



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

September, 2016

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Next Meeting: Tuesday, Sept. 13th at 9:30 am
Location: H.R. MacMillan Planetarium & Space Centre, Lower Level
Speaker: Dr. David Sweet, Dental Pathologist
Topic: Forensic Science: An insider's point of view



DR. DAVID SWEET O.C.

Dr. David Sweet, O.C. enjoys solving puzzles. And he's pretty good at it. So combined with qualifications in dentistry, forensic dentistry, medicine and forensic medicine, Dr. Sweet is in a unique position to help police solve the puzzles that are often present at crime scenes. His laboratory, known as **BOLD Forensic Laboratory**, has been involved in over 1100 high-profile criminal cases since its inception in 1996. Dr. Sweet has developed new techniques that are now used internationally by forensic investigators. Many of these techniques are applied to unusual exhibits and trace evidence under strange circumstances. Dr. Sweet is a tenured professor at **UBC Dentistry** and director of the **BOLD Forensic Laboratory**. In 2008, Dr. Sweet was appointed an **Officer of the Order of Canada** for his work as a forensic scientist, researcher, teacher and consultant. He was chief scientist for disaster victim identification at **INTERPOL** in France from 2005–2011 and forensic advisor to the **International Committee of the Red Cross** in Switzerland from 2009–2012.

Forensic Science — An insider's point of view

BOLD Lab at The University of British Columbia has been involved in cases of assault, theft, rape, murder, war crimes and espionage since 1996 to aid investigators and the courts in Canada and elsewhere to deal with the prosecution of criminals accused of heinous violence. Importantly, families are assisted to deal with grievous losses. At the root of all these cases are various dental, medical and laboratory technologies that are employed to find, recover, and analyze trace evidence. At this presentation, you will go behind the crime-scene barrier tape with Dr. David Sweet, O.C. to witness the role of investigators and scientists in solving crimes using amazing tools. Appreciate the complexity of investigations. Enjoy insights about crime investigation and analysis shared by one of Canada's leading forensic scientists. See several examples from actual case files and learn about how evidence is dissected to reveal truths that criminals attempted to eliminate or disguise.

UPCOMING SPEAKERS

**October 11: Ujjal Dosanjh
Politician/Author**
November 8: TBA
**December 13: Dianne Doyle
President and CEO, Providence
Health Care**

INTERESTING THINGS YOU MAY NOT KNOW ABOUT PROBUS!

I recently received an interesting article about **PROBUS Clubs** from our member, **Ralph Carder**. It describes the history of **PROBUS** from its inception out of **Rotary Clubs**, in the **UK**, to the world-wide organisation it is today, with branches throughout the world, mainly in English-speaking countries. Included in the article is the fact that there is a **PROBUS Grace**:

*Happy the man who meets each month
With friends from near and far.
Happy the man who friendship seals
Beside a friendly bar.*

*Happy the man who shares his food
Amongst old **PROBUS** mates,
Happy the man who to kind ears,
Sorrows and joys relates.*

*Happy are they who praise the Lord,
From whom all blessings flow.
Happiest of all are they whose hearts
His love unending know. Amen.*

If you are interested in receiving a copy of this article, please email me at peter26@telus.net and I will arrange to email a copy.

Thanks to our July Member Services Team

**Greeters—Stuart Clyne
& Bud Wong**
Cashiers—Paul Richard

Report of the August 9th Meeting

Attendance: 214 Members and Guests

The meeting was chaired by President Jack Zaleski who opened with a story about a young lady and an atheist on a plane. Peter Hamilton introduced three new members (see Welcome New Members), Chris Lay spoke about the September Activity, an outing to The Museum of Anthropology on September 20 and Peter Scott introduced Jacquie Miller, who has been retained by the club to transcribe our meeting audio file for the website and newsletter. Raymond Greenwood thanked the cashier and greeters. David Scott introduced Dr. Brian Latell, a 35-year veteran of US intelligence, specializing in Latin American relations. Dr. Latell thanked PROBUS Vancouver for the opportunity to speak and began by discussing contemporary US-Cuban relations, particularly the reestablishment of diplomatic relations a year ago, after severing them in 1961, recent lifting of various embargo restrictions and visit to Cuba by President Obama. Despite these overtures, the US and Cuba have not buried the hatchet. The economic embargo is still in effect and only the American Congress can remove the remaining restrictions. The current Congress is not in the mood to do so, nor is there any greater interest on the Cuban side, with Fidel still alive and maintaining considerable influence behind the scenes. His younger brother Raúl, at 85, runs Cuba with the same kind of iron fist as Fidel did.

