



NEWSLETTER – November 2022

WOMEN'S PROBUS CLUB OF VANCOUVER

Next meeting: **Tuesday, December 13, 2022**
9:30 a.m. - Arrival Point Grey Golf Club
10:00 a.m. - Meeting 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.

Invite a guest to hear:

Speaker: Magdalena How, M.Mus
Topic: An Opera Singer's Journey



Magdalena How

magdalenhowsoprano@gmail.com



Coloratura soprano Magdalena How will discuss the myriad challenges that face a classical voice student as they journey from beginner to professional, including tackling singing (and acting!) in foreign languages, learning to sing through all parts of your vocal range, singing emotionally demanding pieces, and mastering a wide variety of repertoire. To illustrate, she will perform some of the landmark pieces from her own "*singer's journey*," from early art songs to classical opera standards to Broadway favourites.

She is currently working towards her Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Opera Performance at the University of British Columbia under the tutelage of Nancy Hermiston. Magdalena has loved music all her life and performed in musicals recreationally as a child before discovering opera, a discovery which prompted her to begin to train classically at the age of 16. She is grateful to have been the recipient of numerous performance and academic awards, including the University of BC Medal in Music. Her recent roles include Susanna in Mozart's *Le nozze di Figaro* (UBC Opera), Olympia (Offenbach's *Les Contes d'Hoffmann*), and Queen of the Night (Mozart's *Die Zauberflöte*) with UBC Opera, along with appearances with the Kamloops Symphony Orchestra (Fauré *Requiem*) and frequent performances around Vancouver.

Women's PROBUS of Vancouver: <https://probuswomen.com>
Contact us: PROBUSwomen@gmail.com
PROBUS Canada: <https://probus.org>
PROBUS International: <https://probusglobal.org>

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

President Hodie called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM and thanked Greeters Marian MacFarlane and Holly McMillan.

She also announced a Management Committee change: Estelle Jacobson, Webmaster & Membership Chair, has resigned both of these positions to devote more time to other interests. She took us into the world of technology in 2015 by creating two subsequent websites for Women's PROBUS members, and prospective members. While Estelle will continue to attend meetings, she was not there on November 1. We will thank her when we see her next for all her hard work in creating an interesting, informative website.

Fortunately, our President, Hodie Rondeau, is very capably taking over the maintenance and development of the website; we are very grateful!

We do have an opening for **Membership Chair** – Please volunteer! While most new members are joining via the website, a few will send you their application and cheque. You will send a welcome letter and have a badge ordered. In September you will follow up with members who are slow to renew, as advised by Treasurer Barbara Paterson.



Future Meetings

Reminder - December 13th is the next meeting.

January 3 will be via Zoom as Point Grey Golf Club is closed.

The silver lining is that we will have a remote speaker from Vernon: writer and journalist Patti Shales Lefkos, who will speak about her travel memoir *Nepal One Day at a Time*. Her website, www.pattishaleslefkos.com, will tell you more.

You have been asking why no Coffee and Tea before meetings?

When the Point Grey Golf Club opened again for in-person events, its new catering policy is to assess a minimum spend of \$2,500.00. This applies even if we have a PGGC sponsor for our meetings. This amount is not unreasonable for weddings, celebration of life, all-day meetings, etc., but it is over our budget for just coffee and tea, even though PGGC has given us a special minimum of \$2,000.00.

We do have the able assistance of PGGC's Catering Manager, Katie Zadorozny, for technical help with connecting the projector and speaker's computer - priceless!

WE NEED NEW MEMBERS:

As with many other organizations, our membership numbers are down along with attendance at the meetings. There are many reasons for this, but we have great speakers which your friends, family members, and acquaintances will enjoy. Please invite them to a meeting and ask them to join. The application will be found at www.probuswomen.com; click Join Us.

Reminder: Do leave your cell phones on throughout the meeting, douse yourselves with perfume, but be overjoyed about the PGGC defibrillator because you will wait a long time for an ambulance.

