



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

October, 2017

President
Hugh Lindsay
604-732-0366
hughl@telus.net

Past President
Doug Jones
604-228-0504
jonzee88@hotmail.com

Vice President
Brian Maunder
604-222-2391
brianmaunder@shaw.ca

Secretary
Tim Sehmer
604-263-7332
timsehmer@gmail.com

Treasurer
Doug Cucheron
604-687-2006
dac2004@telus.net

Speakers Committee
Hugh Chaun
604-261-8437
hchaun@mac.com

Membership Committee
Peter Hamilton
604-730-9975
pwt.hamilton@gmail.com

Activities Committee
Richard Carson
604-261-0974
acarson1@shaw.ca

Website and Database
Committee
Jack Zaleski
604-261-7492
jack.zaleski@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor
and Publisher
Peter Scott
604-263-1746
peter26@telus.net

Membership Services &
House
Raymond Greenwood
604-733-6453
greenwd@telus.net

Historian/Archivist
Roy Williams
604-926-4727
roytwitch@shaw.ca

Counsel
Brian Wasson
Carl Jonsson
Bill Randall

Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 10 at 9:30 am
Location: The Arbutus Club, 2001 Nanton Ave
Speaker: Fin Donnelly, Chair, Rivershed Society of BC
Topic: The Rivershed Society & The Fraser River

NEXT MONTH'S SPEAKER
November 14: Cameron Cathcart—Hong Kong Veterans' Association
Topic: 75th Anniversary of The Battle of Hong Kong

PLEASE NOTE—THIS MEETING IS THE PRESIDENTS' LUNCH AND WILL BE AT THE ARBUTUS CLUB, 2001 NANTON AVE, VANCOUVER. DO NOT GO TO THE HR MACMILLAN SPACE CENTRE

FIN DONNELLY



Fin is the Chair and founder of the Rivershed Society of British Columbia. Between 1990 and 2000, Fin twice swam the 1,400 km length of the Fraser River, and made 12 other environmental marathon swims, covering more than 3,200 kilometres in BC's rivers, lakes and ocean to draw attention to the health of these water bodies. Since 1995, he has talked to over 60,000 people in hundreds of BC schools and communities about the need to live sustainably. In 1997, Fin was named Iyim Yewyews, by the Squamish Nation, for his stewardship work.

In his "political" life, Fin was first elected Councillor for the City of Coquitlam. He was first elected as a member of parliament in a by-election on November 9, 2009, in the New Westminster—Coquitlam electoral district. In the one year he spent in the 40th Canadian Parliament, he acted as the party's fisheries critic and introduced six private member bills. He was re-elected in 2011 and in the ensuing 41st Parliament, he re-introduced the same six bills, two of which,

concerning the crime of luring a child, were adopted in the Safe Streets and Communities Act. He also introduced the bill titled Ban on Shark Fin Importation Act which was voted upon but defeated by the Conservative Party majority. He acted as the official opposition's critic on Fisheries and Oceans until the 2012 leadership election after which Tom Mulcair moved him over to critic on Western Economic Diversification and then demoted him to role of deputy critic. Fin again won re-election in the 2015 federal election and was promoted back to fisheries critic. In the 42nd Parliament he re-introduced his previous bill to make closed containment facilities mandatory for commercial finfish aquaculture but the bill was defeated. Fin has a Philosophy degree from the University of Victoria. He grew up in Port Moody, and now lives with his wife, Lynda in Coquitlam.

PLEASE CHECK PAGE FOUR TO REGISTER FOR THE PRESIDENTS' LUNCH. THIS ANNUAL TRADITION TO HONOUR OUR PAST PRESIDENTS IS OUR OCTOBER 10 MEETING. REGISTRATION INFORMATION IS ON PAGE 4.

Report of the August 8th Meeting

Attendance: 126 Members and Guests

The 20th AGM of the PROBUS Club of Vancouver, chaired by Past President Doug Jones, was held prior to our regular meeting, which was chaired by the just elected President, Hugh Lindsay. Minutes of the AGM are now posted on the club's website. Hugh started his term by thanking now Past President Doug Jones for his long commitment to PROBUS and especially for his guidance during the past year. He continued in the PROBUS tradition with a story about a chap who appeared to have filed a fraudulent claim with ICBC. Brian Maunder introduced 3 new members and Raymond Greenwood thanked his Member Services Team. Rich Carson, the new Activities Chair spoke about the upcoming visit my our club to the Boeing Plant in Everett. Hugh then spoke about the October meeting, our Presidents' Lunch. Details of both these events are on pages 5 and 4 respectively. Hugh then asked John Kay to introduce the speaker, Rudy Buttignol, who told us that, according to recent surveys we spend approximately 35 hours a week or 10 years out of 50 in front of a television set, computer, laptop, tablet or smart phone and much of that content is driven by advertisers and corporate interests.