Obama's visit was historic. It was the first time an American President had visited Cuba since the 1920s. His speech was televised live from Havana and appealed to younger Cubans to aspire to human rights and democracy. Raúl was standing about 6 feet away, glowering on camera as he heard the translation. Many expected the Communist Party to implement significant political changes after Obama's visit, but they didn't. Most of the top leaders who have any real influence and power are in their late 70s and 80s and are extremely worried about the Pandora of democracy getting out of the bottle. The leadership is stagnant and the economy is stagnant, with the party failing to announce any new economic reforms. However, Raúl has said he will step down from the Presidency in early 2018. He hasn't, however, said he will step down as head of the Communist Party, the position that really calls the shots in Cuba.

Fidel held many titles and roles during his close to 50 years as Cuban leader. The role he liked most was the least known of all of his roles: Cuba's supreme spymaster. He was directly involved in the details of many operations and relationships and built the Cuban intelligence service to be one of the best in the world, particularly in counterintelligence and double agent operations. They ran about 4 dozen double agents who were recruited by the CIA to spy on Cuba but were really working for Castro. There's almost nothing in modern spycraft that compares to that kind massive deception. The CIA learned of these double agents through Florentino Aspillaga, a Cuban counterintelligence intelligence officer who defected in 1987.

Dr. Latell interviewed Aspillaga, who revealed that on the morning of Nov 22, 1963, while he was a communications intercept officer on the north coast of Cuba, he received orders to focus all his equipment on Texas. Kennedy was shot at 12:30 pm Central Time on that day. Aspillaga was convinced Fidel knew Kennedy would

be shot that day. The next day, Castro gave a speech saying, "We knew nothing about this. We knew nothing about this Oswald person. We had no knowledge." Another defector told the CIA Castro was lying and everyone in Cuban intelligence had been talking about how Oswald would shoot Kennedy before it happened. Many other sources confirm this. Most of this never properly reached the Warren Commission.

Fidel knew the CIA and Kennedy brothers were plotting to assassinate him. Dr. Latell read out an exact quote from Castro to journalists in Havana in September 1963:

"We are prepared to fight them and answer in kind. US leaders should think that if they are aiding terrorist plans to eliminate Cuban leaders, they will not be safe. US leaders would be in danger if they helped in any way attempt to do away with the leaders of Cuba."

It was a threat and it was a warning. He was telling the Kennedys he knew they were plotting his death and he was capable of retaliating.

How did Fidel know? Rolando Cuebela, a known assassin of high military rank in Cuba, got word to the CIA he wanted to kill Fidel. The CIA was under unrelenting pressure from the Kennedy brothers to kill Fidel, wanting revenge after the Bay of Pigs in 1961. In October 1963, he asked to hear from Bobby Kennedy directly that it was truly US policy to eliminate Fidel. Desmond Fitzgerald, a very senior CIA official and distant relative of the Kennedys, went to Paris and confirmed this with Cuebela, accompanying Nestor Sanchez, Cuebela's case officer. Sanchez soon after delivered the assassination weapon, a syringe disguised as a pen, to Cuebela at a CIA safehouse in Paris. At that moment, the phone rang. It was Fitzgerald, telling Sanchez that President Kennedy had just been killed and to abort the mission. All along, Cuebela was a double agent working to confirm that the Kennedys themselves were plotting Fidel's assassination.

In conclusion, Dr. Latell noted that although we know Fidel knew Oswald was going to shoot Kennedy, it isn't clear Fidel himself had any direct personal responsibility for Kennedy's death. His book *Castro's Secrets: The CIA and Cuba's Intelligence Machine* analyzes each of these events in more detail.

For a version of the above which includes questions and answers, please go to our PROBUS website at www.probusvancouver.com, click on "Speakers" and then on "Brian Latell"

Welcome New Members

Robin Elliott
Chartered Accountant

Albert Moses
Diplomat

Randy Moffat
Broadcasting Executive

PROBUS ON THE FRASER

July 27th was the perfect day for more than 60 PROBUS members and guests to sail from the New Westminster Quay on the M.V. Native, up the mighty Fraser River, past the Port Mann Bridge and back. After some coffee and delicious muffins at one of the fine cafés in the market, we were ready to board the boat.



The sun was shining as we all settled into groups to watch the New Westminster waterfront drift by and listen to the excellent commentary given by a member of the crew.



Our Activities Chairman has a slightly concerned look about him . . . but all is well as his committee, headed by Doug Graham for this event, has got everything well organized!

There's nothing like a cold beer on a warm day on the river, before lunch.



The buffet was amply stocked with salads, well cooked roast beef, chicken, lasagna, roast potatoes and vegetables. Then trays of pastries were passed around.

Some post-prandial conversation following lunch.



And we're back to the New Westminster waterfront after a most interesting voyage with loads of information on how it all developed. **WELL DONE, ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE!! ANOTHER GREAT OUTING.**



THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



I would like to welcome our 3 newest members, Albert Moses, Robin Elliott and Randy Moffat to our club. I trust you will introduce yourselves and make them feel welcome when you see them at our future meetings.

