



NEWSLETTER

PROBUS CLUB OF VANCOUVER

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Enriching members with topical, entertaining speakers and social activities

www.probusvancouver.com

May, 2015

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Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 12th

Time: 9:30 am

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

Speaker: Dr. Brian Riddell, President & CEO of The Pacific Salmon Foundation

Topic: Prognostication on People, Pacific Salmon & The Pacific Salmon Foundation

June 9th Speaker—TBA

Brian Riddell



Dr. Brian Riddell is the President and CEO of the Pacific Salmon Foundation, an independent, non-governmental organization dedicated to creating a sustainable future for wild Pacific salmon and their

habitat. Founded in 1987, the foundation operates with an annual budget of \$9 million and makes grants to community-based salmon conservation projects in British Columbia and the Yukon.

Riddell is an internationally recognized fisheries scientist who has extensive experience in fisheries management and environmental policy development.

Among numerous professional distinctions, Riddell serves as a member of the Royal Society of Canada's Expert Panel on Ocean Climate Change and Marine Biodiversity. He is also an appointed Canadian Commissioner to the Pacific Salmon Commission, the body formed by the governments of Canada and the United States to implement the Pacific Salmon Treaty.

Prior to joining the Pacific Salmon Foundation in February 2009, Riddell worked for 30 years in various scientific research and management positions with the Government of Canada's Department of Fisheries and Oceans. Riddell was the scientific lead in the creation of Canada's Policy for Conservation of Wild Pacific Salmon, for which he received the Government of Canada's Pub-

lic Service Distinction Award in 2005. He also contributed to the development of the Pacific Salmon Treaty, the 1985 bi-lateral agreement between Canada and the United States governing management, research and enhancement of Pacific salmon.

As a scientist, Riddell is widely published with more than 100 publications in primary scientific literature and secondary literature utilized by the Canadian Department of Fisheries and Oceans. His fields of research focus on salmon population biology and genetics, international fisheries management, and formulation of science-based policy for conservation and utilization of salmon. He is a sought-after speaker for national and international conferences and is frequently contacted by news media for comment on salmon and water management issues.

Riddell earned a Bachelor's of Science in Biology from the University of Guelph in 1974. He completed his doctoral studies in salmon biology and genetics at McGill University in 1979.

Residents of Nanaimo, B.C., Brian and his wife Lorna have three grown children. Lorna is a secondary school teacher while putting up with Brian's work and travel for 35 years.

MEMBERSHIP SERVICES TEAM

Greeters—Andrew Hames & John Gemmill

Cashiers—Lionel Jinks & Don MacFarlane

Report of the April 14th Meeting

Attendance: 198 Members and Guests

The meeting was chaired by David Scott. John Gunn and Dean Winram acted jointly as Secretary of the meeting. Doug Jones reminded the meeting of the upcoming walking tour on May 29th with John Atkins, limited to 20 members. Also mentioned was that baseball seats are still available at \$50 including “goodies” - July 22nd. 46 of the 60 seats are already taken.

Norm Leach reminded everyone of our next speaker, Brian Riddell of the Pacific Salmon Foundation. Raymond Greenwood of the Canadian Club of Vancouver invited any of our members who might be interested, to join the Canadian Club on April 22 to hear Kim Campbell.

Three new members were inducted by Orrin Webber (see Welcome New Members).

It was announced that parking rates at the Planetarium had increased but for the moment our own rate will remain as at present and the difference will be made up by Probus.

Derrick Mullen introduced our guest speaker, **Dr. Angus Reid**, to speak mainly about the municipal referendum on transportation in Greater Vancouver, but also, peripherally, about the **Angus Reid Institute** which now engages much of his attention and the make-up of our regional government.

According to Dr. Reid, one of the differences between the USA and Canada is that in the USA the people hate the Government while in Canada the Government hates the people. Among other things, the Institute works to gain an understanding of people’s opinions on a wide range of topics, similar to the Pew group in USA. It is a not-for-profit organization attempting to gain a view of public opinion on big issues. At the moment it is looking at how the citizens of Vancouver and Victoria view their municipal governments. The media has been so downsized that their role as an opinion resource is severely limited. (Members are invited to look up www.AngusReid.org for data on this issue and others.)

