



# NEWSLETTER

## PROBUS CLUB OF VANCOUVER

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

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

November 2013

**Next Meeting:** November 12th, 2013

**Time:** 9:30 am

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

**Speaker:** Scott Shepherd

### FUTURE SPEAKERS

December 10th - Mike Corrigan  
BC Ferries

## SCOTT SHEPHERD

**Hon. Lieutenant Colonel of The British Columbia Regiment**



Mr. Shepherd was born in Chatham, Ontario. He is a graduate of the University of Toronto (BA-Hon) and Dalhousie University (MBA) and is a Fellow of the Richard Ivey

School of Business at the University of Western Ontario. He is the Founder and Chief Executive Officer of NORTHSTAR Trade Finance Inc. in Vancouver, an organization that provides financing to credit-worthy international buyers of Canadian goods and services. The company has regional offices located in Vancouver, Calgary, Toronto, Houston, New York, London (UK), Birmingham (UK) and Luxembourg.

Prior to founding NORTHSTAR in 1994, Mr. Shepherd had wide-ranging executive careers in finance in both the private and public sectors, including Dalhousie Financial Corporation, the Nexus Group of Companies, Chemetics International Company, Export Development Corporation and the Department of External Affairs.

Mr. Shepherd currently holds director-

ships in the NORTHSTAR group of companies, Sovereign Star Trade Finance Inc. (UK), MDS Aerospace Corporation (Montreal) and Pender Financial Corporation (Vancouver). He also serves and has served on a number of charitable and volunteer boards and committees including: The Richmond Hospital Foundation (Vice-Chair and Treasurer), Canadian Manufacturers and Exporters (National Board Director and Chair of Export Finance and Insurance Committee), York House School (Chair of Capital Campaign) Saint George's School (Past-Chair New Parents Committee), Dalhousie University- Associate Governor (Management Without Borders Capital Campaign) and the B.C. Institute for Studies in International Trade (Director).

Mr. Shepherd first became involved with the military as a reservist in his undergraduate days. In the early 1990s he rejoined the reserves, and in 2004 was appointed British Columbia Chair of the Canadian Forces Liaison Council, a committee of 11 businessmen working with employers and the Canadian forces to allow for operational deployments of reservists for up to 18 month periods.

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During the past 11 years some 3,200 reservists from British Columbia have been deployed on assignment. In 2012, he was named National Chair of the Council.

In 2012, he was appointed Hon. Lieutenant Colonel of The British Columbia Regiment (Duke of Connaught's Own), an armoured reconnaissance reserve unit based in Vancouver.

**Report of the October 8th**  
**Attendance: 109 Members and Guests**

President Jon Collins opened the Presidents' Luncheon meeting at 11:00AM and welcomed all attendees and particularly lady guests and speaker, Andrew Petter QC. He thanked Bill Robertson, outgoing Chairman of the Activities Committee, for the event's outstanding arrangements. Brian Wasson acted as Secretary of the meeting.

Jon Collins advised that unlike in prior years, the Club's Past Presidents were not seated at special tables but were seated throughout the room. There were 12 Past Presidents present in person or by representation. He called for them to stand on their names being called out and be acknowledged.

Don Hudson introduced the guest speaker, Andrew Petter, President and Vice Chairman of Simon Fraser University (speaker's biography can be found in the October Newsletter). Don pointed out that over the last twenty years Simon Fraser has benefitted from a line of excellent presidents, the last in line being the current one, Mr. Petter.

Mr Petter opened by saying that Simon Fraser University opened its doors in 1965 to 6,500 students and is approaching its fiftieth anniversary. He likes to say that in culture and attitude the University has grown up without growing old. It is a Canadian public research university with its main campus on Burnaby Mountain housed in buildings designed by Architects Arthur Erickson and Geoffrey Massey and satellite campuses in downtown Vancouver and Surrey. SFU was ranked 8th among Canada's universities by Academic Ranking of World Universities in 2012. McLean's Magazine has ranked SFU as first among Canada's comprehensive universi-

ties in 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012. All of this is a long way from the hotbed of political activism in late 1960's and early 1970's that characterized its reputation in those times.

Mr Petter's underlying theme was that of the university's engagement: engagement of students, engagement in research and engagement in communities. Engagement is his strategic vision for the university.

There are 30,000 undergraduate students in the three SFU campuses, some half full time and the other half part time. About 18% of the undergraduates are foreign students, one of the highest among Canadian universities. In addition, there are approximately 5,000 graduate students in a wide range of full and part time academic programs. Mr. Petter pointed out that statistically Canada appears to be in the vanguard of academic qualifications as 57-60% of post-graduates have a credential of some type. He says this statistic is misleading as the total includes credentials from colleges and trade schools. He emphasized the importance of further academic qualifications for young Canadians with the resultant increase in hard skills and mental flexibility. The economic and social benefits of a university education are self evident.

SFU's research efforts have led it to obtain the highest publication impact among Canadian comprehensive universities and the highest success rates per faculty member in competitions for Federal research funding. Mr Petter takes pride in the marketing of research which has translated into the formation of over 200 companies with the attendant generation of economic and social benefits for the Province.

Community engagement is demonstrated by SFU coming down from the (Burnaby) Mountain and establishing urban campuses, firstly in downtown Vancouver and then in the revitalized Surrey centre.

