



The Women's Probus Club of
North Shore Vancouver

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NEWSLETTER

June 2022

Vol 15: No 10

Probus AGM and Speaker Meeting at Kay Meek Arts Centre in Person
Monday, June 20, 2022 AT 10:00 AM
and

June 20th Refreshments Al Fresco



between **9:15 – 9:45 am**

Kay Meek Outdoor Patio Lobby Level
Come **Early** before the **10:00 am** meeting
Socialize with Coffee, Tea and Pastries



10:00 am Annual General Meeting will be held first – to approve the Management Committee for 2022/2023 and approve the Club's financial statement. And then we will move smartly to the Speaker for June – Mr. John Pyrik who will be talking about Affinity Fraud.

[PRESS HERE TO BOOK YOUR SEAT FOR THE JUNE AGM AND SPEAKER MEETING](#)

And please remember to bring your ticket, the June Covid Waiver form and your name badge to the meeting.

June 20, 2022 Speaker: John Pyrik spent 27 years in government. As an intelligence officer, he worked in counter-terrorism and counter-proliferation. As a securities investigator, he investigated market fraud, broker misconduct, and insider trading. As an analyst, he uncovered money laundering and terrorism financing. Since retiring, he teaches part-time in the Graduate Studies program of the Justice Institute of British Columbia (JIBC).

John Pyrik will discuss Affinity Fraud. TOPIC: "Investor Beware!" - Affinity fraud occurs when the fraudster claims something in common with the victim to lower their guard. Many people, even well-educated professionals, are defrauded this way. A former investigator for the BC Securities Commission will talk about some of his cases and what you can do to protect yourself.



Mr. Pyrik will be joined by members of the West Vancouver Police Service – **Sgt. Mark McLean, Supervisor, Community Services**, and **Constable Nicole Braithwaite** who will talk about the kinds of frauds which are currently occurring in West Vancouver.

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – June 2022

Dear Probus Ladies,

We are coming to a wrap of this year with our Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Speaker June 20<sup>th</sup> and a Special Refreshment Al Fresco served outdoors on the Kay Meek Lobby level patio between 9:15 and 9:45 am. AGM Notice and materials have been forwarded to all members to vote on in-person at the June meeting. **The AGM Notice and Motions to approve the 2022-2023 Management Committee member slate and 2021-2022 Financial Statement are included in this newsletter for your review to vote on at the June AGM and Speaker meeting.**

It has been a challenging and busy year for the Club with changing COVID protocols, alternating between ZOOM and in-person meetings at our new Kay Meek venue, launching a new website, and bringing our newsletter production and mailings in-house. We saw continued strong member participation in both ZOOM and in-person attendance of meetings and at our Christmas Event with the Hot Mammias.

It was all possible through the efforts and hard work of our volunteer Management Committee members, putting all this together throughout the year. We are now renewing memberships for the coming year with the deadline of June 30<sup>th</sup> and new members are welcome. We are continuing next year at Kay Meek Arts Centre for our meetings and plan pre-meeting social periods with refreshments in the lobby starting in September. Our Programs Committee is already lining up some interesting speakers for the fall. We also plan to organize special member outing events throughout the year.

We have some retiring MC members we say a deserved thanks and farewell, Alison Parkinson, Georgie Reddington, Wendie Kottmeier and Gail Fleming. We also are welcoming some new volunteer members to join our team Johanna Harrison and Barbara Budzynski. There is lots to do and more volunteers are needed so please consider getting involved.

As your current President, I am on the slate to serve a 2<sup>nd</sup> term as your President next year and look forward to a post-COVID activity filled new year ahead for the Club and welcoming you all back in September.

Sincerely  
Carolyn Armstrong, President

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Women's Probus Club of North Shore Vancouver
2022 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING NOTICE



The AGM will be held on **Monday June 20th** at 10:00 am Preceding the Speaker session at Kay Meek Arts Centre. There are two motions to approve at the AGM by members' votes.

- 1 Motion to Approve the proposed Management Committee Slate for 2022-2023** with many returning members and several new members Moved by: Anne Carroll and Margaret Landstrom – Nominating Committee
 - PRESIDENT – Carolyn Armstrong (2nd term)
 - VICE PRESIDENT – Vacant
 - SECRETARY – Heather Miller
 - PAST PRESIDENT –
 - TREASURER – Joanne Thorpe
 - PROGRAMS – Allison Shand, Gail Youldon (Zoom)
 - MEMBERSHIP – Diana Sonderhoff, Marie Harlow (Website)
 - HOUSE – Fran Hodgkins, Joanne Pugh
 - COMMUNICATIONS – Alison Watt (Newsletter)
 - SPECIAL EVENTS – Johanna Harrison, Barbara Budzynski
 - MEMBER AT LARGE – (Communications) – Vacant
 - MEMBER AT LARGE – (Programs) - Vacant

