

PROBUS Canada:
PROBUS International:

<https://probus.org>
<https://probusglobal.org>

A Message from President Leslie Chang

Dear Members:

After chairing my penultimate PROBUS meeting, I am reflecting on my two-year journey as your Vice President and President. I still recall the day Jane LePorte called to ask me to consider the VP-President track. It caught me off guard. While I was flattered, I was also concerned about the time commitment and my ability to do the job – I had never served as president of anything before!

Jane assured me that I would have a lot of support; but even then, I agonized over my decision. When I finally accepted the challenge, little did I know what was in store for me! The pandemic turned everything upside down. There was pivoting to video-conferencing and dealing with isolation from family and friends. I really despised the “new normal” and longed for our old face-to-face networking. Now that we have moved back to in-person meetings, I feel more alive and energetic knowing that we are all connected and ready to support each other when needed.

I just took my first trip away in April to attend my nephew’s wedding in Toronto. I was skeptical and out of my comfort zone. Also, I hadn’t “dressed up” for almost three years! It felt so good to connect with my husband’s family in Toronto. Seeing everyone brought back a flood of memories from when we used to get together for family reunions and weddings. Socializing more often with friends and family is starting to make me feel more content and whole again.



Finally, I am delighted to share that my daughter Leanna and her husband Parker gave birth to a 7.5-pound baby boy at 9:44 p.m. on May 5, 2022. We are elated to welcome *Brooks Everett Anderson* to our family, and baby and mom are both doing well.

Warm regards, Leslie Chang

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



The Annual General Meeting for the Women’s PROBUS Club of Vancouver will take place on June 7, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. at the Point Grey Golf Club.

We will elect the Management Committee for the July 2022/June 2023 year, and the following names have been put forward. Further nominations may be made at the AGM but must have prior approval of the nominee.

Management Committee 2022/23

Executive

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| President | Hodie (Heather) Rondeau |
| Past President | Leslie Chang |
| Vice President | Meredyth Kezar |
| Treasurer | Barbara Paterson |
| Newsletter Editor | Jane LePorte |
| Webmaster/Membership | Estelle Jacobson |

Committees

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Speakers: | Cheryl Banfield, Jo-Anne Perley-McField, Sydney Hook |
| Newsletter Reporters: | Anne Earthy, Mary Graham, Anne Roberts |
| Greeters Coordinator: | Sharron Williams |
| Membership Services Coordinator: | Mary Gillespie |
| Membership Services: | Pauline Dunlap, Michelle Gambrel, Dorothy Miller, Ann Williams |
| Members at Large: | Donna Battye, Barbara Wynn, Helen Ballam |
| Activity Coordinator: | New position to be filled |

Please see the Treasurer's Income Statement as of April 30, 2022, for Members Only on Page 8.

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MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

After the AGM: Approximately 11:15 on June 7 (after the speaker) sandwiches, sweets, coffee and tea will be provided for our members. We will be sitting at tables for the AGM and Speaker's talk, and for this informal social time.

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.

Perhaps someone would like to organize a walking group or a historic walk with John Atkin, www.johnatkin.com.



Take a walk along the river - trailhead at Balaclava & Celtic

New Members: A warm welcome to these new Women's PROBUS Club members; we look forward to meeting them at future meetings:

*Jo-Anne Perley-McField ** Mackie Chase ** Wendy Baker ** Sydney Hook*

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>.

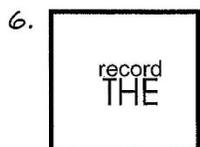
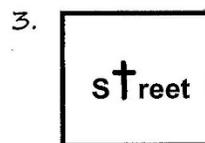
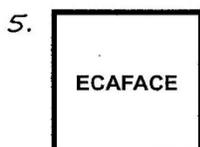
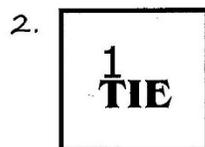
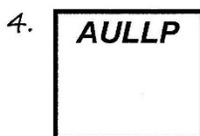
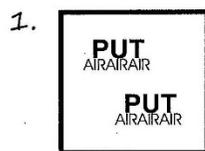


Newsletter: Contributions of stories, poems, jokes and brain teasers are welcome. Please send them to the Newsletter Editor any time you wish.



