



NEWSLETTER

PROBUS CLUB OF VANCOUVER

PO Box 74539, KITSILANO, Vancouver, BC, V6K 4P4

<https://probusvancouver.com/>

Enriching members with topical, entertaining speakers and social activities

August, 2026

Next Meeting: Tuesday, August 11 at The H.R. MacMillan Space Centre

Speaker: Tom Lancaster, General Manager - CMHC Granville Island

Topic: "Granville Island; Past, Present, Future"

9:00: Coffee and Timbits

9:30: Meeting commences followed by our speaker's presentation.

Please note that on September 8th we will be holding our Annual General Meeting, starting at 9:30, during which we will be holding a Special General Meeting, to vote by ballot on 3 special resolutions to make changes to our by-laws. Further information will be in the Notice of the AGM and the Special General Meeting which will be sent out 2 weeks prior.

Tom Lancaster



Tom has more than twenty years of experience in planning, consulting and advisory roles. He has worked locally, across Canada, and internationally with First Nations Bands, local, regional and Provincial governments, as well as developers and non-profit organizations. Before starting his career in planning, Tom worked internationally in community-based ecosystem renewal, where his passion for improving local environments was born.

Before joining Granville Island, Tom was the Manager of Community Planning for the District of North Vancouver. Prior to that, he was the Manager of Regional Planning and Data Analytics for Metro Vancouver, and the Deputy Director of Development Services on the Sunshine Coast, while maintaining his consultancy to assist non-profit organizations in building affordable housing. He holds a Master's Degree in Community & Regional Planning from the University of British Columbia.

Mr. Lancaster brings almost twenty years of experience in planning, consulting and advisory roles. He has worked locally, across Canada, and internationally with First Nations Bands, local, regional and Provincial governments, as well as developers and non-profit organizations.

"Tom is the ideal candidate to lead Granville Island's future," said The Honourable Hedy Fry, MP for Vancouver Centre. "The Granville Island 2040 report, completed after consultation with Vancouver residents and tenants, provides a blueprint for Granville Island's future. Tom Lancaster is the person to do it."

Granville Island Council Chair, Heather Deal, added, "Tom brings an unwavering commitment to nurturing and sustaining an inclusive culture where all people have a sense of belonging within the community."

Most recently, Tom was the Manager of Community Planning for the District of North Vancouver. Prior to that, he was the Manager of Regional Planning and Data Analytics for Metro Vancouver, and the Deputy Director of Development Services on the Sunshine Coast, while maintaining his consultancy to assist non-profit organizations in building affordable housing. He holds a Master's Degree in Community & Regional Planning from the University of British Columbia.

NEXT MONTH'S PROGRAM—TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8th

Speaker: Dominic Vogel – Principal, Vogel Leadership Coaching

Topic: "Cyber Crime In The 21st Century"

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Carl Jonsson
Bill Randall
Tim Sehmer

Report of the July 14th Meeting

Attendance: 55 Members and Guests

President John Kay started the formal meeting at 9:45 with the customary welcome and recognition of our guests and speaker. As usual, he started with the traditional story. He then asked Peter Brock to introduce a new member (see Welcome New Members on page 3). John then called on Peter Phillips to present two upcoming activities, details of which are in this newsletter. After thanking today's greeters, Tim Gibbs and Joe Krapiec, John asked Ian Patterson to introduce our speaker, Michael Goehring.

BC is facing a slowing economy, a growing structural deficit and increasing pressure on public services. With twin sons in university, Michael Goehring admitted that the uncertainty of the future of BC's economy is hitting him on a personal level. Would his sons find good jobs and build their lives here, or would they need to move elsewhere in search of opportunity? Or, as he joked, would they end up like the Vancouver Canucks, living in his basement for years to come? Goehring argued that mining is one of the province's strongest opportunities for long-term growth. After years of stagnation, the sector is gaining momentum and could play a major role in creating jobs, attracting investment and strengthening BC's economic future.