2 Motion to Approve the 2021-2022 Financial Statement of Revenues and Expenses.
 Moved by: Joanne Thorpe and Alison Watt

Preliminary Statement as of May 18, 2022 for Fiscal Year ending May 31, 2022
 (pending final audit)

THE WOMEN'S PROBUS CLUB OF THE NORTH SHORE VANCOUVER

STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENSES

	June 1, 2021 to May 31, 2022	June 1, 2020 to May 31, 2021	June 1, 2019 to May 31, 2020
REVENUE			
Membership Dues	\$ 27,830.00	\$ 810.00	\$ 24,335.00
Interest	\$ 20.00	\$ 237.50	\$ 258.33
Guest Fees	\$ -	\$ 5.00	\$ 180.00
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 27,850.00	\$ 1,052.50	\$ 24,773.33
EXPENSES			
Management Meetings	\$ 224.00	\$ 224.00	\$ 980.46
Speaker Meetings	\$ 4,180.70	\$ 1,273.75	\$ 9,467.32
Speaker Honourarium	\$ 1,700.00	\$ 800.00	\$ 1,600.00
Special Event Christmas	\$ 3,447.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 3,911.41
Probus Canada	\$ 816.00	\$ 892.50	\$ 855.00
Administrative Costs	\$ 2,488.00	\$ 842.79	\$ 1,144.83
Website - Stargate	\$ 882.50		
Newsletter GLUU	\$ 18.00	\$ 735.00	\$ 813.75
Bank Charges	\$ 161.50	\$ 45.42	\$ 85.60
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 13,917.70	\$ 5,213.46	\$ 18,858.37
less Pending Expenses		\$ -	\$ -
REVENUE over EXPENSES	\$ 13,932.30	\$ (4,160.96)	\$ 5,914.96

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

	As at May 31, 2022	As at May 31, 2021	As at May 31, 2020
ASSETS			
Bank	\$ 23,841.55	\$ 13,793.46	\$ 14,070.05
GIC	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 38,841.55	\$ 28,793.46	\$ 29,070.05
LIABILITIES and EQUITY			
LIABILITIES			
Prepaid Membership Dues	\$ -	\$ 3,115.00	\$ -
Pending Expenses	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 769.37	\$ -
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 3,884.37	\$ -
EQUITY			
Opening Equity	\$ 24,909.00	\$ 29,070.05	\$ 23,155.09
Operating Surplus	\$ 13,932.30	\$ (4,160.96)	\$ 5,914.96
CLOSING EQUITY	\$ 38,841.30	\$ 24,909.09	\$ 29,070.05
TOTAL LIABILITIES and EQUITY	\$ 37,641.30	\$ 28,793.46	\$ 29,070.05

Notes:

1. Due to unprecedented COVID impacts on the Club revenue and expenses, Member dues were not collected in 2020-2021 and many in-person meetings were replaced with ZOOM, three years 2021/22, 2020/21 and 2019/20 are presented for comparison
2. 2021-2022 – New venue at Kay Meek Arts Centre for speaker meetings
3. Website expenses include one time development costs of \$612.00
4. GLUU – Discontinued GLUU newsletter and mailing service
5. Admin Costs – includes special Probus Chocolate mold and foiled coins

Due to the unprecedented Covid year 2020-2021, where no member dues were collected and no in-person meetings were held, there is a significant variance between last year and this year's statements. We therefore include as a reference year 2019-2020 statement where dues were collected and in-person meetings held for comparison with our 2021-2022 year financials.

Voting: The current President will call to open the Annual General Meeting and propose each of the above motions. Each motion will be voted on individually by members present at the meeting by a show of raised hands. Designated volunteers will count the hands and the motions will be determined whether to pass. At the end of voting, the AGM will be closed and the speaker session will begin.

Report of the 2021 AGM

The 2021 AGM was held by electronic ballot in June 2021. 119 members accessed the AGM voting link and voted, and the quorum was met.

- 1 Motion to approve the 2021/22 Management Committee - Approved unanimously
- 2 Motion to approve 2020-2021 Financial Statement - Approved unanimously
- 3 Motion to approve the Bylaw Amendment to commence using and circulating a membership roster to the members - Approved with 3 abstentions

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### **May Speaker on Monday May 16, 2022 10:00 – at Kay Meek Arts Centre DAN FUMANO – Vancouver Sun and Province newspaper journalist**

Dan Fumano gave a very informative presentation on mis-information, dis-information and fake news at our May 2022 meeting. There have always been ways for this kind of information to spread: what is different today is the way and speed with which this misinformation can be spread – primarily through social media.

