



WOMEN'S PROBUS CLUB OF VANCOUVER

Next meeting: **Tuesday, March 7, 2023**
9:30 a.m. - Arrival Point Grey Golf Club
10:00 a.m. - Meeting 3350 S.W. Marine Drive

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

Masks are optional but recommended

Speaker:
Douglas Justice

Topic:
Ornamental Cherries
in Vancouver



Douglas Justice is the Associate Director, Horticulture & Collections, at UBC Botanical Garden, an adjunct professor in the School of Architecture and Landscape Architecture at UBC, and the Program Manager and an instructor for the Botanical Garden's Horticulture Training Program.

He is also an active member of a number of local, national and international plant and garden organizations. Douglas co-authored *The Jade Garden: New and Notable Plants from Asia*, with UBC Botanical Garden colleagues Brent Hine and Peter Wharton.

He wrote a Field Guide to Ornamental Cherries in Vancouver with volunteers from the Vancouver Cherry Blossom Festival, and recently co-authored the book, *The Lives of Leaves* with Dan Crowley.

Douglas wrote the text for the mobile app *Vancouver Trees* and is now working to complete a similar volume describing cultivated shrubs in Vancouver.

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

FEBRUARY SPEAKER

Sheryl MacKay

-Life on the Air

For twenty-two years many of us began our Saturdays and Sundays listening to Sheryl on CBC's North by Northwest program.

An intoxicating love of radio was first instilled as a child listening to PEI stations, and when the wave lengths permitted, New York stations in the evenings where interesting, exotic (rock) music was played.

University was recommended and Sheryl graduated from SFU, and deferring law school, began her career with CBC in the early 80's as a researcher on a weekday program "Daybreak". Bob Sharples was the host and he was life-changing for Sheryl's career when he acted as ombudsman for the people who called in after the show with their concerns.

Sheryl returned to her Prince Edward Island roots to produce an afternoon show featuring history, community, arts, and personal stories; themes she has continued throughout her career.

She traveled through PEI and met one farmer whose barn had burned down with all cattle lost; Sheryl, the farmer, cameraman, and no doubt the audience were in floods of tears in the one minute segment. After learning of a man taping personal stories, some of which she used in her show, she encouraged him to do more and hundreds of these oral stories are now archived at the University of PEI.

After enrolling in a community college course in journalism she found the class had to self-teach as the once renowned professor did not come to classes due to a problem with alcohol.

Sheryl returned to BC and joined North by Northwest. She told us about some of her memorable interviews, some early ones causing great trepidation and anxiety:

Salman Rushdie dispelled her fears when he told her a pre-show hilarious story about visiting Bono with

Van Morrison and bouncing around on pogo sticks in Bono's living room. Salman turned out to be a great comedian on air.

Margaret Atwood seemed unfriendly but actually *couldn't* shake hands as it was during SARS and she had come from Toronto.

Alexander McCall-Smith was another delightful guest.

Curtis Stone - a very handsome Australian chef

Anthony Bourdain visited three times, and was delightful and handsome.

June Goldsmith joined Sheryl "on the road" to encourage local performers

Frank Ritchie did hiking suggestions (he will do podcasts also)

The only difficult interview was with someone who did not have a command of English.

Sheryl's very favorite interviews were with people who had never been interviewed before who thought they had nothing to say. They thoroughly enjoyed telling their story.

A big regret, she didn't make a list of the hundreds of people she interviewed.



Did any Women's PROBUS members participate in the scarf exchange?

Traveling around the Province to many remote places led to interesting experiences:

- Courtney music fest – almost no internet connection
- Fort St. John – minus 43 degrees and mid program the power went out
- Kelowna – no one came
- Victoria – people came in their pj's from nearby houseboats

Sheryl is continuing her conversations around BC on her podcast:

[Listen with Sheryl MacKay https://www.sherylmackay.com](https://www.sherylmackay.com)

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

February Meeting:

We were warmly greeted by Marijke Crosby, and Jo-Anne Perley-McField on arrival at PGGC.

President Hodie opened the meeting at 10:00 AM, acknowledging we meet on the unceded lands of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh Nations.

Past President Leslie Chang gave the list of Management Committee positions to be filled for the July 2023/June 2024 year; the Terms of Reference (job description) are available to help you make the decision of which role to take. **Please volunteer.**

Vice President – this position could be shared to continue in 2024/25 as President. This is common in many other PROBUS Clubs to allow for travel absences, etc.

Membership Chair – as most new members join via our web site, this entails processing a few applications paid by cheque plus any dues paid by cheque prior to September. Follow up regarding membership renewal may be necessary.

Newsletter Editor – compiles meeting announcements, special event information, the speaker's summary, and bio/topic for the next speaker (provided by the Speaker's Committee). Currently the Webmaster formats the Newsletter; future Editors may wish to format it themselves, and the Webmaster sends the Newsletter via email.

Treasurer – Treasurer Barbara has filled this role splendidly for ten years; she would like a replacement or, at the very least, backup.

Vice President Meredyth announced we have a Club Facebook page and the link will be on the front cover of the next Newsletter. Please sign on if you use Facebook.

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.

Newsletter:

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

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.



For the fun of it...

A Story about Four People...

This is a story about four people named Everybody, Somebody, Anybody and Nobody.

There were important jobs to be done and Everybody was sure that Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it but Nobody did it.

Somebody got angry about that because it was Everybody's job. Everybody thought Anybody could do it but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn't do it.

It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when actually Nobody accused Anybody.

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>