At the centre of this opportunity is the global race for critical minerals. Copper, nickel, zinc, aluminum, germanium and rare earth elements are essential to electric vehicles, data centres, artificial intelligence, renewable energy and modern defence systems. Countries are concerned about relying on China, which dominates both the extraction and processing of many critical minerals. Export restrictions have pushed Canada, the US and other G7 countries to develop strategic stockpiles and more secure supply chains.

BC is well positioned to respond. The province produces or contains deposits of 22 of Canada's 34 designated critical minerals. It is Canada's leading producer of copper and steelmaking coal, its largest producer of silver and its only producer of molybdenum. These resources are no longer viewed only as ingredients of the energy transition. They are now tied to national security, economic sovereignty and Canada's ability to support its allies.

The sector's economic footprint is already substantial. In 2024, mining and smelting directly generated \$19.6 billion in output, \$12.2 billion in GDP, 21,300 jobs and \$3.9 billion in government revenue. Once supply-chain activity and household spending are included, the total contribution rose to \$27.8 billion in output, \$17.1 billion in GDP, 56,200 jobs, \$5.4 billion in labour income and \$5.7 billion in government revenue. These results came from only 18 operating mines and two smelters, illustrating how a small physical footprint can create an outsized economic impact.

Goehring pointed to an accelerating list of investments. Four mining projects identified by the province for expedited review have received permits, with three under construction. They include the \$2 billion extension of Teck's Highland Valley Copper mine near Logan Lake, the redevelopment of the Eskay Creek gold and silver project, an extension of Centerra Gold's Mount Milligan mine and Newmont's Red Chris underground project. Other developments are advancing throughout the province.

Altogether, 31 proposed mines or mine extensions are in advanced stages of development. Their construction could generate an estimated \$79 billion in economic output, while ongoing operations could contribute approximately \$858 billion over their lifetimes. Each project represents several

years of construction and, typically, decades of operation. This is a transformative opportunity, particularly for northern and rural communities where mines support high-paying jobs, local businesses, infrastructure and partnerships with First Nations. Mining is not solely a rural industry. Metro Vancouver is a leading centre of mining, finance, engineering, law, accounting, geoscience, technology and corporate management. In 2024, mining and smelting supported more than 12,300 jobs in Metro Vancouver and on Vancouver Island, generated \$3.5 billion in output and \$963 million in labour income. Vancouver is also home to nearly 1,000 publicly listed mining and exploration companies with a combined market capitalization of approximately \$449 billion. Companies operating around the world rely on expertise headquartered here.

Recent public investments reinforce this momentum. Goehring highlighted plans for the North Coast Transmission Line, support for the Red Chris expansion and investment in Teck's Trail Operations. Trail is one of the world's largest lead and zinc refining complexes and produces valuable by-products, including germanium and antimony, with the potential to expand gallium production. These lesser-known elements are crucial to advanced electronics and defence technologies.

Despite his optimism, Goehring cautioned that success is not guaranteed. BC remains a high-cost jurisdiction, and lengthy permitting processes are still the greatest obstacle to attracting investment. Goehring strongly believes that projects should not require special fast-track lists; the regulatory system must become more timely, predictable and efficient. Investors also need certainty around Indigenous consultation, provincial policy and taxation. The expansion of the Provincial Sales Tax to professional services used by mining companies could add millions of dollars to projects before they generate revenue.

The industry must also prepare for a workforce challenge. Retirements and growth will create a gross requirement for roughly 35,000 workers over the coming decade, leaving an estimated net need of 10,000 additional people. Opportunities span trades, engineering, environmental science, geoscience, technology, administration and other professions, with careers available both in Vancouver and throughout the province. BC possesses the minerals, expertise and entrepreneurial capacity needed to succeed. The task now is to preserve momentum by creating a stable investment climate, strengthening partnerships and training the next generation. Certainty attracts investment; investment builds projects; projects create jobs; and jobs strengthen communities. Mining is not simply enjoying another temporary boom. It has the potential to become a defining pillar of British Columbia's economic future.