SFU Vancouver was initiated in the 1980s and was in large part privately funded. It was the first urban classroom in British Columbia. There are now four buildings located in the downtown core: the SFU Harbour Centre, the Morris J Wosk Centre for Dialogue and the Segal Graduate School of Business and the Goldcorp Centre for the Arts. Both undergraduate and graduate courses totaling 570 are

currently being offered at these locations.

The newest satellite campus is located in Surrey Central City, the make over of down at heel Walley in an architectural complex adjacent to Surrey Central Sky Train Station. It was established in 2002 to absorb the students and programs of the former Technical University of British Columbia and has since been expanded to incorporate other SFU programs. A new City Hall and Library are slated for construction in this complex.

In summary, the University is alive and well and performing its purpose in an exemplary way.

Michael Francis thanked the speaker for his inspiring presentation. He pointed out that Mr. Petter had directed his honourarium to the SFU Bursary Fund.

Following a half hour break, the President called on Michael Francis to say Grace. An excellent luncheon followed.

**BADGES**

Anyone lacking a badge, please give a note to "Members Services" containing the following information:

First Name by which you are called, initials and last name, previous occupation, and telephone number

**Please remember to pay your \$5 parking fee!**



**MEMBERSHIP SERVICES TEAM**

**Greeters:** Ray Hunter, Peter Howes

**Cashiers:** Tait Given, Chuck Fortier

**IN MEMORIAM**

*It is with regret we announce the passing of Bruce McCallum on October 21st. Our condolences to his family. A donation will be made in his memory by Probus to a charity*

**PAST PRESIDENTS AND CURRENT PRESIDENT PRESIDENTS' LUNCHEON – October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2013**



**Back Row:** Dennis Creighton; John Hopkins; Jon Collins; Norm Weitzel; Nick Thornton and Roy Williams

**Middle Row:** Don Farquhar; Bill Sexsmith; Bette Cotton; Gordon Thom; Wayne Audette

**Seated:** George Adams and Tom McCusker

**Missing:** Fred Cotton(deceased); Ted Daem; Jack Farley; Pidge McBride and Don Newman

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Our Presidents' Luncheon on October 8<sup>th</sup> was highlighted with a great opportunity to socialize with members and their wives and an excellent speaker. Yes, Andrew Petter certainly motivated us to find out more about the many facets of Simon Fraser

University. He refers to it as engaged which it is in many different ways, particularly with several "campuses" in the Lower Mainland. Organizing the Presidents' Luncheon was Bill Robertson's last act as Activity Chair. Well done Bill and thanks again for all the activities you and the committee have orchestrated over the past three years. Welcome aboard as the new Activities Chair Doug Jones. Bill has left a great legacy of activities for the committee to expand on.

Whilst mingling with the Presidents' Luncheon crowd, one began to realize that Simon Fraser is a young enough school that few if any of our Probus members are alumni because it didn't exist when we went to university! This brings me to another realization of a much more delicate nature. Since I joined Probus 5 years ago the average age of our membership has climbed from 74 to 79. We are an aging group and in my previous President's Message, I entreated you all to "invite your young retired or semi-retired business and professional friends to visit and join our club". Well, I'm doing it again but I now also realize that there's an entire cohort out there that we may be missing: invite your retired or semi-retired sons and sons in law to visit and join our club. Our best recruiters of new members are you our existing members and the math tells us that some of you longer term members have family and relatives who are arriving at the age of Probus.

Are you seeking to enhance your Probus experience? Visit the home page of our website ([probusvancouver.com](http://probusvancouver.com)) and check out the Club links for Bridge, Book and Investment or Committee links for Activities, House, Member Services, Membership, Speakers and Website. Pick a Club or Committee of interest to you and go to a meeting just for fun. At least you'll meet some new Probus members and you might even get involved!

## MEET YOUR MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS

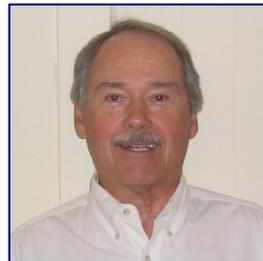
### DAVID SCOTT, VICE PRESIDENT



Born in Toronto, David lived and worked in Montreal for almost 20 years and has spent the last 24 years in Vancouver and on Galiano Island. He graduated from Bishop's University with a BA and from the Ivey School of Business with an MBA. His career was in finance. He founded a company

which devised and managed financial products for investment as retirement plans and pioneered their sale through branch banks throughout Canada. Later, after moving to Vancouver, he led a syndicate which financed a pharmaceutical development startup and which he chaired for ten years. During this period the company successfully developed an FDA approved drug now used in stem cell transplant procedures. He recently retired as Chair of the external board (independent review committee) of all the Fidelity mutual funds in Canada. He has three children, eight grandchildren, plays tennis rather badly and travels a lot with his wife Cathy, to whom he has been married for over 55 years.

### Doug Jones, Chairman, Activities Committee



Doug was born and raised in Toronto. He graduated from Waterloo Lutheran University (now Wilfrid Laurier) in 1966. After university, he joined IBM as a computer programmer and became a manager. In 1976, he moved to Vancouver as a

project manager with ICBC. Next, he joined KPMG as a Senior Consultant and a manager. Then, he served Lions Gate Hospital as their Director of Information Services. From 1989 to 2000, Doug was Sr. Vice-President of Information Technology at Pacific Blue Cross. He left Blue Cross to pursue an independent career as a Management Consultant and continues to work as a consultant in residential Real Estate with his wife Pauline. Doug and his wife both enjoy playing golf and tennis. They also get away to southern climates each winter for a few months.