



NEWSLETTER

PROBUS CLUB OF VANCOUVER

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

Enriching members with topical, entertaining speakers and social activities

www.probusvancouver.com

December, 2016

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Next Meeting: Tuesday, Dec. 13th at 9:30 am
Location: H.R. MacMillan Planetarium & Space Centre, Lower Level
Speaker: Dianne Doyle, President & CEO, Providence Health Care
Topic: SPH Redevelopment: The New St. Paul's

FUTURE SPEAKERS

**January 10: Stan Ridley
President, West 2012 Energy
Management Inc.**

**February 14: Michael Kluckner
Artist and Writer**

OUR COFFEE AND DONUTS SOCIAL TIME WILL BE HELD IN THE LOBBY OF THE VANCOUVER MUSEUM. COME EARLY TO TOUR THE NEW EXHIBIT, FEATURING PHOTOGRAPHIC GEMS FROM THE VANCOUVER SUN COLLECTION FOR FREE. THE ENTRANCE TO THE MUSEUM IS ON THE RIGHT AS YOU ENTER THE BUILDING. THIS WAS ARRANGED FOR US SPECIALLY BY RAYMOND GREENWOOD.

DIANNE DOYLE



Dianne Doyle was appointed as President and Chief Executive Officer of Providence Health Care, one of Canada's largest faith-based health care organizations based in Vancouver, BC, in September 2006. At the time, she had spent more than 20 years in senior executive positions in health care and over 25 years directly at Providence Health Care. Before taking on this new role, Dianne was a Vice President of Clinical Programs at Providence Health Care. Dianne began her career as a staff nurse at Royal Jubilee Hospital in Victoria, BC, but since then has worked exclusively in our Providence Health Care facilities. She was a Head Nurse and Medical Instructor at St. Paul's Hospital and then moved to Mount Saint Joseph Hospital as Vice President Patient Care Services. She became the Chief Operating Officer and Vice President, Patient Care and Support Services for Mount Saint Joseph in 1995/96 and was then named Acting President and Chief Executive Officer, CHARA Health Care Society, which at the time included Mount Saint Joseph Hospital, St. Vincent's Hospital, and Youville elder care residence.

Dianne is recognized as a champion of Catholic health care provincially and nationally. She is the immediate past Chair of the Catholic Health Association of Canada, Vice Chair of the Catholic Health Association of BC and Chair of the Denominational Health Association of BC. Dianne was also the inaugural Chair of the BC Health Care Leaders Association, subsequently serving as a board member for

several years.

Dianne is currently a fellow of the Canadian College of Health Services Executives (CCHSE); member of the Royal Roads University Centre for Health Leadership and Research Advisory Board and the Association of Canadian Academic Healthcare Organizations Board; Chair of Board of Canadian Advanced Medical Services International (CAMSI); and past member of the Canadian Health Services Research Foundation (CHSRF) EXTRA Advisory Council. She is active in her community, supporting many non-profit groups with her time and expertise, including the board of the Mission to Seafarers. In 2005 she climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro in support of the Alzheimer Society of BC.

Dianne has a BSN from the University of Ottawa and an MSN from the University of British Columbia. Her health leadership credentials include a CHA in Health Services Management, a CHE Certification from CCHSE, and Fellowship in CCHSE.

In 2007 and 2008, the Toronto-based Women's Executive Network named Dianne as one of Canada's Top 100 Most Powerful Women in the Public Sector. During her presentation, Dianne will be joined by Paul Landry, Senior Vice President Redevelopment at Providence Health Care and Chief Project Officer of the St. Paul's Redevelopment Project and Dick Vollet, President & CEO, St. Paul's Foundation.

THOSE MEMBERS WISHING TO PURCHASE TICKETS FOR THE VSO CONCERT TO USE FOR CHRISTMAS GIFTS, CAN PICK THEM UP AT THE DECEMBER 13 MEETING. THEY MUST BE PREPAID. PLEASE SEE PAGE 4 OF THIS NEWSLETTER FOR DETAILS.

Report of the November 8th Meeting

Attendance: 225 Members and Guests

The meeting was chaired by our President, Doug Jones, who read an amusing email sent to Clarence Page of the Chicago Tribune, commenting on the supposedly politically incorrect names of the majority of the sports teams in the US. Brian Maunder then introduced three new members (see page 3), followed by a brief presentation from our member Bill Sexsmith (see The President's Message on page 3). Following his presentation, Bill was presented with a plaque and was given a Life Honourary Membership in our club. Congratulations, Bill. Jack Zaleski then introduced our speaker, Dr. André Gerolymatos, who is well-known to this audience, who spoke about Putin, Russia and the Middle East.

He started with the conquest of most of Russia by the Mongol Empire in the 13th century, citing an old Russian saying: "After the Mongols took over these Russian territories, there wasn't a single eye to cry because the slaughter was so great." This has been embedded in the Russian memory ever since.

Beginning with Peter the Great in the 17th century, the Russians began a slow ascent from being a subjugated people to establishing their own empire. He established the idea of the czar, who was not only a secular leader, but also a religious leader empowered by God and the Eastern Orthodox Church. He was the first to expand the boundaries of Russia, with the mission of liberating all Eastern Orthodox subjugated by the Ottoman Empire.