Our speaker in August, Dr. Brian Latell, gave an informative and thought provoking talk on Cuba and the Castro brothers, who have ruled the Island since 1961. It certainly raises questions, once again, about who really was behind the assassination of John F. Kennedy. Not to mention how much information was hidden from public view about the events surrounding the assassination and the reasons for the apparent cover-up. I doubt we will ever know the truth and nothing but the.....

This is my last report and I want to say how much I have enjoyed my term as your President. I look forward to continuing to work on behalf of this club, a task I find most rewarding.

Our speaker in September will be Dr. David Sweet who will give us an insider's point of view on Forensic Science in Dentistry.

Rotarians' Investment Club

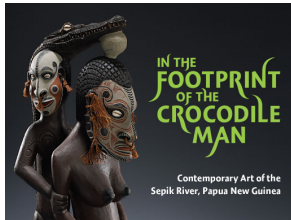
After an enjoyable Summer Party with our partners in August, we kick off on Thursday September 29th with a guest speaker, **Rob Wessel of Hamilton Capital Partners of Toronto**, calling us from Toronto by conference speaker phone. His topic is **"Canadian Banks - End of an Era ?"**

As you may be aware the banking industry is about to go through some changes in the coming year, so it will very interesting to learn Rob's insights on the subject.

Our meeting is at the RVYC, starting at 5.30 pm with a no-host bar, with the program at 6.00 pm sharp ! Usually completed by about 9.30 pm. Enjoy an excellent 3 course dinner including a couple of glasses of dinner wine, interesting conversation with like-minded souls for \$60.00 including taxes & gratuities.

Please contact our President, Ron Fawcett at - ron.fawcett@gmail.com - if you wish to attend on or before Tuesday 27th September as we have to give exact numbers or we are charged if you do not attend ! For R.I.C. information please email our Membership Chair at - johnwsullivan@shaw.ca - who will be out of town for the meeting but in touch in this medium.

UPCOMING EVENTS



TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

We have arranged for private guided tours (in groups of 15 people) of the Museum of Anthropology at UBC. **This event is now open to members, their partners and guests.** The estimated cost will be \$25.00 per person which will include entry to the Museum, cost of the guide and a coffee and muffin on arrival. PROBUS members will be located at the public entrance to direct attendees. The Museum is currently presenting two special exhibits, "Unceded Territories" and "In the Footprint of the Crocodile Man".

"Unceded Territories" is a showcase of Vancouver artist, Lawrence Paul Yuxweluptun, of Coast Salish and Okanagan descent. In this provocative exhibition, his works confront the colonialist suppression of First Nations peoples and the ongoing struggle for Indigenous rights to lands, resources, and sovereignty. Twenty years since his last major Canadian solo show, "Unceded Territories" will demonstrate the progression of Yuxweluptun's artistry and ideas through hard-hitting, polemical, but also playful artworks that span his remarkable 30- year career, featuring a selection of brand-new works exhibited publicly for the first time.

"In the Footprint of the Crocodile Man" is a unique exhibition which showcases the most comprehensive collection of contemporary Sepik art in North America, and draws urgent attention to the logging and mining operations that pose environmental threats to the region of the Sepik River of Papua New Guinea, which is one of the largest river systems in the world, extraordinarily beautiful, but seldom visited. It is here that the latmul people, who live along its banks, have created internationally renowned works of art primarily inspired by stories of the majestic crocodile as the primordial creator.

9:30 am Coffee and a muffin at the Museum

10:00 am Tours begin

Cost: \$25.00 per person, estimated at time of printing

Parking: Car pooling recommended. Pay parking is available at the Museum and nearby

Registration: September 13th PROBUS meetings—see registration form below

Registration Form

1. Make cheques for \$25.00 per person, payable to the **PROBUS CLUB OF VANCOUVER.**
2. Mail Registration form and payment – **only \$25 per person** to: Chris Lay, 3158 West 31st Avenue, Vancouver, BC, V6L 2A6. Email: chris_lay@telus.net
3. **DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION AND CANCELLATION IS TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13TH.**
4. Remember - you will not be 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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

THE PRESIDENTS' LUNCH

Tuesday October 11, 2016 – open to members only



MY JOURNEY AFTER MIDNIGHT

Ujjal Dosanjh is a lawyer, social activist and parliamentarian who has devoted his life to public service. He became Attorney General of British Columbia in 1995 and served as the province's thirty-third premier before entering federal politics. He was a Liberal Party of Canada Member of Parliament from 2004 to 2011, including a period as minister of health. Throughout his life, he has remained a vocal human rights advocate and an outspoken critic of violence and extremism. In 2015, he was honoured with the inaugural Wallenberg-Sugihara Civil Courage Award.

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.

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 \$30 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: At the Activity Desk at the Probus meeting on September 13, **OR** Mail Registration form and payment (\$30) 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 8TH, DEADLINE FOR CANCELLATION IS OCTOBER 6TH**
3. Remember - you will not be registered until payment is received.

YES, I plan to attend

Name _____ Email _____

Phone number _____