In the early days of polling, it was primarily done by telephone call centres working the phones to get opinions. This has now changed dramatically for the better by polling ON-LINE. As he points out, polling was often done not to get a sense of the public opinion but to get answers which could be used for some corporate benefit. This was so well illustrated by his whimsical story of the two monks - one asked if he could smoke while praying (NO), the other asked if he could pray while smoking

(YES) - a sure way of getting the answer you want is by wording the question correctly! Phone polling has now been superseded by on-line polling and it is greatly improved, especially because of the software they have developed to handle it. Among the benefits of on-line polling is that you can ask questions which you simply can’t ask by phone, such as sexual harassment in the work place, or opinions about palliative care and assisted suicide. Dr. Reid pointed out that they correctly called 42 of the last 43 elections, missing only the last BC Provincial election. Concerning the referendum, a survey was done in early March and one thing was clear - over 50% of those voting NO were not going to be swayed - they did not trust Translink or the municipal people who handle the funds. The potential YES voters were younger and tended to be from Vancouver itself. Overall, at that time there was a 2:1 split in favour of the NO side. People who commute by car from the suburbs see no benefit to themselves by a YES vote. (Of some interest is the fact that 70% of those polled said that Christie Clark’s support of the YES side was bad for the YES side.) The referendum, which he feels will likely fail, is a subset of a larger problem—namely the fragmented government in the lower mainland made up of 23 different entities - some large, some quite tiny with their “tin pot mayors” (his term!), each with their own agenda and each having some leverage in the broader scene. At the moment the GVRD is primarily concerned, officially, with water and sewage. What is desperately needed here (and in Greater Victoria) is a metro government as in Winnipeg, Toronto, Montreal, New York, LA etc. The people of this region really do not have a sense of who is running the show and how they are handling the money they receive from us. There is a crying need in Greater Vancouver for a new municipal party which will push for amalgamation of the city into a single unified entity. Their polls suggest that 60% of the people would like to see some change in this respect. This is something that should really be addressed by the Provincial Government. At the moment there is no “leader” of the YES side or of the NO side.

For a fuller version of the above, including questions and answers, please go to our Probus website at

*www.probusvancouver.com,
click on “Speakers” then on “Angus Reid”*



ROTARIANS' INVESTMENT CLUB



Our next dinner meeting is April 30th at 6.00 pm for 6.30 at the RVYC.

Last month's guest speaker was Chris Motion of RBC Dominion Securities which created a lot of interest and questions regarding the investment climate overview and "when to sell" and resulted in a strong attendance.

This month's meeting concerns approval of the new Executive, reports on the trading proposals from last month, and three presentations of "Round Table" stock proposals from members. Plus watchdog reports on our current investments and ideas for future presentations.

Enjoy intelligent company, excellent food, and a glass or two of good wine !

Please call our new President-elect, Phil Webber at 604-263-9247 if you would like information about our Club and if you wish to attend on April 30th.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Parking is an insignificant part of most of our lives. Yet it can loom large among our petty annoyances from day to day. We often worry about whether there will be sufficient space close to the destination we have in mind. We complain about the cost. Most of all, we fuss about the payment process, whether it involves the inconvenience of finding the right change, a credit card which machines often seem to reject or the walk that takes forever from the parking spot to the payment machine, only to find a lineup of disgruntled patrons there.

I want to congratulate Tony Weall and our Member Services people who have, over the years, so effectively eliminated the hassle of parking at Probus.

Space: always lots of space close to where we hold our meetings at the H.R. Macmillan Planetarium and Space Centre.
Cost: our \$5 for three hours is lower than anything we have found in our survey of parking costs in and around Vancouver.
Payment process: all you need is to have a crisp \$5 bill in your pocket; (Probus pays Easy Park Vancouver once a month for each member who has chosen to bring his car).

That no hassle process is the way your executive intends to keep it. Tony Weall reported recently that Easy Park Vancouver has increased the cost for which Probus is assessed each month for the three hours we use the lot - from \$5 to \$6.25 per car. We've just completed an informal survey of parking costs in Vancouver, both north and south of False Creek, and the cost for those three hours varies widely, from a low of \$6 to a high of \$16.50.