In the 18th century, Catherine the Great continued that expansion, coming into conflict with the Ottoman Empire, leading to an expulsion of Muslims from the Caucasus and Crimea, creating millions of Muslim refugees. Her success concerned Great Britain, France and Prussia, who grew concerned that if the Ottoman Empire collapsed Russia would move into the vacuum.

Something called the Great Game begins in 1830: the competition for control of Central Asia. The British decided the best way to check Russian expansion was for the European powers to prevent Russia from crossing the Dardanelles and Bosphorus straits, which connect the Black Sea to the Mediterranean. Meanwhile, in 1812, the Russians defeat the invading French armies of Napoleon. This instills the Western fear of Russian hordes coming into Europe.

The London Treaty of 1841 reaffirmed that only the war ships of the Ottomans or their allies could cross the straits. The Russians have been trying to change that since 1841. In 1914, when the Ottomans joined the Central Powers in WWI, Russia was unable to move its grain by sea from the Crimea to western Russia. This created mass starvation and started the Bolshevik Revolution.

In 1941, the Germans invaded the Soviet Union with Muslims at their side, helping the Germans get all the way to the Caucasus. When the war ended, Stalin sent the entire Chechen population to Siberia. All returned Muslim Russian prisoners of war were simply executed.

In 1949, The British Empire receded, leaving two groups vying for domination in the Middle East: those who wanted a secular revolution to get rid of the old system of kings and sultans versus the religious leadership. The Soviets backed the secularists. The US backed the religious establishment. Tragically, the secular leadership became incredibly corrupt and poverty drove millions into the arms of the religious establishment.

Back to the Great Game. Afghanistan provides strategic access, via Pakistan, to the Arabian Sea and Suez Canal, critical for transporting petroleum. In 1979, the Russians invaded Afghanistan. Over the next 10 years, the Americans fought a proxy war

against the Soviets in Afghanistan, helping create Al Qaeda through misunderstanding and mishandling the new wave of potent Islam coming to the fore. This war drains the Soviet coffers, bringing about the fall of the USSR. The US backed Boris Yeltsin, an alcoholic and a drunk, and Russia proceeded to fall apart. Former Soviet leadership and functionaries took over industries and became multi-billionaires, while ordinary Russians lost everything: their pensions, their free education and their healthcare.

Then came Putin, the perfect post-modern Soviet. A former KGB colonel, he knows exactly what the Russians want: strong leadership. Putin wants to bring back the Russian Empire. To do that he needs to get his battle fleet out of the Black Sea and into the Mediterranean. So he built another base in Tartus, Syria, for mid-size warships and submarines. This is why the Russians are interested in Syria. It's their only outlet. Archangel is frozen six months per year. Russia is trying to get back into the Great Game in Central Asia and the Middle East, partly to keep their base and to keep radical Islam out. I think Putin's meddling in the US election is him indirectly negotiating with the next US leadership, to get America to accept a role and position for Russia in the Middle East. To help Russia be recognized again as a great power and get its foothold in the Middle East, Putin has established good relations with his identical counterpart: President Erdoğan of Turkey. Don't be surprised if Russia and Turkey form a military alliance guaranteeing Russian warships access through the straits, while the US, EU and NATO become increasingly estranged from an autocratic Turkey.

This will be a major seismic change in international relations, affecting the whole world, including Canada. It's something that we cannot avoid. We're going to need very strong leadership to see us through this very dangerous period where people like Putin are not afraid to use military power to achieve their ends, especially when they think that the other side will blink.

Following the questions and answers period, Hugh Chaun thanked our speaker and invited him to return in the future.

For an unabridged version of the above which includes questions and answers, go to our PROBUS website at www.probusvancouver.com, click on "Speakers" and then on "André Gerolymatos"

Rotarians' Investment Club

We had our November Meeting last week with a guest speaker about the Financial Technology Sector. We also welcomed a new Member, a lady, to our Club.

Our December Meeting is of a social nature with our "significant others" held at the RVC to enjoy their Christmas Buffet. .

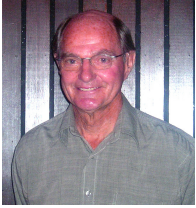
Our next meeting will be on January 26th and the Guest Speaker and Topic will be announced in the next PROBUS Newsletter.

For Membership details please contact John Sullivan at - johnwsullivan@shaw.ca

Season's Greetings

FROM YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND
THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

BILL SEXSMITH HONOURARY LIFE MEMBER



Bill Sexsmith joined the Vancouver Probus Club on March 12th, 2007 and almost immediately volunteered his services joining the Membership Services Committee. In October, 2008 he was asked to take over as Chairman of that Committee. His performance in this capacity plus his excellent contribution at Management Committee meetings led to his selection as Vice-President in 2009. Under his leadership as President in 2010-11, the Club was incorporated as a Society and a Strategic Plan for future development of the Club was completed. In addition to his responsibilities as President, he spent many hours on the organizing committee to make sure that the Probus Canada Rendezvous held in Vancouver in September, 2011 was a success. In late 2012 Probus Canada notified the Clubs in our District of a need for a Director to represent them on their Board. Our Management Committee persuaded Bill to run for the position and he was duly elected in March of 2013 for a term of three years. In that capacity, he was instrumental in the development of new Clubs. Early this year, he agreed to stand for a second term and has been duly elected. Bill has been awarded Honourary Life Membership in recognition of his exceptional service to both the Probus Club of Vancouver and Probus Canada.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



It was my pleasure to present Bill Sexsmith with an Honorary Life Member Award and a plaque at our November 8th PROBUS meeting. Bill has contributed a great deal of work and effort into our club, the formation of further clubs and at the

District and National level.

