



NEWSLETTER – June 2022

WOMEN’S PROBUS CLUB OF VANCOUVER

Next meeting: **Tuesday, July 5, 2022**

9:30 a.m. - Arrival
10:00 a.m. - Meeting

Point Grey Golf Club
3350 S.W. Marine Drive,

Vancouver

Masks are optional but recommended.

We wish to acknowledge that we meet on the unceded lands of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh Nations.

Speaker: Geoff Mynett, Author
Topic: The Story of Pioneer BC Doctor Horace Wrinch

GEOFF MYNETT was born in England and in 1973 qualified as a barrister and solicitor in British Columbia. After working as house counsel for a large BC company in Vancouver, he is now retired and pursuing a life-long interest in history and the arts. Research for his books on the history of the Skeena River has taken him to archives and libraries in Toronto, Vancouver, Victoria, Hazelton, and Smithers. He has also drawn upon family papers, photographs and contemporaneous sources to tell this story.



Geoff first visited Hazelton in 1979 with his wife Alice and became fascinated with the small town, its history and its pioneer doctor. Hazelton was settled by non-indigenous traders in 1871, fifteen years before Vancouver was incorporated. One of the most historically rich places in British Columbia, Hazelton was for over forty years the most important town in Northern BC.

Geoff and Alice live in Vancouver and have two sons. He is an artist, enjoys traveling, and is a passionate believer in the importance of knowing our histories. www.geoffmynett.com.

On July 5 he will kindly offer his book “*Service on the Skeena; Horace Wrinch, Frontier Physician*” to us for \$20 (cash), if you wish to purchase it.

His other books, all available in local bookstores, are:
Pinkerton’s and the Hunt for Simon Gunanoot
Murders on the Skeena; True Crime in the Old Canadian West
To be published this year: *River of Mists, People of the Upper Skeena*

Women’s PROBUS of Vancouver:
Contact us:
PROBUS Canada: <https://probus.org>

PROBUS International:

<https://probusglobal.org>

A Message from President Leslie Chang

Dear Members:

This is my last President's Message before my term ends on June 30th.

Despite the challenges the pandemic presented, it was overall an enriching and rewarding experience to serve as your 2021-2022 Probus President. No one can do this job alone and I was fortunate to have the support of a capable, warm, and committed Executive Management Committee.

In particular, I would like to thank our very competent Zoom team of Barbara and Graeme Wynn. We have had eight virtual meetings and four in-person meetings this year. It feels wonderful to finally move back to in-person meetings, and I am looking forward to the year ahead of us.

We certainly took advantage of the opportunity to Zoom several of our speakers in from outside Canada. Dr. Sebastian Marino from the University of Cambridge in the United Kingdom spoke on the James Webb telescope launch; Julie Veloo Zoomed in from Mongolia to share her experience building kindergartens in Mongolia; and we even had a VSO musician Zoom in from a cabin as she was travelling across the US to her destination. Listening to these speakers would not have been possible without the pandemic-induced switch to a virtual setting.

Thank you for giving me this remarkable opportunity - I am leaving the position with many fond memories and I know you will be in the excellent hands of a strong and cohesive team.

Enjoy the summer! Keep safe and stay well.

Yours sincerely,



Vice President Meredyth Kezar, Past President Leslie Chang, President Hodie (Heather) Rondeauy

Leslie Chang

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Activities: The UBC Botanical Garden Tour on Friday, May 27 was filled to the maximum of 15 immediately after an email was sent to all members.

Does anyone want to organize another tour? Contact Webmaster Estelle Jacobson.

A SPRING PROBUS TOUR OF UBC BOTANICAL GARDEN:

At the end of May, a Probus group had an informative guided tour of the UBC Botanical Garden, given by a volunteer, a "*Friend of the Garden (FOG)*".



The afternoon started with a deluge of rain and, as we entered the garden, we passed several beautifully and colourfully attired guests exiting from an outdoor South Asian wedding. For the first few minutes we required umbrellas, then the clouds parted and the sun shone.

Our tour first took us to the "*David Lam Garden*", a second-growth, century-old rain forest, underplanted with Asian trees, shrubs, woody vines, and perennials. We strolled past magnificent Cedars, Douglas Fir, Hemlock, Sorbus (Dogwood), Acers (Maples), and a huge Magnolia, among many other species of tall trees.

Nestled above and over-looking the Salish Sea was a large bald eagle's nest, and often one can hear and see eagles flying overhead. The garden is also known for more than 400 species of Rhododendrons, some of which were still in flower. We then went through a tunnel to the main garden, passing by the newly established Garry Oak Meadow, underplanted with Camassia and other native plants.

After a stop at the Food Garden with its dramatic vine-draped arbour as a backdrop, and espaliered fruit trees and various other fruits and vegetables, all of which are donated to food banks, it was on to the enclosed yew-hedged Physic Garden, to view the medicinal and poisonous plants, some of which derive from seeds taken from the Oxford and Chelsea Physic gardens.



We wandered through the Alpine Garden where exquisite miniature plants grow in old troughs, then passed by the Nth American/Australasian garden, before entering the spectacular Carolinian Forest with various trees and shrubs native to the Appalachian region of Eastern North America.

At the Garden Pavilion, we saw beautiful bird-proofing-filmed windows depicting the four seasons: these were created by a local artist to prevent bird strikes. We ended our informative and diverse tour by walking back through the tunnel to congregate outside the shop and plant centre, where we thanked our guide and disbanded to enjoy the rest of a sunny afternoon.

Submitted by Barbara Wynn

Annual General Meeting:

President Leslie Chang opened the meeting by thanking the greeters Priscilla Brooks-Hill and Isabelle Stroud.