Treasurer Cucheron tells me that 110 members paid our \$5 fee on April 14, for a total of \$550, and the bill we received from Easy Park was for \$687.50. Our bank account is sufficiently robust that can absorb this monthly loss and we intend to hold the amount we charge Probus members to \$5 per car for the foreseeable future.

History of the Probus Club of Vancouver

Last year, Norm Weitzel prepared a history of our Probus Club from its beginning to the end of 2013. The brief history for 2014 has now been added to this story. You can access this history on the website under "Membership Information".

Roy Williams, Historian/Archivist

Strengthen Your Heart!

Probus members Hank Levelt,

Ken Townsend and Poul Hansen participate in four weekly

Healthy Heart

exercises at Kerrisdale Community Centre at 7am.



Welcome New Members

**Alan Whitchelo—Development Consultant
Vic Weckerle—Mechanical Designer
Rob Goodell—Market Research**

Website Tips

The Probus Club of Vancouver website is full of information on the Club. This is the first of a series of tips on what you can find there. I am thinking of registering for a Probus activity. Are any of my friends registered? To find out who's registered for an activity, go the website home page and click on the name of a future activity. The names of members who have registered are at the foot of the page. Scroll down if necessary.

The website address is <http://probusvancouver.com/>

If you have questions or comments, please feel free to phone Hugh Lindsay, Chair of the Website committee at 604 732-0366.

UPCOMING EVENTS

WALKING TOUR OF SOUTH GRANVILLE WITH JOHN ATKIN

“ Explore Your City’s History and Architecture”

Meeting point: - “Bump ‘n Grind Café”, 3010 Granville Street, Vancouver

Join us there for coffee at 9:30am on Tuesday, May 19th

MEMBERS ONLY — \$20 PER MEMBER

We only have room for one or two more members. You may register at our May 12 meeting or email Dave Phillips at dph13579h9@shaw.ca

Arriving by bus: the #10 bus runs along Granville Street

and the #33 bus runs along 16th Avenue and stops at Granville Street.

After the Walking Tour has finished, members are welcome to join others for lunch

VANCOUVER CANADIANS BASEBALL GAME AT SCOTIA BANK FIELD IN NAT BAILEY STADIUM AGAINST THE EUGENE EMERALDS

WEDNESDAY, JULY 22, 2015

OPEN TO MEMBERS, GUESTS AND FAMILIES

We have booked 60 seats in the brand new facility called The Porch. Located just beyond the left field fence, The Porch is a new covered section at Scotiabank Field, designed for groups who are looking for a fun, laid-back area to enjoy a C's ball game.

We now have 46 members and guests registered, so you should register soon to ensure you get seats.

You will get a never-before-seen vantage point of the Canadians as they fight toward a fourth Championship and enjoy some of these exciting benefits:

- Luxurious, covered seating in “Club style” seats complete with a tray/counter for your food and beverage;
- Thrilling views from home run territory;
- Exclusive area, ensuring privacy;
- Special all-you-can-eat buffet menu with all your ballpark favourites, chicken, hamburgers, hot dogs, corn-on-the-cob, salads, desserts, ice cream, water and pop;
- Walk-up service bar.

9:30 am: Box Office opens

12 noon: Gates open and buffet lunch commences

1:05 pm: PLAY BALL!!

Car pooling is suggested

For directions to the ballpark, go to www.canadiansbaseball.com, click on “CLUB INFORMATION” and go to “Directions to Scotiabank Field”.

Registration: At the Activity Desk at the Probus Meetings on May 12th and June 9th. OR

1. Mail Registration Form and Payment (**\$50 per adult; \$35.00 per child aged 4 to 12**) to: Doug Graham, 2068 W. 35th Ave., Vancouver, BC, V6M 1H9. Email: douggraham@telus.net
2. Make checks payable to the **Probus Club of Vancouver**.
3. Remember - you will not be registered until payment is received.

I plan to attend: Name _____ E-Mail _____

Phone number _____

Number of Attendees _____ Adults _____ Children _____

Check enclosed for _____ (please put “Baseball” in the MEMO line)

Guest Names _____