



# NEWSLETTER

## WOMEN'S PROBUS CLUB OF VANCOUVER

Next meeting: **Tuesday, October 5, 2021**

9:45 a.m. - You are welcome to log on to Zoom.

10:00 a.m. - Meeting online via Zoom. Please be on time.

A reminder of the meeting will be sent last week of August  
and the link to the Zoom meeting will be sent October 3, 2021.

If you wish to join by telephone: please call Barbara Wynn for the number and ID #.

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**Speaker: Julie Veloo**

**Topic: Making a Difference – One Child at a Time**

In 2010 Julie and Chelven Veloo moved to Mongolia, from Hixon BC, for the mining industry and took many warm coats and blankets knowing the need by less advantaged people living in minus 25-degree winters.

They learned about Mongolian families who subsist by scavenging in the Ulaanchuullut garbage dump in the outskirts of the capital city, Ulan Bator, and often small children had to be left alone, cold and hungry. The Veloo Foundation was initially established to feed these children and in 2013 a kindergarten was created to nurture the early years and ultimately help the whole family.



The Veloo Foundation's ongoing mission is to help the families in this community, many forced to give up their nomadic, pastoral way of life, and move forward to a healthy life which does not include scavenging at the dump.

Julie will tell us of the many initiatives that are ongoing to increase their health and wellbeing, their educational status and understanding of the opportunities available to them. She will tell this story with enthusiasm and passion; and deserves all the support she receives for all she has accomplished.

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Women's PROBUS of Vancouver: <https://probuswomen.com>  
PROBUS Canada: <https://probus.org>  
PROBUS International: <https://probusglobal.org>

## A Message from President Leslie Chang

Dear Members:

The start of summer feels like yesterday, but my garden tells me that autumn is already upon us. The leaves have started to fall, and the cooler wet weather has brought clear skies and fresh air. I never tire of our local mountain and ocean views, and I feel blessed to live in this beautiful city. The change of seasons also marks the start of a new season of PROBUS events!

The pandemic has dramatically shifted the way we organize and run events. This has led PROBUS Canada to review our constitution and by-laws and adapt them to reflect these changes:

Membership: Historically, PROBUS started as an alliance of retired professional and business leaders to network and exchange ideas. The current PROBUS Canada Constitution has expanded this mandate to include *“all interested individuals”*. The Club’s description also states that *“PROBUS provides the opportunity for members to meet others in similar circumstances, to make new friends, and expand and maintain their interests”*. The new member guidelines are inclusive and no longer limit membership to individuals with a professional or business background.

Management: Our 2021 Constitution states that our Club shall be managed by a Management Committee consisting of a President, Vice President(s), Secretary, Treasurer, Immediate Past President, and Membership Coordinator. Our Vice President position is still vacant and is vital to our Club’s future. Our organization thrives on strong leadership. Not only is the Vice President a valued member of our management team, but she also ensures continuity by becoming the next President. I was attracted to the President’s role to serve our members. It is my way of giving back for all the benefits our PROBUS Club provides us. Please consider volunteering for the Vice President position or encourage other PROBUS members to get involved. Serving our members is a rewarding experience, and I would be delighted to chat more about the role with you if there is interest.



Our next Management Committee is meeting September 20, 2021. I look forward to keeping you updated on the many exciting activities members have planned.

Sincerely yours,

Leslie Chang

## MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

### New Members:

We welcome two new members and look forward to their joining our meetings:

Caroline McNeill  
Sue McEwen

**The Management Committee would like more help from members.**

### Activities:

When you log on to [www.probuswomen.com](http://www.probuswomen.com) and click "Membership Info", you will see a subheading "Activities & Interest Groups".

These are *suggestions* for any member to organize an activity or group of her particular interest to make our Club more interesting and to encourage fellowship beyond a monthly meeting. You may have another idea for an activity or group; just complete the form on the website.

What would it involve? Make the necessary arrangements for that particular activity and advise the Webmaster the name of the activity, date, whether there is a limited number who may attend, the fee if any, the address, time and location where everyone should meet.

Our Webmaster will be able to assist you with ensuring that Members can register through the Website, which could send out an announcement inviting members and would provide a list of names of who have registered, limit group size if necessary, send out a reminder not to forget to attend. No phone calls to members should be necessary.

*Please Consider Organizing an Activity*

### Articles for the Newsletter:

The November 2020 edition had a plea for input; here are some suggestions:

A book you love  
A poem or quotation  
A favorite destination  
A joke

Please send them to the Newsletter Editor for publication anonymously or with credit.

