



# 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](http://www.probusvancouver.com)

February, 2017

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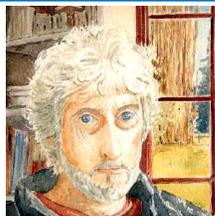
Counsel  
Brian Wasson  
Ken Yule  
Ted Horsey

**Next Meeting: Tuesday, Feb. 14th at 9:30 am**  
**Location: H.R. MacMillan Planetarium & Space Centre, Lower Level**  
**Speaker: Michael Kluckner, Artist, Author and Historian**  
**Topic: "Heritage, Gentrification & Development—A Look to the Future"**

**FUTURE SPEAKERS**  
**March 14: The Honourable Judith Guichon, OBC, Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia**

**April 11: Dr. Richard Fedorak, Dean of Medicine at U of A.**

### MICHAEL KLUCKNER



Michael Kluckner, is a Canadian writer and artist/illustrator.

In 1991, he was the founding president of the Heritage Vancouver

Society, and served as president of the Langley Heritage Society from 1993 to 1998. From 1996 until 2001, I was the British Columbia member of the board of governors of the Heritage Canada Foundation, and served as chair from 1998-2000. I chaired the Vancouver Heritage Foundation in 2002-3.

He lived from 1993 to 2006 on a farm in rural Langley, British Columbia, where he raised sheep and chickens and helped his wife, Christine Allen, maintain her large garden.

In 2006, Michael and Christine moved to Australia where they lived in Katoomba in the Blue Mountains west of Sydney. In 2009, they moved to live in Sydney.

In February, 2010, they returned to Canada to live in Vancouver.

Michael is a member of the Vancouver Heritage Commission and has been President of the Vancouver Historical Society since 2015. Additional volunteer time is spent in the neighbourhood on the Grandview Heritage Group. Michael and Christine live in the Grandview area near Commercial Drive.

Michael and Christine have authored a large number of books on the history of Canadian cities, heritage, planning issues and art, many of which have received considerable acclaim and several prizes. Christine is the author of *Roses for the Pacific Northwest* (1999, Steller Press), *Gardens of Vancouver* (1999, Raincoast Books), and *Climbing Up* (2002, Steller Press), and regularly contributes to gardening magazines including "BC Home & Garden." Her "A Year at Killara Farm", published by Harbour in 2012, includes Michael's illustrations of their years of country living.

A complete biography, including all of his book titles, is available on our website at [www.probusvancouver.com](http://www.probusvancouver.com). or google Michael Kluckner.



### COME FOR LUNCH!

After the meeting enjoy the conversation and fellowship at a "No Host Lunch"

at the  
**"Local Public Eatery"**  
2210 Cornwall Avenue

## Report of the January 10th Meeting

Attendance: 180 Members and Guests

The meeting was chaired by Vice-President Hugh Lindsay who remarked that this was the first PROBUS Club Meeting of 2017, the year of Canada's 150th birthday, making our country just twice as old as himself! Hugh then told a story about young boys from different countries describing elephants. John Pearkes then inducted three new members (see page 3) and Ian Paterson spoke of three upcoming activities, the tour of the Rennie Gallery on February 28, a tour of the renovated Christchurch Cathedral on March 21 and the VSO concert on April 1. Details of all these events can be found on the Activities pages. Ian also asked for a show of hands of interest in a Wednesday nooner baseball game at Nat Bailey Stadium possibly on August 30. Raymond Greenwood thanked his greeters and cashiers.

Gerald McGavin introduced our speaker, Stan Ridley, President, West 2012 Energy Management Inc.

Stan began with an overview of energy use throughout human history. 12,000 years ago, the average human ate about 1,500 calories of food per day or used 2,000 calories, taking the energy used to produce the food into account.

Advances in agriculture and irrigation increased our energy use to 10,000 per person during the peak of the Roman Empire. That figure remained largely unchanged until the Industrial Revolution in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Today the average human uses about 50,000 calories per day, while the average person in the West uses about 230,000. In Canada, that figure is 250,000 per day. Without fossil fuels, humans would not be able to collect and distribute water or grow, harvest, store and distribute food anywhere near the levels we do now. We would also not be able to build buildings and infrastructure or produce electronic devices. However, these high levels of fossil fuel use increase greenhouse gas emissions (carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxides and a number of hydrofluorocarbons). At present, about 86% of all of the energy used in the world comes from fossil fuels, including: oil (33%), coal (29%) and gas (24%). The remaining 14% is produced by renewable energy sources including: hydro (7%), nuclear (4.4%) and other sources, including solar, wind and biomass (1.3%).

