



November 2023
NEWSLETTER

WOMEN'S PROBUS CLUB OF VANCOUVER

Next meeting: **Tuesday, Dec.5th, 2023**

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

Point Grey Golf Club
3350 S.W. Marine Drive

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

Masks are optional

DECEMBER SPEAKER

Speaker:
**Ashlie Corcoran, Artistic
Director of The Arts
Club**

Topic: **"Life Cycle" of a
Play"**



Ashlie Corcoran will give us the inside scoop on how she selects plays for the theatre season, and the "life cycle" of a play - how it develops from a playwright's inspiration to performance on a stage.

Ms. Corcoran (she/her) has been the Artistic Director of the Arts Club since 2018, during which time she has The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time, The Matchmaker, Bed & Breakfast, Cost of Living, The Sound of Music, Redbone Coon-hound, Teenage Dick, Beautiful: The Carole King Musical, and Little Shop of Horrors for the company.

Originally from White Rock, BC, Corcoran directs both theatre and opera, working across Canada and internationally. She was the Artistic Director of the Thousand Is-lands Playhouse in Gananoque, Ontario, from 2012 to 2017, where she directed 15 productions. She is also the co-founder and Artistic Producer for Theatre Smash in Toronto, a British Foreign and Commonwealth Office Chevening Scholar, and a member of the Lincoln Center Directors Lab. Other credits include The Magic Flute & The Barber of Seville (Vancouver Opera); Me and My Girl (Shaw Festival); Mamma Mia!, Little Shop of Horrors & Cost of Living (Citadel Theatre); Das Ding (The Thing) (Theatre Smash/Canadian Stage/TIP); Kiss (Theatre Smash/Canadian Stage/ARC); The Ugly One, Durango, The Boy Called Newfoundland, Tijuana Cure (Theatre Smash); The Gay Heritage Project (Buddies in Bad Times Theatre/National Tour); Bed & Breakfast (Centaur Theatre/Belfry Theatre); The Ugly One, Mustard (Tarragon Theatre); The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, Waiting for the Parade, Driving Miss Daisy, Blithe Spirit, Don't Dress for Dinner, The Birds & the Bees (Western Canada Theatre); and 10 projects at the Canadian Opera Company, most recently The Magic Flute and The Magic Victrola.

Women's PROBUS of Vancouver:
Contact us:
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NOVEMBER SPEAKER

Associate Chief Justice Heather Holmes

“Court System – Particularly, Changes from COVID”

Honourable Madam Justice Heather Holmes, Associate Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of British Columbia. ACJ Holmes will briefly describe for us the structure of the courts in BC and how the courts are populated with judges. She talked about the “silver lining” for modernization of the courts offered by the Covid-19 pandemic; and noted some of the challenges as well as the successes that have resulted in long-lasting change.

She gave us an overall picture of the court system in BC & Canada, noting that she has presided over some high-profile cases. In BC, there are 97 Justices covering 30 courthouses. Each Justice spends 4-6 weeks /year traveling to the more remote areas.

Trials are by judge only, vs those with juries.

The courthouses range from multi-story, multi courtroom to single courtroom facilities. During the pandemic, it became necessary to look at options to consider the need to adapt the system for medical safety.

In order to make changes, this had to include:

- considerations of privacy vs public access.
- document management systems were improved

- funding for tech improvements, including:
 - video capabilities
 - increased bandwidth at each of the courthouses, no matter how remote
 - plexiglass in all areas
- innovative jury selection – BC lead the way
- inter-government communication
- inter-lawyer group communication.

The challenges are ongoing, but ever-improving.



B.C. Supreme Court Associate Chief Justice Heather Holmes and Eric Gottardi, one of Huawei chief financial officer Meng Wanzhou's lawyers, are seen in this Jan. 20, 2020, illustration.

Heather was appointed Associate Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of British Columbia in June 2018. She has been a justice of the court since March 2001. Prior to her judicial appointment, and for much of her career as a lawyer, she was Crown Counsel with the Commercial Crime Section, Ministry of the Attorney General of British Columbia,

specializing in securities fraud prosecutions, and commercial crime trials and appeals.

She also spent four years (1991-1995) as counsel with the Criminal Law Policy Section, Department of Justice, Canada, in Ottawa, where she developed recommendations for criminal law reform and provided advice and support to the Minister of Justice.

Wendy Baker introduced; Mary Graham thanked

Meeting Notes:

Thank you's to the greeters & badge ladies!

Yes, Volunteers are very much needed!

Membership, recording, newsletter content, treasurer.

Have you heard... We're moving!

PGGC notified us that next year they will be unable to accommodate us for 6 months next year.

Meredyth looked at several locations, & all agreed that **UBC Golf Course** is the best option.

As a bonus, we will be able to offer coffee & tea... details to follow.

This will start for the February meeting; January will be by Zoom.



Instead of the John I call my bathroom the Jim!
That way it sounds better when I say I go to the Jim first thing every morning!!!

Book Recommendations (Or Not)

Invisible Women: Data Bias in a World Designed for Men

by Caroline Criado Pérez

A very interesting look at the inherent biases from economic development, to healthcare, to education and public policy as a result of most data not including women.

The School for Good Mothers

by Jessamine Chan

If anyone reads this, could you please let me know your thoughts... I have many. (Hodie)

• **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 Hodie any if you have any questions, or email probuswomens@gmail.com.

• **Newsletter:**

Contributions of anything, including stories, poems, jokes and brain teasers are welcome. Please send to the Hodie any time.

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>
Or email womensprobus@gmail.com