So, now that Micheal has shared his thoughts on mining with us, what do you think, Gentlemen? Is it time to teach him the secret Probus handshake his father has known about all along? Jon Collins thanked Michael and presented him with the customary honourarium.

To view Michael's slide show, [click here](#).

Rotarians' Investment Club

No formal meetings are held in July and August, however the Investment Committee reviews the Portfolio during those months and informs members if any changes are recommended. Our next Meeting will be at 6.30 pm on September 24th at the RVYC at 3811 Point Grey Road. Prospective members are always welcome to attend several meetings before making a decision to join. A required cash investment, serving as "Skin in the Game," has shown a good return over the years, supplemented by the knowledge and experiences shared by members. If you are interested, please email or phone me and I will be pleased to forward detailed information and send you an Agenda prior to the September meeting.

John Sullivan
Membership Chair, RIC
604-263-4486 (landline)

Probus Insights From The President



I trust that you are all enjoying the summer and taking advantage of all that British Columbia has to offer, whether it is on the water, at your cottages or on the golf course, and spending time with your families.

Last month's speaker, Michael Goehring gave us a very optimistic summary of the state of the mining industry in BC. It was welcome news after the gloom and doom we are so often hearing. It appears that the Provincial Government has finally realised the importance and contribution to the economy of the mining industry. He mentioned that with the proposed amalgamation of Teck Resources and Anglo-American to be headquartered in Vancouver, the city could be recognized worldwide for its mining expertise.

I now want to give you some advance notice of a special resolution to be brought to members at our upcoming Annual General Meeting to be held on September 8th. The membership committee has recommended we ask the membership to consider amending our bylaws to admit female members. The Board supported their recommendation which will require a two-third's majority of voting members to approve the change to the Club's bylaws. Proxy votes are not permitted so attendance at the meeting is required if you wish to have your vote counted.

There will be more information to follow in the next few weeks.

In the meantime, I look forward to seeing you at our August 11th meeting.

John Kay
President



PROBUS FRED COTTON BOOK CLUB

The Book Club will next meet at 9:30 am on

Wednesday, September 2 in The Amenity Room at Elm Park Place, 5700 Larch Street (at W. 41st Avenue).

Please note – no meetings in July or August.

The book to be discussed when we meet is:

Sept 2 Embedded: The Irreconcilable Nature of War, Loss and Consequence by Catherine Lang

For information about the club, contact Ken Yule at kjqc@shaw.ca or 604-266-4563



Welcome Our New Member



Alan Fryer
Journalist

PROBUS Club of Vancouver Social Opportunity Groups

To see details of how to join any of these groups, click (or ctrl-click) on the heading of each group.

The Lunch Group

There is no convenor for this group which gathers after every monthly meeting (except our October, Presidents' Lunch) at The Local Public Eatery on the corner of Cornwall Avenue and Yew Street. The number of regular lunchers (I got this from AI!) is anywhere from 8 to 12 or more. If you would like to join us, just show up!

Tennis—Bill Hooker

On Thursday, June 25th, 13 hearty players convened at the UBC Tennis Centre to participate in the Probus Invitational Mixed Doubles Tennis Tournament. After 20 invitees declined for a host of reasons. Finally, we managed to recruit five Probus members and supplemented with eight outliers. So, with everyone arriving at 1:00 pm, we proceeded to play our usual three hours with different pairings each hour. Scoring continued to be total wins per team with range from 15 to 34, matching February's high score (so watch out, John Fraser and Peter Stephen). The Probus participants were Tim Gibbs, Rick Brenner, Terry Collette, and Fred Lockwood. Bill Hooker subbed in for one of the other players who had to bow out because of a prior injury. The others were Greg Butler, Myra Elson (whose Probus member husband Jan Nordin was in Sweden and thus unavailable), Marty Levine, Catherine Mead, David Morrish (potential speaker on cybersecurity), Eileen Murray (since we always like to have a doctor on board), Walter Schneider and Ian Wallace. The reports from all quarters was an enjoyable session both athletically and socially. We are all looking forward to the next round in October. Bill Hooker at mayneid@yahoo.com, your convenient convenor.