As this was her last meeting as our President, Leslie thanked the Executive and Committee members for their support in 2021/22 when eight meetings continued on Zoom. While we did miss the Social aspect of PROBUS, Zoom allowed an extra dimension to Educational when we were able to Zoom in speakers from the UK (2), Mongolia, and Colorado.



Treasurer Barbara Paterson gave the financial report as of April 2022, including the budget for the next year, and it was approved.

Past President Barbara Wynn introduced the slate of Executive members of the Management

Committee and acknowledged Committee members. (See the Members Only page of this Newsletter for the full list.) She then asked for nominations and, there being none, the slate was approved by those in attendance.

Barbara also acknowledged the contributions of our many volunteers who keep Women’s PROBUS running smoothly and requested one more category be filled – Activity Coordinator.

Leslie was presented with a lovely white orchid from all members of the Club with our thanks for her many hours spent on our behalf.

After the meeting we enjoyed delicious tea sandwiches and a variety of desserts.

New Member: A warm welcome to *Catherine Pallen* and we look forward to meeting her at future meetings.

Guests: Invite your friends to be your guest at a meeting and to join Women’s PROBUS. If they go to our website, www.probuswomen.com, and click Join Us, they will see the application. Our dues are \$80.00 per year payable by September 15 with a one-time initiation fee of \$20.00***.

*** If someone joins in June, July or August, the prorated dues are \$30.00 plus \$20.

Communication: Various updates and reminders will be sent via brief emails and will also be in the Newsletter.

The following items are in the Newsletter month after month and, repetitious as they are, they are **Action Items** and important:

Reminder: Please turn off your cell phones and, as a courtesy, no perfume at PROBUS meetings.

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

Management Committee Contacts: Women’s PROBUS members will find the *confidential* phone numbers and email addresses on the last page of their Newsletter. Please contact them if you have any questions.

Update Your Contact Information: Have you moved, changed your email address or phone number? Please update your profile on the Club’s website <https://probuswomen.com>.

Newsletter: Contributions of stories, poems, jokes and brain teasers are welcome. Please send them to the Newsletter Editor any time you wish.

JUNE SPEAKER

Zulie Sachedina

Globalization, Health Care Challenges in the Post-COVID World



Zulie Sachedina was a fascinating speaker; she is currently General Counsel and Chief Legal Officer at Provincial Health Services Authority. As Vice President and General Counsel of Providence Health Care, she thought she had retired and decided to go back to school to do a LL.M. in Global Health Law and Governance from Georgetown Law Center in Washington, D.C. and the Graduate Institute of International and Developmental Studies in Geneva. She was in Geneva when Covid broke out and had no idea that she would have to go back to Canada and finish her degree online. When she began teaching in UBC's law school she understood how it felt for her students, and soon she ended up working full time.

She told us how she decided, at age sixty, to conquer her irrational fear of being in open water and took up rowing. When you row, where you are going is at your back so that you are not seeing where you are going. You steer by experience and knowledge and glimpses ahead. She equated that with trying to see what the future holds.

Globalization is the road that we have travelled. Going back five centuries, globalization was very slow until the 18th century. In the 1900s there was a huge increase in globalization with a few small dips around famines and world wars. The share of world income going to today's wealthy nations soared from 20% to 70%.

1990-2016 was the Great Convergence. The combination of high tech with low wages propelled industrialization in developing nations and deindustrialization in developed nations.

Now we have moved away from global products to services. First, products were outsourced, then services, and now only 9% of jobs are in manufacturing in the United States; most jobs are service work.

If you looked at the top ten companies in 2006, they were in energy or manufacturing or to do with electricity or high-end market capitalization. In 2011, the top ten companies were all knowledge IT companies. In 2017, it was all knowledge-based industries.

She told us about Amara's Law. We over-estimate the short-term effects of new things and underestimate long-term effects. Some technology takes off with a much bigger impact than first anticipated.

Zulie then talked about the shortage of health-care workers in the world. We think we have a shortage but, when you look at the world at large, we don't. We have far more health-care workers per capita than less wealthy countries, but they often use the services they have more efficiently.

How countries with aging societies will deal with people who need more health care is interesting. Japan, for instance, is making use of robotics. Competition is becoming stiff for obtaining health-care workers.

Before Covid, some countries only gave temporary status to health-care workers. Canada has the advantage of being able to give more permanent status, although harsh weather may be a factor in

where health-care workers choose to live. Covid really needed health-care workers, so they often became exempt from travel bans. Covid also exposed the global scramble for health-care workers.

We have to change the way we operate in health care, and we need to look at health-care systems that we can learn from. For instance, we are second to last next to US in terms of system efficiency of wealthy countries. When spending performance is compared, we are getting 40 cents less for a dollar spent than we should be getting.

Nordic countries are generally doing much better as, if you are qualified to work in one Nordic country, that qualifies you to work in any of the others. In Canada you could train as a physiotherapist in Quebec and have to re-qualify in British Columbia. Also, in Nordic countries they more efficiently stream health care and social services, anticipating where support will be needed in the future.

Health care is no longer a local issue. In Canada, provinces need to be more responsive to the reality of the world. Covid has actually helped us move into the digital age and be more efficient. An example would be our provincial response to vaccination.

Zulie's knowledge and experience helped give us a more global picture by examining the past and showing us ways to steer into the future.

Incoming President Hodie Rondeau introduced the speaker and President Leslie Chang thanked her.

This thought-provoking summary of a fascinating speaker was submitted by Meredyth Kezar.

