



NEWSLETTER

PROBUS CLUB OF VANCOUVER

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

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January 2013

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Next Meeting: January 8th, 2013

Time: 9:30 am

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

Speaker: C.C. (Kip) Woodward

Topic: Building a Sustainable Health Care System

UPCOMING EVENTS

Extra Special Meeting
Tuesday, Feb. 26th, 2013
Chief Justice Beverley
McLachlin
Place: Academy of Music

C.C. (Kip) Woodward



A life-long resident of Vancouver, Kip Woodward is President of Woodcorp Investments, a private venture capital investment firm. He is also Chair of The Keg Royalty Fund, Director of Hy's Canada

Limited and Village Farms Limited, and Advisor to the Army and Navy Group.

Kip has long been involved in community work. He was appointed Chair of Vancouver Coastal Health Authority in 2010. Prior to that he spent more than 20 years in health governance with St. Paul's Hospital and its Foundation, and was Chair of Providence Health Care from 2006 to 2010. He is a Director of Mr. and Mrs. P.A. Woodward Foundation and Canada's Top 40 Under 40 and is Past Chair of The Nature Trust of BC and of Brentwood College School, and past member of the Provincial Judicial Council.

Beverley McLachlin, PC Chief Justice of Canada

EXTRA SPECIAL MEETING
Tuesday, February 26th, 2013 2:00PM
Place: Academy of Music



Our Speakers' Committee has been successful in obtaining Chief Justice Beverley McLachlin to speak to us.

In view of the limited capacity of the Academy of Music, we need to know the number of members who plan to attend. Therefore, pre-registration is essential. You can register in one of the following ways:

- 1) By email - email Bill Robertson at robertsonwd@hotmail.com
Email registration is preferred; you will receive email confirmation of your registration !
- 2) At the Activities Desk at January and February Probus meetings
- 3) By telephone - Bill Robertson 604-269-0745

**Report of the December 11th
Attendance: 182 Members and Guests**

President Wayne Audette called the meeting to order at 10:00 am, welcoming all members and guest speaker David Mitchell, whose biography appears in the December newsletter, and his wife Shari Graydon. **Ken Yule** acted as Secretary.

David Muller introduced two new members. (See "Welcome New Members").

The club has nominated Past President **Bill Sexsmith** to represent the Lower Mainland District on the National Board of Probus Canada, an office limited to past presidents of Probus clubs.

Members were reminded to pay the \$5 parking fee.

Gordon Thom introduced the speaker, David Mitchell, who has addressed the club twice before, including the first meeting in January 1997. Mr. Mitchell spoke on "The Changing Nature of Leadership in Canada", under the headings Demographic transition, New leadership pressures, Organizational turnover and Gaps and mismatches in leadership.

Public Policy Forum of Canada (PPFC): At a two day meeting of CEOs and senior federal Deputy Ministers (DM) in 1987 the CEOs were astonished at the complexity of the DMs' jobs and the DMs learned the pressures of rapid change on business. From that meeting has grown the Public Policy Forum of Canada, of which Mr. Mitchell has been the president and CEO for the past four years. The Forum includes major private sector business leaders, all levels of government, most universities, unions, and many non-profit organizations, who all believe that government is too important to be left to politicians and bureaucrats.

Demographic transition: Talented young people were asked to describe their ideal employer. They seek intergenerational conversation, recognition, mentoring and feedback, an authentic open door policy where questions are welcomed and advice given, and the nurturing of new ideas and creative thinking. In their view the focus should shift from the bottom line to people: flexibility in office hours and work location, de-emphasis on seniority, use of social media, and different benefits packages. Employers should be good corporate citizens and eliminate gender and culture-

related inequities. Young peoples' values are the same but their priorities (work-life balance) are different. They are less confident in some of our institutions. Although not inherently nomadic, they are searching for the ideal employer.

New leadership pressures: The tough tasks include: the management of time and resources in an era of transparency and accountability; increasing complexity requiring horizontal partnerships; and the pressure to deliver, demanding new operational skills and reducing thinking time. Policy comes from outside (business, universities, think tanks) rather than from within a government department.

The top skills of the future are: negotiation, dispute resolution and partnership skills; and communication, including cultural fluency and the use of social media.

Organizational turnover: The average length of service of a Deputy Minister is 18 months, compared to 10 years for CEOs, 4 years for fixed-term university presidents and 3 years for NHL coaches. The conventional wisdom was that it took 2 years to learn the DM job. Now there is no opportunity to build rapport or relationships. More stability is needed.

Gaps and mismatches in leadership: There are serious policy challenges. Smart, well educated talent has limited opportunities, and therefore great uncertainties and insecurities that the previous generation did not. A high demand for skilled labour coincides with high youth unemployment. Canada is rich in natural resources but short of human resources, so is importing labourers.

