



# NEWSLETTER

## WOMEN'S PROBUS CLUB OF VANCOUVER

Volume 17 Issue 10, March 2020

**Next meeting: Tuesday, April 7, 2020 CANCELLED**

### Member Information

**Membership:** Any changes to the roster MUST be completed on the form which appears at the foot of the Roster on the website: <http://www.probusvancouverwomen.com>.

If you do not wish to continue to belong to the Club, please let Membership Chair, [loislindsay@telus.net](mailto:loislindsay@telus.net), know.

If you are sponsoring a new member, she should print an application from our website and mail it, together with a cheque, to the Membership Chair, Lois Lindsay.

Any member who has an email address is asked to be sure that it is included in the password-protected Roster on the website. This will ensure that you receive last-minute notifications such as weather-related meeting cancellations.

Please check that your postal address, phone number and email address are correct. Send all contact/address information changes to [loislindsay@telus.net](mailto:loislindsay@telus.net).

**Correspondence:** Sharon Norlander has taken on the job. If anyone knows of someone who should receive a card, please let Sharon know: [snorlander@icloud.com](mailto:snorlander@icloud.com), 604-873-0052.

**Friendly Reminders:** Please turn off cell phones and, as a courtesy to other members, NO PERFUME at Probus meetings. Please remember to return your badge to the desk before leaving the meeting.

Lunch is available in the Point Grey Golf Club restaurant after our meetings. We are limited to 20 people. Please sign up at the "M-Z" badge desk. Payment is by debit or credit card only. The restaurant is closed for lunch in January, February and March.

The golf club has a defibrillator if anyone has a problem during the meeting.

## Women's Probus Meeting, March 3, 2020

**Greeters:** Rosemary Boyd and Diane Hobday.

New member: Joan Butler.

Leslie Chang introduced our speaker, Erin Williams, who spoke on the topic Why Asia Matters to Canada.

### **Introduction: The Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada: (the Foundation)**

- a. Established by an Act of Parliament in 1984, the *Asia Pacific Canada Act*, as a “not for profit think tank on Canada’s relations with Asia”; located in Vancouver, BC.
- b. According to its website, the purpose/mandate of the Foundation is to develop closer ties between the governments and institutions of Canada and the Asia Pacific Region.

### **Emphasis: The mandate of the Foundation is intended to develop relations not just between governments, but between the peoples of these areas through:**

- a. promoting dialogue on and building understanding of the importance of foreign relations between the parties
- b. promoting dialogue on and understanding of foreign policy issues as they relate to Canada and the Asia Pacific Region.
- c. At present, special emphasis on helping Canadian youth to develop the knowledge and skills to deal with and adapt to the Asia Pacific Century, which is now upon us.

### **The Big Picture: Why Asia Matters to Canada**

- a. Long -term economic trends: Examples of Canadian Opportunity (BC wine to China, Nova Scotia lobsters to China, Saskatchewan lentils to India, Nature Tourism, Seniors Care
- b. Service examples of Canadian export opportunity: senior care, post-secondary education
- c. How Canadians are thinking about Asia: mixed views on closer economic ties, worries about missing out on economic opportunities
- d. Worries about human rights, but declining sense that Canada can do anything about it.

### **Why We Should Focus on Youth:**

- a. Economic and demographic trends will impact them the most
- b. General lack of preparedness in Canada
- c. Pockets of progress through some universities; e.g., of APF involvement in this area

### **2019-20 in Asia in Review**

- a. Huawei/Meng Wanzhou situation still unresolved
- b. US-China Trade War
- c. Hong Kong Protests, d. Religious tensions in India

**The Big Story: Coronavirus and its impact:** For global health, b. for the world economy, c. possible political fallout.

Ms. Williams closed by inviting Probus members to subscribe to the Foundation's Asia Watch Newsletter at <https://www.asiapacific.ca/asia-watch>.

Barbara Paterson thanked the speaker.