He explained how Americans Internet giants like Netflix and YouTube continue to disrupt and dominate the Canadian market as ownership of most television networks becomes consolidated in the hands of the few and the powerful.

Additionally, social media spreads fear and ignorance to every corner of the earth at the speed of light. Facts seamlessly intermingle with fiction, truth co-mingles with lies until they are virtually indistinguishable from each other. Buttignol said that public broadcasters such as Knowledge Network equip their viewers with information they can trust which, in turn, empowers them to make reasoned decisions about the future of their communities. He described the network as a commercial-free showcase for British Columbia, its talent and its stories with the crowd-funding model of PBS in the United States and the programming ethos of the BBC in the United Kingdom.

"When you don't have advertisers to think about, we as a programming team sit around and think, 'what would this audience be interested in? How could we enhance the service?'" he said. "We don't think, 'how do we get those 18-35 year-olds to tune in?'" Its primary focus is on under-served viewers including young families, young children as well as the 50-plus audience. These groups make up about half of the population but are largely ignored by advertisers who primarily focus on Millennials.

Buttignol explained that Knowledge Network is more popular today than ever before. This summer, for example, it was the third most watched network in prime time in British Columbia behind Global and CTV.

As a curated programming service Knowledge Network acquires approximately 90 percent of its content from outside sources. Knowledge offers exclusive documentary series on arts and culture, history and social issues, natural history and the performing arts. Every weekend they premiere a wide variety of drama programs from Britain and Scandinavia such as *Foyle's War*, *Scott and Bailey*, *Indian Doctor*, *Line of Duty*, the upcoming *Land Girls* and *Man-kell's Wallander*, the Swedish version.

Knowledge Network only produces about 10 per cent of its content which represents 50 percent of its overall budget.

In recent years they commissioned original documentaries from British Columbia's independent filmmakers such as *Emergency Room: Life + Death at VGH*, and *Vancouver: No Fixed Address*, which is about the crisis of housing affordability in Vancouver.

As a commercial-free network they rely on the generosity of 49,000 partners who donated \$4.3 million in 2016.

Their endowment fund presently sits at \$6.6 million and counting. Buttignol said this money will be used to sustain a future for Knowledge Network so they are no longer dependent on government grants.

He said that the digital revolution – which has upended every facet of media production, distribution and consumption – offers no guarantee that society will be better off. He quoted Joshua Cooper Ramo author of the 2016 book, *The Seventh Sense: Power, Fortune, and Survival in the Age of Networks*: "Power and influence will, in the near future, become even more centralized than in feudal times and more distributed than it was in the most vibrant democracies... Network power is wild at the ends with all the creative energy of a world filled with devices empowering human dreams and the violent slips of old balances. But at the centre it is dense, still, and even quieter, with the silently cranking algorithms of massively concentrated power."

In this climate, he argued, a trusted space for independent voices like Knowledge Network matter more than ever before.

In the second half of his presentation, Buttignol discussed the federal government's failure to regulate the television industry which he said has led to less choice and more cost for consumers.

He touched on the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission's (CRTC) Let's Talk TV hearings which resulted in new regulations intended to give consumers more choice and affordability. This would give consumers who don't watch a lot of TV the option to pay as little as \$25 a month for basic service.

Big cable companies, however, quickly found a way to charge that \$25 plus other service fees to bring it back to \$50 a month.

He also decried the regulator's failure to tax and regulate internet services such as Amazon and Netflix who come into Canada as a retail operation and follow no regulations, pay no sales tax and pay no contribution to our system of producing Canadian content. Despite this they still have access to funding derived from television cable subscribers.

He calls on the government to either tax the new services or untax conventional services. "You can't have it both ways," he says.

He said the untaxed streaming services pose a huge threat to the future of Canadian services and distinctive Canadian voices.

"At Knowledge Network our focus is always going to be maintained not on the technology but on the public," he concludes.

"It's the public that we are here to serve and it's the public that we have in mind when making our programming decisions."

Gordon Armstrong thanked our speaker and presented him with the customary honorarium.