At our meeting, Bill presented a brief update of where PROBUS is on a National and B.C. level. Our clubs and membership have been growing at about 14% per year for over 10 years, but has lately slowed down to about 2%. We need to renew our efforts

to attract new members and possibly expand new clubs. Brian Maunder, our Membership Chair introduced and inducted three new members: Clark Gallon, Jerry Lampert and Eldon

Hedden. We all extend you a hearty welcome. Our speaker that day was Dr. Andre Gerolymatos. He gave us a fascinating history of the Ottoman Empire and the consolidation and rise to power of Russia up to the end of the 19th century. At the start of the 20th century, the Russian Empire was the largest landmass and population in the world. During and after World War I, the Russian Revolution replaced the monarchy, leading to Communism and the complete takeover by Stalin. Throughout all this time, Russia was landlocked to the south and wanted ports on the Black Sea and through to the Mediterranean. Following the death of Stalin, Russia gradually declined in power and granted independence to Iron Curtain countries. Vladimir Putin became Prime Minister in 1999, became President in 2008, and was elected President of the Russian Federation in 2012. He is now the most powerful man in Russia and is intent upon restoring their world power against China and the West. Now that Russia has established 2 seaports in Syria and has access through the Black Sea into the Mediterranean, he plans to press forward in the Middle East. We thank Dr. Gerolymatos for an extremely interesting and timely talk, and look forward to welcoming him again in the future.

Several of our Committees are short of members. I encourage you to volunteer and have some fun helping these committees in areas such as Members, Activities, Speakers and Website support. Just contact me or a Committee Chair to arrange attending one of their meetings to see what they are all about, and how you can help our club.

Next month we welcome Dianne Doyle, President and CEO, Providence Health Care as our speaker. Her topic is, **St. Paul's Hospital Redevelopment: The New St. Paul's.**

Welcome New Members

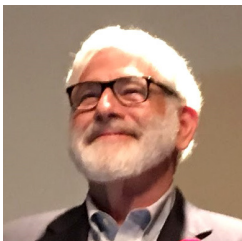


**Clark Gallon
Accountant**

**Eldon Hedden
Physiotherapist**



**Jerry Lampert
Past President & CEO
Of the Business Council Of BC**



Thanks to our November Member Services Team

**Tim Gibbs and Harry Beattie—Greeters
Bob Wood and John Ritchie—Cashiers**

The PROBUS Club of Vancouver is delighted to provide this opportunity to attend one of the VSO's concerts for an extremely attractive price.

This has been arranged through Estelle Jacobson, a member of the PROBUS Ladies Club and whose husband is a member of our club.

HENNING KRAGGERUD *Violinist*

His lyrical and seductive playing is praised by audiences and critics worldwide.



JAMES GAFFIGAN *Conductor*

Chief Conductor of the Lucerne Symphony Orchestra and Principal Guest Conductor Netherlands Radio Philharmonic Orchestra



Saturday, 1 April 2017 - 8 P.M. Orpheum Theatre

NOTE: There will be a pre-concert talk at 7:05pm in the theatre, Orchestra Level

The VSO have offered us tickets at the generous price of \$33 (normally \$70). Because of the substantial discount, tickets will have to be bought by Friday, 1st March. Requests will be processed as of December 1, 2016. If you plan to give tickets as a holiday season gift, requests for tickets received prior to 9th December will result in tickets being made available for pick up at the Probus meeting on 13th December. No Refunds. This offer is open to members and friends. □

PROGRAM

MOZART Adagio & Fugue in C minor
MOZART sublime Violin Concerto No. 4 in D. Major
Mozart Symphony No. 7 in E. Major,
Powered by Wagner Tubas and mighty soaring themes.
The composer's greatest triumph at the time he wrote this magnificent symphony

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE # _____

EMAIL _____

NUMBER OF TICKETS _____

WHICH PROBUS CLUB?

Men's ___ Women's ___ Vancouver West Couples' ___

CHEQUE (# of tickets X \$33) \$ _____ made out to Vancouver Symphony Orchestra
Mail form + cheque to: Estelle Jacobson, 1192 Nanton Avenue, Vancouver, BC, V6H 2C5

TICKETS **WILL NOT** BE MAILED - PICK-UP WILL BE AT MONTHLY PROBUS MEETING

Please indicate preference for Orchestra ___ or Balcony ___ seating. Both offer section 1 seating. - I will endeavor to fill all requests but cannot guarantee your choice!

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