



The Women's Probus Club of North Shore Vancouver

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www.wprobusnsvan.com password WP2324

February 2024

NEWSLETTER

Vol. 17: No. 5

Meeting at West Vancouver Yacht Club – Please Note

DAY of Meeting CHANGED TO TUESDAY – IMPORTANT

Tuesday 20th February, 2024, at 10:00 with refreshments at 9:15 am

Speaker: Dr. Hilary Letwin, West Vancouver Art Museum

**Speaking about the great Canadian landscape architect – the late Cornelia Hahn
Oberlander**

As we mentioned in the January newsletter, due to major construction underway at the West Vancouver High School for the new track and field facilities until the winter of 2025, the parking lots are now closed during the daytime for the foreseeable future. The Spring speakers sessions of our Probus Club have therefore been relocated to the West Vancouver Yacht Club.

The monthly meeting dates will remain the same except for this month now being held on Tuesday 20 February and the May meeting. The meeting costs including room rental and refreshments are similar to those at Kay Meek, so there should be no change to our budgets. We will continue meetings at WVYC through to June and reconsider venue options going into next year, and with the potential of returning to Kay Meek when parking is available again.

Parking is available at the WVYC. There is parking in front of the club house and just to the west of the sailing school smaller building. There is also lots of parking at Thunderbird Marina, east of the Yacht club, but it is a bit of a walk along Marine Drive and no sidewalk. There is also a smaller parking lot at the marina just west of the yacht club, shorter walk along Marine Drive, again no sidewalks. We encourage members to

carpool. Another alternative is the West Vancouver Blue 250 bus which stops right outside the WVYC. Travelling by car on the Upper Levels Highway, take Exit 2, Eagleridge Drive down to Marine Drive, turn left on Marine Drive to the Yacht Club.



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Tuesday, February 20, 2024 Speakers: Dr. Hilary Letwin
Please note the change of DATE and DAY
(WVYC could not accommodate us on our original date of 26 February)

As there is a fair amount of COVID, influenza and RSV around at the moment,
please consider wearing a mask.

Dr. Hilary Letwin, West Vancouver Art Museum – Tuesday February 20, 2024 WV Yacht Club

Title: *Genius Loci: An Introduction to the Landscape Architecture of Cornelia Hahn Oberlander*

Cornelia Hahn Oberlander (1921-2021) was among the most eminent landscape architects in the world, known for many projects in Canada and abroad. Her landscape designs demonstrate her desire to create terrains that are less an interruption and more an amplification of what already exists on a site. This talk will highlight a selection of her projects, including residential projects, her large public projects, such as the roof of the Vancouver Public Library, and her playgrounds, including that designed for Expo'67 in Montreal.



Hilary Letwin is one of two co-curators for *Genius Loci: Cornelia Hahn Oberlander*, an exhibition co-presented from 2021 to 2023 by the West Vancouver Art Museum and the Art Gallery of Alberta, supported by Heritage Canada. The exhibition has been shown in West Vancouver, Edmonton, Winnipeg, and Toronto. Letwin gained her PhD in Art History from Johns Hopkins University in 2013. She has held Curatorial Fellowships at the British Museum and the Baltimore Museum of Art. Recent projects include *Losing Control of the Landscape: Ross Penhall* (2023), *Douglas Coupland: Rabbit Lane* (2022), *Design for Living: West Coast Modern Homes Revisited* (2019); *Saints, Sinners and Souvenirs: Italian Masterworks on Paper* (2019); and *Molly Lamb Bobak: Talk of the Town* (2018). She currently works as the Museum Administrator/Curator at the West Vancouver Art Museum.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Probus Ladies,

We were so lucky the January weather cooperated with a dry sunny day for our first monthly Speaker Meeting at our new venue at the West Vancouver Yacht Club with 95 members and guests attending. The round table seating format, refreshment station and marina view are a great set-up for members to socialize before the speaker as well as at the end of the meeting. The WVYC staff were on hand to top up the refreshments and assist with the audio set up. The sound was checked and monitored so there was good audio even at the back of the room. Our House and Membership members were set up at the front entrance to welcome members and guests. We will continue holding our meetings at the WVYC through to June, 2024.

We continue to have new members joining the Club with our \$50 half year membership fee through to June 2024. The BUDDY tables set up are great for new members to meet and socialize with other members. Encouraging guests at our meetings is the best way to bring in new members.

Our Program Committee has a great line-up of speakers through June on a wide array of fascinating topics. At our February 20th meeting we welcome back Dr. Hilary Letwin, Administrator/Curator at the West Vancouver Art Museum speaking on Cornelia Oberlander: a local Landscape Architect who went on to national and international recognition for her landscape designs.

As I winter in the south, I am fortunate to have great Management Committee Members to fill in for me hosting our meetings. I would like to thank Judith Berg for hosting January and Lisa Hunter hosting the February meeting in my absence. I will be returning in March and look forward to hosting you again.

Volunteers are critical to our Club management and operation. We still have two open positions – Club Treasurer and Vice President. If you have any bookkeeping/accounting background or leadership experience, please consider volunteering.