Here are excerpts from the December 2020 Newsletter - Allison Carter gave us some online exercise suggestions, which are still useful, [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com), and search for: More Life Health Seniors for Classes with Mike.

[www.silversneakers.com](http://www.silversneakers.com) is another source. Allison also included her system of using weights and multi-tasking, ending with *"Have fun and keep breathing"*.

Yoga: [www.vancouvergentleyoga.com](http://www.vancouvergentleyoga.com) is offering a 20% discount on all subscriptions to Women's PROBUS members – use the code HEALTH. Wendy Akune has been teaching 55+ yoga for 15 years and will be happy to answer questions; [wendy@vancouvergentleyoga.com](mailto:wendy@vancouvergentleyoga.com) or 604 710 3234.

**Update Your Contact Information:** Log on to the new website: <https://probuswomen.com>.

**Newsletter:** Material to be included in the next Newsletter should be submitted to Editor Jane LePorte by the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month.

**Correspondence:** If you know a Women's PROBUS member who should receive a get-well or condolence card, please let Davinder Grewal know.

**Management Committee Contacts:** Please see the last page of this Newsletter for confidential telephone or email contacts when you need or want to send information.

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#### BC Towns Quiz

A few more – answers on next page

1. Shelter for Panel Truck
2. Gritty Saliva
3. Cathedral in the West
4. Felines Cove
5. Premier's Foot
6. Famous Mom in Chair
7. Dicken's Character
8. Cat's Rug
9. Balcony
10. Soup Stream



#### One-Liners

- No matter how much you push the envelope, it will still be stationery.
- Pasteurize: too far to see.
- The other day I held the door open for a clown; it was a nice jester.
- I'm vaccinated but still want you to stay away from me.



***\*\* ALMOST AUTUMN AT KITSILANO BEACH \*\****

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Answers to BC Towns Quiz

1. Vancouver    2. Sandspit    3. New Westminster    4. Lions Bay    5. Vanderhoof  
6. Whistler    7. Oliver    8. Kitimat    9. Terrace    10. Campbell River

## September Speaker – Holman Wang His Creative Journey Through the World of Publishing

Holman opened his talk with a picture of his first birthday in Canada with his identical twin brother Jack; confessing he did not know which twin is which. This has led to much confusion throughout their lives, perhaps some of it deliberate. He developed artistic skills with Jack growing up and ultimately gained Bachelor of Science and education degrees; teaching in middle school, a Master's in Architecture, and finally a law degree at age 30. All aspects of his education combined to enable him to pursue his artistic endeavors and hone his writing skills; practicing law by day and working on his books in the evening. He lives with his wife and two children in East Vancouver.

The first series of books he and Jack published is *Cozy Classics* for children; condensing classics such as Moby Dick, Pride and Prejudice, War and Peace, Tom Sawyer, Wizard of Oz, etc. to 12 words accompanied by 12 needle-felted images. Holman had to learn the needle-felting process and gave us a fascinating look of using wool to cover forms, generally made of Styrofoam or with wires, to make the Barbie-doll-size figures. Many times a landscape background needed to be created in the same process, as the figures are too small for real settings. We saw many pictures of these images, which can take up 25 to 50 hours to make and, regrettably, Holman has not kept all of them due to lack of space, as they are not suitable to use as toys. This unique artwork has been featured in *The Globe and Mail*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *People*, *Parents*, and *The Guardian*, as well as on radio and TV.

Holman and Jack created storybooks together after the *Cozy Classics* series and both have published books independently. Holman's latest books are "*Great Job, Dad!*" and "*Great Job, Mom*" and, as his children are now ages 10 and 11, he is interested in books with more words aimed at middle-school students. Harry Potter books are very popular with his children.

After obtaining permission from George Lucas, another series of stories features the Star Wars characters and special effects. In 2015, Holman and Jack were astonished when Google approached them to create an image for Google Doodle for the 150<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration of Laura Ingles' Wilder, complete with a log cabin and the figures of Laura and her sister Mary. Holman said this was a unique opportunity to have his work on everyone's computer screen versus going to a bookstore to purchase a book.

He does, of course, support both, and his books are readily available in local bookstores; his publisher is Tundra Books. Holman is a Director of the Vancouver Writer's Festival and he very proudly promotes this October event.

Joan Williams introduced Holman and President Leslie Chang thanked him for his enthusiastic and thoroughly enjoyable talk. Some members will remember being equally enchanted when he spoke to us in August 2015.

Many thanks to Mary Newman for her recap updating Holman's latest creative work.