In the mid 1980s, 44 UN member states and their scientists established the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, which is now comprised of all 195 sovereign states on earth today. Every five years they report their observations on climate change, which have become more dire by the decade. The 2014 report concluded, starkly, that, unless we change course immediately and dramatically, the fundamental systems that support human civilization are at risk: food crops, water supplies, human health and species are all at serious risk. They warned of civil wars and mass migrations as people start to starve.

At the 2015 Paris Climate Conference, all 195 countries come together and unanimously agree that we have a major climate change problem and that humans are responsible, though they did not agree on a concerted action plan. The resulting Paris Agreement reaffirmed the goal of limiting

increase in global average temperature to below 2 degrees above pre-industrial levels, specifically to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 degrees above those levels, to limit risk and damage. However, findings at the climate conference in Marrakesh in 2016 noted that, the six months leading up to June 2016 were the warmest six months in recorded history, with the average temperature 1.3 degrees above pre-industrial conditions. These findings raised concern that even if every country met its Paris climate commitments, global temperature would exceed the two degree limit, rising to 3.2 degrees. At this point, scientists are uncertain about whether the Gulf Stream might change direction and the permafrost, which contains 1,400 to 1,800 billion tonnes organic carbon (methane) and has a far more potent greenhouse effect, will melt at an ever-increasing rate.

Much of the growth in emissions is projected to come from developing countries, as they work to increase standards of living in their countries to the levels enjoyed in the West.

He says that the world, however, will eventually run out of fossil fuels and we will need to be prepared with other forms of energy to power the civilization we have come to depend on. British Petroleum projects that their reserves of coal will run out in 109 years, natural gas in 56 and crude oil in 53.

"Now, you know and I know that we're going to find more, drill deeper and in more inhospitable places but run out we will," he said. "My guess is between 150 to 200 years we're going to run out and the scientists have told us that if we use a fraction of the remaining fossil fuels we will seriously threaten the very continuation of our civilization."

The answer to our problem lies, he argues in research and development breakthroughs on energy storage for renewables and in political will. He notes that when we talk of solutions, we don't know whether any specific proposals will come to fruition. They take a long time to develop and we don't have much time. But we need hundreds of racehorses in the race and we need to fund them substantially, in the hope that one or two will be the silver bullet that resolves the situation. He relayed how Google in 2007 noted that 90% of R&D spending in the US is dedicated to existing power sources, namely tinkering in the domain of fossil fuels, 9.9% on systems that we know won't work, leaving only 0.1% for what they call disruptive new technologies, which are the innovations that are the key to saving our civilization, because of the vested interests that are trying to tinker. Without real technological breakthroughs we effectively have no viable solutions.

John Madden thanked our speaker.

*For an unabridged version of the above which includes questions and answers, go to our PROBUS website at [www.probusvancouver.com](http://www.probusvancouver.com), click on "Speakers" and then on "Stan Ridley"*

### Rotarians' Investment Club

Our January meeting was last Thursday - "Tax Matters - some light on a Shady Topic" was well attended, and our next meeting is on February 23rd at the RVYC starting at 6.00 pm with a no-host bar at 5.30 pm.

We are fortunate to have as our guest speaker Teale Linde. The Hulbert Financial Digest ranks the Linde Equity Report as the #1 performing stock newsletter in North America over the last 10 years. Teale has spoken to our Club several years ago, and we anticipate a large turnout for this event. Check out his website.

Please call/email our President, Ron Fawcett before Tuesday February 21st if you would like to attend. (Tel: 604-534-5381; email [ron.fawcett@gmail.com](mailto:ron.fawcett@gmail.com).)

Enjoy RVYC's excellent 3 course dinner including wine (with the meal) taxes, gratuities for \$60.00 (cheque please) plus an entertaining & intelligent evening. For an agenda and Club information, contact John Sullivan at 604-263-4486; email; [johnwsullivan@shaw.ca](mailto:johnwsullivan@shaw.ca)

### THE VICE-PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



President, Doug Jones, is on vacation in a warmer and sunnier location. Vice-President Hugh Lindsay is filling in for him and contributes this message.

Our January meeting was a strong start to 2017. The cashiers and greeters welcomed us with "Happy New Year" hats and the speaker, Stan Ridley, President of West 2012 Energy Management Ltd gave an outstanding presentation. Stan, an experienced executive and consultant in the power and energy business, began by reviewing our history of using power and energy, then described the challenges presented by the present impasse over global warming and climate change. He concluded by exploring the alternatives for finding "breakthrough" solutions, and the many restraints that make it hard to implement them before the planet reaches a tipping point. His presentation stimulated a lively and extended question and answer session. Congratulations to Hugh Chaun and his Speakers team for securing such an excellent speaker.

