to foreign lands should be curtailed lest Rome become bankrupt. People must again learn to work, instead of living on public assistance."

Traditionally, families and friends take on greater emphasis during uncertain and troubled times; similarly, the opportunities for congenial fellowship provided by organizations such as our Probus become more meaningful. We are most fortunate to have such a vibrant Club and to have members who give generously of their time and energy to make Vancouver Probus Club the success it is.

SEASON'S GREETINGS

NOTICES

WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS

Hart Flatt – Banker

Curt Haase – Automotive Industry

Nick Metal – Fertilizer Business;
Interpreter/Translator

Brian Wooding – Military/Air Force

Member Services Desk: Bill Sexsmith

Cash Desk: Doug McGinnes, Jim McLennan

Greeters: Brent Scott, Gordon Park

VALENTINE'S LUNCHEON THURSDAY FEBRUARY 12TH, 2009

Since Valentine's Day falls on a Saturday in 2009, the luncheon will be moved forward to February 12th. Plans are in the works for this popular event, so don't miss this opportunity to treat your partner to a special luncheon. Mark the date on your calendar today. Complete detail's will be included in the January Newsletter.

PROBUS CLUB VANCOUVER BOOK CLUB

The recently formed Book Club is encouraging all interested members to attend the following meeting:

DATE: Tuesday, December 2nd, 2008

TIME: 9:00AM

PLACE: Boardroom at the White Spot
-West Georgia St. near Cardero

For additional information contact
Eric Hayne (604)922-5181

PRESIDENTS' LUNCHEON TUESDAY, JANUARY 13th, 2008 POINT GREY GOLF and COUNTRY CLUB

The Presidents' Luncheon is always held in January as part of our regular meeting.

In recent years, we have had difficulty with the overcrowding at this venue. ***Therefore no quests are allowed this year.***

The cost will be \$25. Please bring cash or cheques to the meeting. Coffee will be available as usual at 9:30 AM but the meeting will not get underway until 10:30AM.

It is important that we determine the exact number of members who plan to attend, so please complete the enclosed Registration Form and turn it in to the Member Services Desk during the December meeting. If you are able to attend the December Meeting, please phone the office at (604)261-6818 to confirm your attendance or complete the Registration Form and mail it to the Probud Office.

This is our twelfth anniversary and we will be honoring the Presidents who have led us so successfully over this period.

It is with regret we announce the passing of Colin Foster on November 10, 2008. Our condolences to his Family. A donation will be made in his name by Probud to the Heart and Stroke Foundation

Correction: In our November Newsletter, we reported the passing of Pat Doyle. It should have read Pat Boyle. We apologize for this error.

**PRESIDENTS' LUNCHEON
TUESDAY, JANUARY 13TH, 2009
POINT GREY GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB**

REGISTRATION FORM

I PLAN TO ATTEND:

NAME: _____

You can confirm your attendance by:

1. Mailing form to PROBUS OFFICE at 252 - 2025 West 42nd Avenue,
Vancouver, B.C. V6M 2B5
2. By phoning the office at (604) 261-6818
3. By bringing form to December Meeting and turning it into the Member Services Desk.