Can you guess them all?

These **Outside the Box** puzzles will definitely tease your brain!



Answers to the puzzles are on page 7.





MAY SPEAKER

DR. HILARY LETWIN – Museum Curator
The Landscape Architecture of Cornelia Hahn Oberlander

Barbara Kaiser introduced the speaker, Dr. Hilary Letwin, who is the Administrator/Curator of the West Vancouver Art Museum. She co-curated the exhibit “*Genius Loci: Cornelia Hahn Oberlander*” which was co-presented by the West Vancouver Art Museum and the Art Gallery of Alberta. The exhibit is now travelling across Canada. Hilary is coordinating the West Vancouver Modern House Tour which will take place in mid-July. More information on the various events can be found on the West Vancouver Art Museum website: westvancouverartmuseum.ca.

Cornelia Hahn was born in Germany in 1921 and, when she was 18, she escaped the Nazi persecution with her mother and sister and went to England. They emigrated to New Hampshire in 1939, where she earned a BA from Smith College in 1947 and was one of the first women awarded a degree in landscape architecture by Harvard. She met her husband, Peter Oberlander, at Harvard. He had also escaped the Nazis in 1938. They married in 1953 and moved to Vancouver where they had three children.

She founded a small landscape architecture company and was interested in the modern art movement which combined art and architecture to address the connections between urbanism and surrounding natural settings. Her main areas of interest were landscaping design for low-income-housing projects and playgrounds, followed by public buildings and residential properties. One of her first playgrounds was at a public housing project in Vancouver called Skeena Terrace. There were five terraces of homes for families, each of which had a small garden, as well as a high-rise. Cornelia incorporated a vegetable garden and fruit trees to create a sense of community. Her playground designs used natural products like rocks and trees in an unstructured form to encourage children’s imagination, rather than the more structured playgrounds which included swings, slides, etc. Her most well-known one was the Active Playground at the Canadian Pavilion in EXPO 1967 in Montreal. She designed over 70 playgrounds, including one in Inuvik where the native plants were removed while the site was being developed and then later replaced.

Gardens in public buildings include The National Gallery of Canada, which incorporates natural and indigenous plants, and the Northwest Territories’ Legislature, which has a cold and dry climate where she used local trees and grasses. In Vancouver her designs were used at the Robson Square Courthouse and the 9th floor roof garden of the Vancouver Public Library. Residential properties include the Monteverdi Estates in West Vancouver. It includes 20 houses built on a steep hillside and Cornelia retained trees and local plants and added rhododendrons. Her own home on the University Endowment Lands was built on a very narrow lot using deep pillars to create the foundation. It retained most of the existing trees and is built on many levels to give the impression of living in a tree house. In the garden she planted a fruit tree for every child and grandchild.





She worked on 15 projects with Arthur Erickson and won the International Landscape Architecture prize. Very few of her original playgrounds still exist but there is some movement to bring back the more natural designs to replace the structured ones now in existence.

Peter passed away in 2008 and Cornelia died of Covid in 2021, one month shy of her 100th birthday. More information about her can be found on Wikipedia.

Barbara Kaiser introduced her friend, Dr. Letwin, and President Leslie thanked her for a comprehensive talk about Cornelia Oberlander's innovative landscapes.

Thanks to Anne Roberts for her summary conveying the highlights of Cornelia's long, renowned career.

Pop-ups for the Lexophiles:

She had a photographic memory but it was never fully developed.

A backward poet writes in verse.

A bicycle can't stand alone; it is two tired.

Bakers trade bread recipes on a knead to know basis.

The math professor went crazy with the blackboard. He did a number on it.

Answers to Brain Teasers on page 5 ...



1. To put on airs
2. Tie one on
3. Across the street
4. All mixed up
5. Face to face
6. On the record