We also have four activities lined up for members who enjoy experiences beyond the monthly meetings. Two are organized by Ian Paterson and his Activities team for members of our club: A visit to the Rennie Art Gallery in Chinatown on February 28; and a tour of the newly-renovated Christchurch Cathedral and its new bell tower on March 21.

There are also two opportunities to participate in events open to the public at a discounted price for Probus members:

TEDx Stanley Park is a series of short, high-impact talks from thirteen outstanding speakers. It's on March 4 at the Queen Elizabeth Theatre from 10 am to 4 pm. Raymond Greenwood secured a special deal for us and would be glad to answer any questions you may have at 604 351-3450.

On April 1 we are, again offering discounted tickets for a Vancouver Symphony Orchestra concert at the Orpheum Theatre, in partnership with the Probus Ladies Club. Henning Kraggerud is the soloist in Mozart's Violin Concerto No. 4. The concert begins at 8 pm.

Details of events are on the website and in newsletters. Our February speaker is Canadian writer and artist/illustrator Michael Kluckner, who has a long association with heritage preservation. He co-authored the best-selling "Vancouver Walks" with John Atkin who regularly leads architectural walks for our club.

### Welcome New Members



**Terry Gill**  
Electrical Engineer



**Ron Compton**  
Management Consultant



**Roger Girard**  
Automotive Executive

### Thanks to our January Member Services Team

**Bill Adams & George Battye—Greeters**  
**Bryan Atkins & Wink Andres—Cashiers**

**THE RENNIE GALLERY TOUR ON FEBRUARY 28  
WE STILL HAVE A FEW PLACES LEFT FOR  
MEMBERS INTERESTED IN JOINING THIS ONE  
HOUR GUIDED TOUR OF THE RENNIE  
COLLECTION AT WING SANG. ALL  
INFORMATION REGARDING THE COST, THE  
SHOW, THE TIMING AND OTHER  
IMPORTANT DETAILS CAN BE FOUND ON OUR  
WEBSITE WWW.PROBUSVANCOUVER.COM  
AND CLICKING ON “FEBRUARY 28, 2017”  
UNDER FUTURE ACTIVITIES  
ON THE HOME PAGE.**

**VSO CONCERT ON APRIL 1<sup>ST</sup>  
TICKETS AVAILABLE UNTIL MARCH 1<sup>ST</sup> FOR THE  
VSO CONCERT ON APRIL 1<sup>ST</sup>.  
ANYONE WHO IS STILL INTERESTED CAN FIND  
ALL THE INFORMATION REGARDING THE PER-  
FORMERS, THE PROGRAMME, THE  
TIMING AND HOW TO APPLY FOR TICKETS, BY  
GOING TO OUR WEBSITE,  
WWW.PROBUSVANCOUVER.COM.  
AND CLICKING ON “APRIL 1, 2017” UNDER  
FUTURE ACTIVITIES ON THE HOME PAGE.**



## TUESDAY, MARCH 21

We have arranged for a private tour to explore the history and heritage of the **125 year old CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL**, a restored Class A heritage building.

This event is for members, wives and guests up to 60 people. Hear a presentation by the Cathedral team responsible for the 20 year exterior and interior restoration project. The presentation will detail the challenges of the recently completed 10 million dollar Phase 4 upgrades (community kitchen, new zinc roof, seismic upgrade and the addition of a new sixty foot, stained glass bell tower). This will be presented in the context of the history of the Cathedral, building additions and interior heritage restoration, and will be complemented by guided tours of the interior heritage features. Cost will be \$20 for coffee, a muffin and guided tour. Profits will go to the Feed the Hungry Campaign at Christchurch.

- 9:30 am** Coffee and a muffin at the Cathedral
- 10:00 am** The Presentation
- 10:30 am** The tour begins
- Cost:** \$20.00 per person
- Parking:** Car pooling or public transport is recommended.
- Registration:** February 14th or March 14th PROBUS meetings (unless sold out)—see registration form below

### Registration Form

1. Make cheques for \$20.00 per person, payable to the **PROBUS CLUB OF VANCOUVER**.
2. Take Registration form and payment to the February 14 or March 14 PROBUS meetings or mail to: Doug Blackman, 3844 West 15th Avenue, Vancouver, BC, V6R 2Z9.
3. **DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION AND CANCELLATION IS TUESDAY, MARCH 14.**
4. Remember - you are not registered until payment is received.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cheque enclosed for \_\_\_\_\_

To check that you are registered, go to the Activities section of the website.