Fred Cotton Book Club—Ken Yule

Information about the book club is featured every month on page 3 of the newsletter. By clicking on the header above, find out full details of the current activities as well as a list of all the books discussed since 2008. The club doesn't meet in July or August.

Breakfast Group—Peter Scott

On July 15, ten members of The Breakfast Club found our way to The Hideout Café where we enjoyed fine food in a pleasant and relaxed atmosphere.

Our August 19 gathering will be at De Dutch, on the corner of Oak St and W 16th Avenue.

Anyone interested in joining us can contact Peter at peter26@telus.net.



Bridge Club - Jack Zaleski

Like the Book Club, the Bridge Club doesn't meet in July or August. For information on how the Bridge Club works, click on the heading above for details and how to join. Bridge Club Member Hugh Chaun reports that the Bridge Club (which Jack Zaleski organizes) has had an excellent season of enjoyable games, hosted in rotation in different members' homes. Anyone interested in joining this "fun" bridge group can get more details from Jack at jack.zaleski@gmail.com

PROBUS Club of Vancouver—Social Opportunity Groups

To see details of how to join any of these groups, click (or ctrl-click) on the heading of each group.

Policy Discussion Cafe—Jim Matkin



"A 50% TARIFF DOESN'T PUNISH THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT. IT RAISES PRICES FOR AMERICAN CONSUMERS AND BUSINESSES THAT RELY ON THAT TRADE."

Trump wants Canada to "pay damages" for wildfires nobody controls, while simultaneously threatening to torch a trade relationship he personally built. This isn't strategy. It's a grudge match, and American consumers are the ones who'll foot the bill." OCCUPY DEMOCRATS

'No surprise' Trump slapped Canada with new tariffs

"Legal scholars generally view Donald Trump's use of **Section 338 of the Tariff Act of 1930** to impose a **50% tariff on Canadian goods** as a weak, erratic, and highly vulnerable legal strategy.

Rotarians' Investment Club

Everything you need to know about how The Rotarians' Investment Club operates can be found by clicking on the above heading. Information on the Club's monthly meetings is featured each month on page 3 of this newsletter. For more information, contact: John Sullivan, Chair Membership, Promotion and Hospitality at: johnws@telus.net or telephone at 604-263-4486

Pub Nights—Peter Phillips

Full advantage was taken of an ideal outdoors location when 7 cheery elbow benders visited the patio of the Billy Bishop legion on July 9th. On the menu was good beer and food, hilarity and mirth, oh and the occasional insightful conversation.

Join us for another outdoors patio event at **The Regal Beagle, 2283 West Broadway** on Thursday 13th August @ 4.00 pm

Let me know if you plan to attend @ pjpphillips@hotmail.com

TUESDAY, AUGUST 18TH – 10 AM
A GUIDED TOUR OF
THE OLD GROWTH CONSERVANCY FOREST
CYPRESS BOWL, WEST VANCOUVER



We will meet at the parking lot #5 off the Cypress Bowl Road.

The tour time is approximately 2½ to 3 hours in length and you will be walking on some rough ground, so wear appropriate walking shoes or boots.

Cost for this event is \$15.00 per person for members and guests.

A minimum of 5 people is required. Carpooling may be arranged if needed.

The Old Growth Conservancy Society (OGCS) is a registered society working in partnership with the District of West Vancouver, British Columbia in the management and stewardship of West Vancouver's Old Growth Conservancy.

The Old Growth Conservancy is a 54 hectare (133.6 acre) forested area at 760 metres (2500 feet) elevation, south of the Cypress Provincial Park boundary and west of the Cypress Bowl Road. It contains a mosaic of different aged forest stands, including significant old-growth with some western redcedars up to 900 years old. Threatened by golf course development in 1990, the Conservancy is now protected by municipal bylaw. While there is no formal access to the Conservancy, several West Vancouver parks contain old-growth stands that are accessible by trails. The Conservancy and a few other remnant stands in parks and other District land are all that remain of the ancient forests that once covered West Vancouver's mountainside. These forests were part of the renowned temperate rainforests of the Pacific Northwest, considered "the finest coniferous forests in the world."