Carolyn Armstrong
President, Women’s Probus Club of North Shore Vancouver

Probus Ladies Buddy Tables will be available at the West Vancouver Yacht Club



Looking to connect with other members? Don’t want to sit by yourself? We are making it easy! We are setting up Buddy Tables at WVYC for new members and existing members to connect during refreshment time. New members will be wearing a **yellow** dot on their name tags so they can be welcomed by other members.

As one of our key club functions is to connect members, the Buddy Tables help make these happen. We encourage long-time members to reach out to welcome new members.

Volunteer positions

- Vice-President
- Treasurer

The duties of the positions on our website www.wprobusnsvan.com

Guests are welcome at our Speaker Events!

Guests can join us at our meetings for a fee of \$10; check in at the front desk to register and get a name tag. Bringing a guest is an excellent way of introducing potential new members to our Probus group.

**Membership fee for February – June 2024 for new members is \$50 + \$15 for the name badge.
A Very Warm Welcome to our latest new members**

Cynthia Garton
Jane Mills
Anne Wadsworth

Summary of Fran McDougall's talk on Monday 15 January, 2024

Ms. Fran McDougall, ACT 2 Child and Family Services

Our speaker in January has a close connection to Vi Roden, a member of the Probus Management Committee, and it was fitting that Vi was asked to introduce Fran McDougall, the current Executive Director of ACT 2 Child and Family Services. This not-for-profit organization was founded by Vi Roden and Charmaine Atkinson in 1980 when their experience with supporting women in the correctional system led them to fully understand the extent and the impact that sexual abuse was having on women and children.

ACT 2 Child and Family services is chiefly funded through the Provincial Ministry of Children and Family Development, and BC Housing. It was well supported by the Federal Government, particularly through the COVID shut down of 2020-2022 when it received funding from the Federal Government through Women's Shelters Canada.

ACT 2 operates primarily in the Tri-Cities, Surrey, Ridge Meadows and Maple Ridge. Its major programs include:

- A family program providing short-term services to parents whose children are involved with the Ministry's child protection services
- A Transition House Program for women and children who have fled family violence
- A Homeless Prevention Program, and
- A Clinical Counselling Program

Their staff also accompany clients at court appearances and provide guidance to get their clients the supports they need.

One local North Vancouver design company is helping in the renovation of the transition house suites by volunteering labour and also by repurposing working fixtures which are being removed from houses being remodelled and renovated.

Probus members asked whether they could donate clothing, equipment or furniture to ACT 2 but Fran indicated that space to store these items is simply not available. However another Probus member, Ruby Finkbeiner, mentioned that Family Services of the North Shore located on the second floor of Capilano Mall is a resource for donations, and also for volunteer time locally
<https://www.familyservices.bc.ca/>.

Act 2 web site is www.act2.ca

Upcoming Club Speaker Events

	Speaker	Topic
March 18, 2024	Max Wyman in conversation with Ken MacQueen	Can Art Build us a Better World?
April 15, 2024	Carolyn Canfield	The Mysteries of Music and Emotion
Tuesday May 21, 2024 <i>New date</i>	Leslie Howard, author	Turning Fact into Fiction: Using True Stories and Events
June 17, 2024 - AGM	TBA	

Website

Members Information section is password protected for current members only – the password is **WP2324** Check regularly for updated information:

- Most recent Newsletter – you will always have access to your newsletter as well as past copies
- Updated Speaker Schedules
- Photo Gallery
- Special Events and Outings
- **NEW Probus Group Discount Home Insurance Policy**

Probus Canada has arranged with Belair Direct a Probus Member Group Discount on Home Insurance. To get more information or a quote from Belair Direct you can find their link on our website www.wprobusnsvan.com under Members Information - Probus Home Insurance, or go to the Belair Direct link https://www.belairdirect.com/en/savings.html?organization_source=targetmarketwfrp1006

Management Committee and their contact information

President – Carolyn Armstrong – presidentwprobusnsvan@gmail.com

Vice-President – vacant

Secretary – Heather Miller – infowprobusnsvan@gmail.com

Treasurer - Joanne Thorpe - womensprobusnorthshore@gmail.com

Programs – Gail Youldon, Vi Roden and Judith Berg

Membership – Diana Sonderhoff and Wendy Trousdell – membershipwprobusnsvan@gmail.com

House: Sheila Drummond, Susan Hayton, Johanna Harrison, Terre Swan

Newsletter mailings/website – Marie Harlow – northshoreprobus@gmail.com

Special Events – Barbara Budzynski and Inga Harding

Newsletter Editors – Alison Watt and Lisa Hunter – communicationswprobusnsvan@gmail.com

If you have suggestions about the speaker sessions or events, please contact the Management Committee.

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 We acknowledge the opportunity to live, work, play, and learn on the traditional territory of the Squamish (sq̓w̓x̓wú7mesh), Tsleil-Waututh (selílwitlh), and Musqueam (xʷməθkʷəy̓əm) peoples.