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 "Rudy Buttignol"

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Welcome to a new PROBUS year and to our three new members: **Peter Brock, Constantine Pappas** and **Ken Waithman**. Your Management Committee has two new members: **Tim Sehmer** as Secretary replacing **Rich Carson** who takes over Activities from **Ian Paterson**; and **Peter Hamil-**

ton as Membership Chair replacing **Brian Maunder** our new Vice President. Past President **Jack Zaleski** resumes the role of Chair of the Website and Database Committee from **Nick LeMoine**. The full list is on the front page of the newsletter. I look forward to working with them.

Our September meeting got us off to a good start thanks to **Hugh Chaun** and his Speakers Committee who brought us **Rudy Buttignol**, President and CEO of BC's Knowledge Network, who spoke on the topical subject of "Amusing Ourselves to Death". He also gave us a preview of his network's new season which, once again, promises a healthy, stimulating choice of programs.

For our meeting on October 10, we move our venue to the Arbutus Club for the annual gourmet **Presidents' Luncheon** at which we honour our Past Presidents—most of whom will be attending. Our speaker, Fin Donnelly, chair and founder of the Rivershed Society of BC has swum the entire 1,400 Km of the mighty Fraser River—twice—and is dedicated to the preservation of BC's waters and wild salmon. He has an impressive story to tell, and spectacular photos and video to illustrate it. There's still room for members and guests. Check the website for registration information. On October 24, there's a visit to the **Future of Flight Aviation Center and Boeing plant** in Everett, WA. There are a few seats left on the bus for what promises to be an impressive tour and opportunity to see how airliners are assembled. Check for space with **Chris Finch** 604-222-2201.

What's better than a pleasant summer day at Nat Bailey Stadium with all-you-can-eat burgers, hot dogs, corn, Nanaimo bars and ice cream—and a win by the home team? On August 30, about 40 members and guests watched the Vancouver Canadians beat the Boise Hawks 5 to 2. The Canadians went on to win the North West League Championship. Thank you, **Doug Graham** for making this happen.

Thanks to our September Member Services Team

Greeters: Paul Beckmann & Jim Fletcher
Cashiers: Bill Hooker & Bud Wong

Rotarians' Investment Club

Our Guest Speaker for the September 28th Meeting will be

Eugene Lee, Vice-President, Investments, for the Vancouver Foundation.

His topic is: "Investing for the long run – The Vancouver Foundation approach".

Our dinner meeting starts at 6.00 pm sharp, with a no-host bar at 5.30 pm in the Library of the RVYC. Probud members are welcome to attend by notifying our President Tim Gibbs at 604-225-0331 or email timgibbs@hotmail.com, no later than Tuesday September 26th as we must provide prior notice or be charged for "no-shows". Please bring your cheque for \$60.00 for which you will enjoy a fabulous 3 course dinner with dinner wine, coffee, taxes & gratuities. Plus interesting discussions about our portfolio and current events. Information about our Club is available on the Probud website or contact John Sullivan at johnws@telus.net. for an Agenda.

Welcome New Members



**PETER BROCK
RETIREMENT INCOME**



**KEN WAITHMAN
FOOD SERVICE SUPPLIER**



**CONSTANTINE PAPPAS
FURRIER**

THE PRESIDENTS' LUNCH

Tuesday October 10, 2017 – open to members and 1 guest



THE RIVERSHED SOCIETY AND THE FRASER RIVER

Fin is the Chair and founder of the Rivershed Society of British Columbia. Between 1990 and 2000, Fin twice swam the 1,400 km length of the Fraser River, and made 12 other environmental marathon swims, covering more than 3,200 kilometres in BC's rivers, lakes and ocean to draw attention to the health of these water bodies. Since 1995, he has talked to over 60,000 people in hundreds of BC schools and communities about the need to live sustainably. In 1997, Fin was named Iyim Yewyews, by the Squamish Nation, for his stewardship work.

His presentation will be followed by a fellowship break, with a no-host bar. Then a light and healthy Gourmet Buffet will be served. There will be soup of the day, assorted whole wheat buns and bread with various fillings, barbecued chicken and veggie wraps, vegetables and salads and finally assorted dessert squares and cookies.

In the past, some attendees were not able to see the screen so this year, we have arranged to have 2 screens set up so that everyone will be able to enjoy Fin's presentation.

The seating is limited at the Arbutus Club, so you should register for this popular event as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.

ALL THIS FOOD AND ENTERTAINMENT FOR ONLY \$35 PER PERSON

YOU MUST BE REGISTERED TO ATTEND THIS EVENT - THERE WILL BE NO REGISTRATION AT THE DOOR. MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ARRIVE AT 9:30 AM TO TAKE PART IN NORMAL SOCIALIZING AND TO ENJOY COFFEE. THERE IS PLENTY OF FREE PARKING UNDERGROUND.