The consensus is that the top public policy priorities for Canada in the next 3-5 years are: productivity; health care; innovation and competitiveness; skills, training and education; leadership succession; and the integration of aboriginals and immigrants into the workforce.

A new generation of political leaders is emerging: of the provincial premiers 5 are women, and Brad Wall and Joe Ghiz are the longest serving. Many political leaders are under 50. Their values are not different from their predecessors', but their priorities are.

Albert Brooks presents a dystopian but plausible view of generational war by 2030, with medical advances lengthening life and stressing organizations and health care, obsolete pensions, shifting global dynamics and crumbling infrastructure.

There is generational conflict over diversity and the role of women. Pension and old age security provisions increasingly disfavour younger people. Lack of opportunity for talented young people breeds frustration and resentment. The fundamental policy challenge is how to provide opportunity for the next generation.

Q & A: Canada's churn rate of deputy ministers is twice that of comparable parliamentary democracies. The politicization of the deputy minister position is increasing at all levels of government, and politicization of the formerly nonpartisan permanent public service is a concern. Bilingualism is not a churn factor. Fluency in many languages is increasingly important. The Public Policy Forum tries to do comparative international studies searching for global trends. Very few Canadians, less than 25% throughout Canada ex-BC, and not more than 50% in BC, see Canada as an Asia-Pacific nation; more younger people than older do.

John Hopkins thanked Mr. Mitchell for a most interesting address.

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

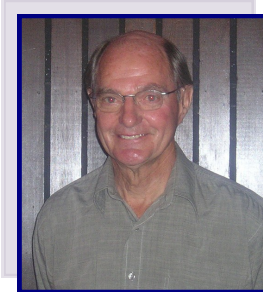


As mentioned at our December meeting, we have nominated one of our recent Past Presidents, Bill Sexsmith, for election as a Director on the Board of Probus Canada. Our District #2 consists of 12 clubs in the Fraser Valley and Greater Vancouver, with

approximately 1,200 members. The National Board has 12 Directors, of which three are from British Columbia. Only Past Presidents of a Probus Club in Canada can be nominated, so it's very exclusive company! After canvassing all 14 of our surviving Past Presidents, it was apparent that one individual had the unqualified support of all the others. After careful consideration of the duties and responsibilities of this position, Bill agreed to be our Club's nominee.

The primary responsibilities of the Directors are (1) to assist in the promotion and development of new Probus Clubs in their specific area, (2) to be available to provide advice and guidance to existing clubs when requested, and (3) to serve on special Committees or Task Forces of the Board when re-

quested. They also have the responsibility to monitor, and have input on, the financial activities of Probus Canada and on any revisions to the Constitution and Bylaws. They each have staggered three year terms, and each may stand for re-election for one additional term.



Bill may be best remembered for his hard work during the planning and implementation of the successful Rendezvous 2011. He is a McGill MBA, and has enjoyed a diversified professional career in engineering,

management consulting, venture capital and wealth management - both domestically and internationally. During retirement, he continues to be a member of various boards of directors in the commercial and not for profit sectors in Canada.

Asked what influenced him most in deciding to accept this nomination, Bill replied "Probus is the best game in town! I look forward to enhancing our individual member experience by building cooperative bridges among the participating Clubs within the District, and further developing the national Probus profile".

Our guest speaker on January 8, 2013 will be Kip Woodward, Chair of the Vancouver Coastal Health Authority, on "Building a Sustainable Healthcare System". He'll be followed on February 12 by Tamara Vrooman, CEO of Vancity. The Chief Justice of Canada, Beverley McLachlin, P.C. will address us at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday February 26. This special event will be held in addition to all of our other monthly meetings.

Please introduce yourself if we happen to meet in the hallways or the auditorium at any future meeting. And please remember to hug your children and your grandchildren.

Happy New Year!



PROBUS CLUB OF VANCOUVER—2013 MEETING DATES*

January 8 ^{th**}	August 13 th
February 12 th	September 10 th
March 12 th	October 8 th
April 9 th	November 12 th
May 14 th	December 10 th
June 11 th	
July 9 th	

*2nd Tuesday of each month

Extra Special Meeting
Tuesday, February 26th

MEMBERSHIP SERVICES TEAM

Greeters – John Gemmill, Jim McLennan
Cashiers – Ken Yule, Tremayne Perry
Past President Greeter – Nick Thornton
Member Services Desk – Tony Weall

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Bill Cheb – Electronics Technology
Alfred Ogilvie – Dentist-Periodontics

IN MEMORIAM

It is with regret we announce the passing of Henry Litherland on November 27th. Our condolences to his family. A Donations will be made in their memory by Probus to the VGH Palliative Care Unit.