Optional stop off afterward the tour for lunch at Cypress Bowl Village
Pop-up with beautiful views and reasonable prices (not included!)

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED FOR THIS EVENT

COST: \$15.00 PER MEMBER AND GUEST

THROUGH ADMITONE – NO REFUNDS AFTER AUGUST 14

For refunds, please contact peter26@telus.net

To register with AdmitOne, [click here](#)

Please direct any questions to Peter Phillips at pjpphillips@hotmail.com.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3RD —TIME 9:45 AM
A GUIDED TOUR OF
THE BRITANNIA MINE & MUSEUM
150 Copper Drive, Britannia Beach



We will have a private tour, which requires a minimum of 15 members and guests (and a maximum of 25). There are several new features at the museum which have been added recently. We should plan to arrive at 9:45 to allow for traffic delays. Our tour will include The Underground Rail Tour and Experience BOOM!

The Underground Tour (Our train is booked to depart at 10:30)

The Underground at Britannia Mine Museum offers a glimpse into life at one of British Columbia's largest historical copper mines. Board the mine train, just like miners did in 1914, and travel into an early haulage tunnel. Inside, interpreters demonstrate mining equipment and share insights about Britannia's copper mining history.

Experience BOOM!

Our Award-Winning, multi-sensory attraction. Discover a thrilling light, sound and special effects experience. BOOM! introduces audiences to the story, sights and sounds behind the architectural marvel, Mill No. 3, with an immersive live-action experience -- fun for all ages! This experience offers multiple screens, over thirty speakers, and leading-edge special effects bringing all 20-stories back to life!

30 minutes of your choice of either gold panning, exhibit explore or a live demonstration of how EPCOR works, called Chemistry of Cleanup, Gold Panning, Terra Lab Exhibit

Lunch Options

There are a couple of options for lunch following the tour for those who wish to stay. The Chatterbox Café is in the Museum grounds and offers a variety of sandwiches, snacks and hot drinks. The Autostrada Oyster Bar and Grill is a high-end restaurant with a full food and drinks menu. Both can be viewed on Google.

CARPOOLING WILL BE ORGANIZED

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED FOR THIS EVENT
COST: \$50.00 PER PERSON THROUGH ADMITONE
NO REFUNDS AFTER SEPTEMBER 1

For refunds, please contact peter26@telus.net

To register with AdmitOne, [click here](#)

Please direct any questions to Peter Phillips at pjpphillips@hotmail.com.

THE EVENT BELOW IS NOT AN OFFICIAL PROBUS ACTIVITY SO NO REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED. THIS IS A RECOMMENDATION THAT YOUR ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR HAS ATTENDED AND RECOMMENDS TO OUR MEMBERS. YOU WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR BOOKING YOUR OWN TICKET(S)

THURSDAY, AUGUST 27TH — TIME 7:30 PM

A History of Motown

Firehall Arts Centre, 280 East Cordova Street

Tickets are \$40.00 at www.firehallartscentre.ca

If you are a fan of Motown music do not miss this excellent Theatre presentation.

Meet at the theatre or earlier for a meal, contact Peter Phillips at pjpphillips@hotmail.com

Experience the soulful sounds of Motown like never before with award-winning powerhouse Krystle Dos Santos & Band.

After overwhelming audience response and packed performances, A History of Motown returns — and it's more than just a concert, it's a full-on party! Audiences are invited to stand up, dance, and sing along as Krystle takes you on a high-energy journey through the legendary hits that defined a generation. From the infectious rhythms of The Supremes to the timeless melodies of Stevie Wonder, Dos Santos brings the magic of Motown to life with unforgettable vocals, captivating stage presence, and an electric atmosphere.

Don't just take our word for it — one thrilled audience member shared:

"We went last night and what an awesome performance. Such talent and so much energy! First time to your venue. What a lovely place! Thank you!"

Come see why audiences can't get enough!