REGISTRATION: Is open until Thursday, October 5 so that we can give the numbers to The Arbutus Club on October 6. You can email Ian Paterson at ianpat@telus.net, indicating your attendance but you must send a cheque immediately.

Mail Registration form and payment (\$35) to: Ian Paterson, 5749 Athlone Street, Vancouver, BC, V6M 3A1.

1. Make cheques payable to the **PROBUS Club Vancouver**.
2. **DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION IS OCTOBER 5TH, DEADLINE FOR CANCELLATION IS OCTOBER 5TH**
3. Remember - you will not be registered until payment is received.

Name _____ Guest _____

Email _____ Phone number _____



**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24
CHARTERED COACH TOUR OF THE BOEING
PLANT IN EVERETT, WASHINGTON
LIMITED TO 56 MEMBERS**

The Future of Flight Aviation Center & Boeing Tour is one of the premier attractions in the Pacific Northwest. Located just 25 miles north of Seattle, the Boeing Tour is a one-of-a-kind opportunity to view 747, 777, and 787 Dreamliners (may not be known until arrival) being assembled on the Everett production line before they take to the skies all over the world. The plant is the largest building (by volume) in the world. Each tour is approximately 90 minutes long and includes

fascinating facts about Boeing and the planes that bear its name.

ALL PASSENGERS MUST HAVE A VALID PASSPORT AND ARE ADVISED TO HAVE PERSONAL OUT OF PROVINCE MEDICAL INSURANCE.

THE SMALL PRINT OR WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

OUR 56 PASSENGER COACH WILL LEAVE FROM 37TH AVE. BETWEEN OAK AND OSLER, BY VANDUSEN GARDENS, AT 8 AM SHARP. DO NOT PARK IN THE VANDUSEN LOT; THERE IS PLENTY OF PARKING ON 37TH AVENUE—WE RECOMMEND YOU TRY TO CARPOOL. COFFEE AND MUFFINS WILL BE PROVIDED ON THE COACH AND A CATERED LUNCH AT THE HILTON GARDEN INN & A SHUTTLE TO THE PLANT.

IMPORTANT DETAILS!

This tour involves walking about a quarter of a mile and climbing a flight of stairs. Still photos and video cameras, electronic devices (mobile phones, cameras, pagers) and personal items (purses, bags, backpacks) are not permitted on the Boeing Tour. Free lockers are available on-site. There are restroom facilities and a café at the Future of Flight. **Restrooms are not available during the Boeing Tour.**

Registration Form

Make cheques for \$110.00 per person, payable to the **PROBUS CLUB OF VANCOUVER.**

1. Take Registration Form and payment to the September 12 or October 10 PROBUS meetings or mail to: Chris Finch, #105—5760 Hampton Pl, Vancouver, BC, V6T 2G1.
2. Payment in full for the coach charter is required from PROBUS by September 24. As long as we have a firm commitment by then, payment must be received by October 10, after which no cancellation will be possible unless another registrant is found. Due to the considerable interest in this unique trip, it will initially be open to members only. **Guests may be registered after September 24.**
3. 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.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE—2017—2018



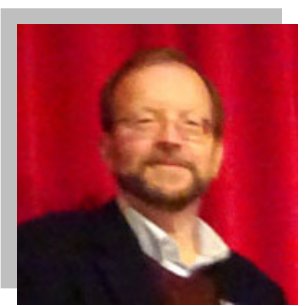
**HUGH LINDSAY
PRESIDENT**



**DOUG JONES
PAST PRESIDENT**



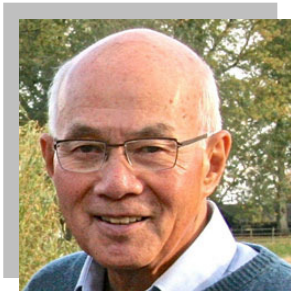
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**JACK ZALESKI
WEBSITE & DATABASE
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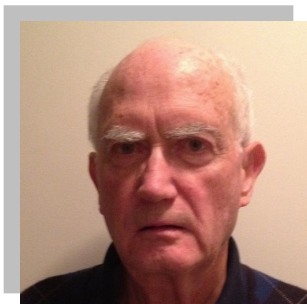
**ROY WILLIAMS
HISTORIAN & ARCHIVIST**



**PETER SCOTT
NEWSLETTER EDITOR
& PUBLISHER**



**RAYMOND GREENWOOD
MEMBERSHIP SERVICES
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BILL RANDALL



**BRIAN WASSON
COUNSEL**

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COUNSEL**