

PROBUS CLUB OF VANCOUVER

Agenda for December 7, 2021 (9:30 a.m.) Board Meeting

The Arbutus Club – 2001 Nanton Avenue, Vancouver (Corner of Arbutus & Nanton)

Attending in person: Alain Boisset, Rich Carson, Raymond Greenwood, Bill Hooker, John Kay, Hugh Lindsay, Peter Scott, Tim Sehmer (chair), Peter Stephen

Attending by Zoom: Richard Earthy, Brian Street (secretary), Jack Zaleski

1. **Welcome** (call to order; quorum confirmation; committee representation) Sehmer
2. **Approval of October 5, 2021 minutes** (circulated but not yet posted on website) Sehmer
3. **Business arising from October 5, 2021 minutes:**
 - (a) **Additional honorary counsel** – We normally appoint 3 honorary counsel. We currently have 2, both former solicitors and were looking for a former litigator. Bud Wong was asked but declined. Ken Yule to be asked if he will serve as honorary counsel. Lindsay
 - (b) **Board job descriptions** – It was agreed that the full set of job descriptions will be posted on the “Board only” part of the website. Lindsay
 - (c) **Planetarium parking** – John to contact EasyPark before we return to in-person meetings. Kay
4. **Secretary’s report** – Nothing to report. Street
5. **Treasurer’s report** – Club is in sound financial position. Kay
6. **Speakers Committee** – Had Zoom meeting of the “larger” advisory committee. Surveyed membership about preferred topics. Had meeting with “smaller” working group and generated list of favourite topics from two speakers. Currently updating the list. Hooker
7. **Activities Committee** – Biking/lunch group is active. 6 members meet at The Local in Kitsilano 2x / month. 15 members attended tour of Loop Energy in October. Had presentation on bone health (30 registered and 20 participated – recording sent to registrants not participating). Had second Mark White computer workshop. So far 24 members/guests registered and paid for January 19, 2022 Penthouse Cabaret visit (Peter Scott to mention at next week’s meeting) [*Note – Subsequent to this meeting, a decision was made to postpone the Penthouse event due to the new COVID restrictions in effect until at least January 18*]. Planning John Atkins walk for mid-May 2022. Earthy

- 8. Membership Committee** – 298 paid active members. 18 unpaid active members (membership to be cancelled if not paid by Dec. 15 – Jack to circulate list of unpaid active members to the Board). Updated brochure to be circulated to members for passing on to friends. Zaleski
- 9. Newsletter Editor and Publisher** – Nothing to report. Scott
- 10. Member Services Committee** – The Space Centre has been unable to specify any date by which we may be able to return to in-person meetings. Greenwood
- 11. Website Committee** – Peter Brock has helped us renew the SSL certificate for our website. Boisset
- 12. Historian & Archivist** – Hugh is working on the annual update to our club’s history. Lindsay
- 13. New business**
- (a) **Bylaw amendment:** Bill Hooker proposed a motion that the membership be asked to amend our bylaws to eliminate any gender requirement for membership. Jack Zaleski seconded. Views of board members were divided. It was noted that there are 14 Probus clubs in the lower mainland – 7 are combined, 4 are women only and 3 are men only, so prospective members have the option of joining a combined club if desired. Bill reported that when the North Shore Probus club became a combined club, only a handful of women joined. Various options were discussed, including having the Board members use the break-out rooms before next week’s meeting to canvass members. Tim noted that this approach might give the incorrect impression that the Board supports the change which, given the Board’s divided views on the matter, would not be appropriate. Jack suggested using Survey Monkey as a soft way to gauge the membership’s views on this matter before deciding whether to put the question to a formal vote. After discussion it was agreed that we should move cautiously, and the only steps to be taken at this point would be (i) for board members to canvass one or two of their fellow members to see if there’s clearly prevailing view on the matter; and (b) for Bill and Jack to propose for the next Board meeting the wording of a question that might be put to the members by way of Survey Monkey. Motion was withdrawn. Hooker
- (b) **BC District 2 vacancy on PROBUS Canada board:** Tim advised that our past president David Scott will not be standing for re-election at the PROBUS Canada AGM in May, and PROBUS Canada is encouraging District 2 clubs to nominate a past president to replace him. It was agreed that, subject to Rich having an interest in the position, we should not make a nomination form our club. *[Note –* Sehmer

Subsequent to this meeting, Jack agreed to let his name stand for this position and Rich and the rest of the Board confirmed support for Jack's nomination.]

Scott

- (c) **Nomination of David Scott for honorary life membership:** The Bylaws allow the Board to recognize outstanding service by conferring honorary lifetime memberships (with the number of such memberships not to exceed 5% of total membership). Peter Scott (no relation!) outlined David Scott's contributions to our club and to PROBUS Canada. An award of honorary lifetime membership to David Scott was approved.

Adjournment

Future Meeting Dates:

Tuesday, February 1, 2022

Tuesday, April 5, 2022

Tuesday, June 7, 2022

Tuesday, August 2, 2022

Probus Speakers 2022 Assignments – Provided by Bill Hooker

1. Investigative Journalism, Kim Bolan 6 + 6 April - Rick
2. Indigenous Justice, David Eby 6 June - Bill
3. First indigenous UBC Chancellor, Steven Point 3 + 3 July - Chris
4. Climate Change, Seth Klein, SFU August - Bill
5. Urban Design Sustainability, Theresa O'Donnell, City of Vancouver 5 September - Raymond
6. New St. Paul's Hospital, Fiona Dalton, CEO 4 October - Raymond
7. BC Transit Future Plans, Kevin Quinn 3 November - Bill
8. Money Laundering, Austin Cullen (or Sam Cooper ?) 3
9. YVR Future Planning, Tamara Vrooman 3 December - Rick

2023

1. Mass Timber Construction, Hardy Wenzel, CEO Structurlam Mass Timber Corporation 5
2. Downtown East Side Medicine, Sheldon Howard, MD 3
3. Fraser River's Fate, Mark Angelo 3
4. Understanding Aging & Dementia, Lynne Beattie, MD 3
5. BC Sockeye Salmon, Joy Thorkelson, President, United Fishermen
6. "Vancouverism," Larry Beasley 3
7. Aging as Disease, David Sinclair, Professor, Harvard School of Medicine 3