Most people in North America now get some or the majority of their news electronically, but we need to exercise caution when we see news on-line. Showing an example from the Buffalo Chronicle (which appears on-line but actually doesn't exist) – Dan indicated a couple of clues to look out for are whether there are any journalists' bylines and whether articles contain unnamed sources.

He went on to discuss how these elements of misinformation impact people through what is known as "Confirmation bias" – where people interpret information in ways that corroborate their own existing views on matters.

Dan illustrated his talk with several topical examples in social media – namely some exaggerated illustrations about the impact of plans for Vancouver's Broadway corridor (which Dan wrote about in the Vancouver Sun on 18 May, a couple of days after our meeting), and a social media post about housing on the North Shore where a real estate photo of a house for sale, had been used erroneously to post some bizarre, unpleasant and inaccurate information about rentals which had been shared or retweeted several hundred times. Also mentioned was social media circulating in Squamish which appears to be local but is in fact anonymous.

Many thanks to Dan Fumano for a very interesting and thoughtful presentation.

## **Covid-19 Virus Pandemic Waiver JUNE 2022 – PLEASE BRING THIS TO THE MEETING**

PROBUS CANADA and its local clubs do not have any liability insurance coverage for COVID-19 virus pandemic claims. The Club was informed the insurance industry no longer offers such liability insurance as of the end of last year. As a result, this leaves our local Women's PROBUS Club of North Shore Vancouver, its Officers and Directors as well as members at risk for any claims related to any health risks or adverse health consequences, arising as a result of in-person participation in the Club's events.

The Club along with Kay Meek Arts Centre follow all BC Health Covid Guidelines and provide in our newsletters and on our website COVID Meeting Protocols for members to follow to stay safe. However, due to the highly contagious nature of the COVID virus, no in-person event can be entirely risk free. Therefore, members are asked to sign a COVID Liability Waiver accepting the inherent risks in contacting the virus, and indemnifying the Club, Management Committee, members and venue owners from any liability.

A Waiver form is sent as a **separate attachment with this newsletter** dated for the upcoming June 20<sup>th</sup> AGM and Speaker Event at Kay Meek Arts Centre. Please print it, sign it and bring it with you to the theatre. There will also be forms on entrance in the Lobby to sign if you forget or do not have access to a printer. We appreciate your understanding in these challenging circumstances.

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MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS for 2022-2023 DUE JUNE 30TH, 2022

It is time for Membership Renewal for the coming 2022 – 2023 year. We are keeping Membership Fees at the same \$100.00 and are continuing our monthly meetings at the Kay Meek Arts Centre. The membership package was sent to members by email on 1st May consisting of a Membership Renewal Form and a Covid Liability Waiver Form for 2022/23. Members need to fill out the forms and submit along with a cheque by **no later than June 30th, 2022**. The Covid Liability Waiver Form signed with Renewal will be good for all Club events for the coming year. Bank transfer payments are not available for payments this year. Members can either mail in their signed forms with a cheque, or drop them off at the desk in the Kay Meek Lobby at the June meeting. Members not renewing will be removed from the mailing list and access to the Club's website "Members Information" section blocked as new passwords will be issued to renewing members.

On the Membership form there is a section for your input on what topics you would be interested in hearing from speakers. Your feedback is welcome. Members' support during this challenging COVID year through participation at meetings either via Zoom or in-person at Kay Meek has been incredible. We look forward to welcoming you back to a year where we can be more social while attending meetings with notable speakers providing topical and stimulating thought. Looking forward to having you again next year.

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## Schedule of Meetings 2022/2023

### 2022

- Monday, September 19, 2022
- Monday, October 17, 2022
- Monday, November 21, 2022
- Monday, December 19, 2022 – Christmas event

### 2023

- Monday, January 16, 2023
- Monday, February 13, 2023
- Monday, March 20, 2023
- Monday, April 17, 2023
- Monday, May 15, 2023
- Monday, June 19, 2023 - AGM

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WEBSITE

We hope you started to access our website. The Members Information section is password protected for current members only – password is **NSW2020**. Check regularly for updated information:

- Most recent Newsletter – you will always have access to your newsletter as well as past copies
- COVID-19 Protocols and Waiver of Liability
- Photo Gallery
- Volunteer Positions needed - Want to volunteer, check positions open now
- PROBUS Travel Insurance – If you are travelling, it is worth checking into the PROBUS discount with Johnson, Inc. MEDOC Travel Insurance

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The camas lily holds a place of special significance to the Coast Salish peoples of the Pacific Northwest. The plant's edible bulbs were a starchy staple of the local First Nations diet up until the early 1900s.

Find out more about camus lily at

<https://terralingua.org/2020/05/12/camas/>



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We acknowledge the opportunity to live, work, play, and learn on the traditional territory of the Squamish (skw̓xwú7mesh), Tsleil-Waututh (selílwitlh), and Musqueam (xʷməθkʷəy̓əm) peoples.