Management Committee Contacts: Still confidential but there are changes on the last page of your Newsletter with some vacancies. Please don't be reluctant to help.

Update Your Contact Information: Entirely up to you, of course, especially if you don't read the Newsletter or want meeting reminders via email.

Newsletter: Another "action item" which has done no good at all; please see a previous Newsletter if you haven't deleted it.

(Wordles) Thoughts for the Day

Even if you are on the right track, you'll get run over if you just sit there. *Will Rogers*

I am a kind of paranoiac in reverse. I suspect people of plotting to make me happy.
J.D. Salinger

The only winner in the War of 1812 was Tchaikovsky. *Solomon Short*

To err is human, to blame the next guy even more so. *Unknown*

Smiles

A plumber fixed a leak in a doctor's house, then billed him for \$1,000. "This is ridiculous!" the doctor said. "I don't even charge that much." The plumber said, "Neither did I when I was a doctor".

Woman vs. Man

A husband read an article to his wife about how many words women use a day: "30,000 to a man's 15,000."

The wife replied, "The reason has to be because we have to repeat everything to men." The husband then turned to his wife and asked, "What?"

My kids laugh because they think I'm crazy.

I laugh because they don't know it's hereditary.



Meredyth Kezar



NOVEMBER SPEAKER

TRICIA SMITH – President of the Canadian Olympic Committee (COC)
The Importance of Sport and an Update on a Potential Indigenous-led Bid for the 2023 Olympic and Paralympic Games

Char Warren introduced Dr. Tricia Smith. Educated in Vancouver, Tricia earned an LLB and later an honorary Doctorate of Laws from UBC. From 1976 to 1988 Tricia rowed, and won, many medals for Canada in Commonwealth, World and Olympic Games. She is a member of the UBC, BC and Canadian Olympic Sports Halls of Fame and a member of the Order of Canada and British Columbia. She has been president of the COC since 2015. Tricia has spent over 35 years working to expand opportunities for girls and women in sports. She has been named one of the most influential women in sport.

Tricia began by explaining that her role as president of the COC is a volunteer role. The COC is a not-for-profit organization that gets its funds from private sector sponsorships. The members of COC are sports federations and sports organizations. Its role is to support the Olympic Games and its athletes, to promote Olympism in Canadians through a healthy lifestyle, to promote good governance and best practices in sport and to support the culture of sport and safe sport for all. Participating in sports is important. Tricia grew up in an athletic family and experienced all the positive things that sports can bring to a person's life. Through sport you learn to work together, to respect others, to work hard, to have fun and it gives us many opportunities to leave the world a better place.

Tricia then spoke about the Olympics, the bid process and how the indigenous-led bid proposal for the 2030 Olympics evolved. When Vancouver/Whistler hosted the 2010 Olympics the four first nations were "*invited to the party*" as equals with the COC. They participated in the opening and closing ceremonies, designed the medals, took part as athletes and were generally included in all the celebrations. This was the first time that the four nations had worked together as one unit. The 2030 bid project would not have happened if the 2010 Olympics had not brought them together. The difference in the 2030 bid is that the four host nations were involved in visioning and planning the bid. They then invited the COC into the process.

Since 2010 the Truth and Reconciliation report has given us new guidelines to follow, and the COC is committed to these. The two groups have the support of the federal government and when they met with Premier Horgan to discuss the idea of a feasibility study he was very open to seeing the results of this work. Unfortunately, in recent days the BC government has announced that they will not support this indigenous-led bid in spite of the fact that they did not meet with the groups to discuss the completed study. Tricia feels that there is still hope that the BC government leaders will support the bid. The 2030 games would show concrete action in the Truth and Reconciliation process.

Tricia ended by saying "*No matter what happens, we will be better because of it*"!!

Cheryl Banfield thanked Tricia for her knowledgeable and engaging talk.

This talk included compelling benefits from a 2030 Games, both financial and social, which are outlined at <https://www.gamesengagement.ca/learn-more>. You may wish to contact David Eby, Ken Sim and your MLA to encourage them to meet with the two groups to discuss the completed study.