



The Women's Probus Club of North Shore Vancouver

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www.wprobusnsvan.com password WP2324

April 2024

NEWSLETTER

Vol. 17: No. 7

Meeting at West Vancouver Yacht Club

Monday, 15th April, 2024, at 10:00 with refreshments at 9:15 am

Speaker : Carolyn Canfield - The Mysteries of Music and Emotion

As we mentioned earlier, 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 the May meeting which will be held on Tuesday 21st May. 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 will be surveying the membership about future speaker meeting locations.

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.



April Speaker – Carolyn Canfield – Monday 16th April, 2024 10:00 am

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

April Speaker – Carolyn Canfield – Monday 15th April, 2024 10:00 am

Carolyn Canfield is a highly accomplished, professional violinist, music educator and founder of Violin for Wellness, a program that matches her love of music, and horses, which uses the violin to trigger vocalization in autistic children as they ride therapeutic horses.

Carolyn started her violin studies at the age of 10 in Seattle. After graduating from the University of Washington and spending two years on Fulbright scholarships in Europe, Carolyn came to Vancouver as a key member of the Vancouver Symphony and the Vancouver Opera Orchestra. After a time away in New York, Carolyn has returned to the West Coast and continues to teach and perform; she and her husband now live in Ferndale, WA.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Probus Ladies,

We had a packed club house with 103 attending for our March meeting for Max Wyman and Ken McQueen's conversation "Can Art Build a Better World". The WVYC staff were especially helpful in the technical set up. It was my first meeting hosting after wintering south and at the West Vancouver Yacht Club. Members socialized around tables of 8 and helped themselves to the coffee and tea and goodies before the speaker. When I asked how the members like the WVYC venue for our meetings, there was a good round of applause.

One safety item for attending members is to **please DO NOT tip chairs forward** on the tables to reserve a spot. The room is congested and the tipped-up chair legs sticking out are a tripping hazard. Please use a jacket or something else to reserve a place.

Member feedback is important for our Club Management Committee planning for the upcoming year, on venue selection and topics of interest for speakers. A Probus Member Survey was sent out on March 20th closing April 3rd, asking for input on the Kay Meek Arts Centre and the West Vancouver Yacht Club and a ranking of speaker topics of interest. Seven days after the survey went out, there had been a 45% response from members. A great interest shown and lots of time till April 3rd for those still to respond.

We have a busy upcoming spring with Special Events – on April 18, the Vancouver Aquarium tour in a newly renovated facility by the new Aquarium owners; on May 15th the West Vancouver Art Museum Exhibit celebrating Arthur Ericson Centennial; and on June 8th the National Heritage site Orpheum Theatre Tour. For information on these events see in the newsletter and on our website under Member Information - Events.

April is VOLUNTEER TIME! We have a number of Management Committee members looking to retire and positions for volunteers to fill. As an all-volunteer club, we solely rely on members participating in the running of the club for it to function. Some management members are in their 4th and 5th years in volunteering their time to run the Club. In fairness, it is time for those of you yet to volunteer to step up. Available Management Committee positions are posted in the newsletter and on our website under Volunteers needed. Please contact me at presidentwprobussvan@gmail.com to volunteer.

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

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS for 2024 – 2025

It is time for Membership Renewal for the coming 2024 – 2025 year. We are able to keep our **Membership Fees at the same at \$100.00**. An email package will be sent out the beginning of May consisting of a Membership Renewal Form. Members need to fill out the forms and submit along with a cheque by **no later than June 30th, 2022**. Members can also pay by e-transfer this year but still must mail or drop off their renewal forms.

Members can either mail in their signed forms with a cheque or drop them off at the lobby desk at the May or June meetings. 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.

Our venue selection for meetings next year will be announced shortly after our survey is completed. We look forward to welcoming you all back for another year of meetings with notable speakers providing topical and stimulating thought and special events.

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! Buddy Tables are available at WVYC for new members and existing members to connect during refreshment time. New members will have 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
- Communications – Member emailing

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

We are happy to announce 3 EVENTS

VANCOUVER AQUARIUM TOUR – Thursday, April 18th, 10:00 am



Our Special Events Committee has organized for members a time for a self-guided tour of the Vancouver Aquarium on Thursday, April 18th, 2024, meeting in the Aquarium lobby at 10:00 am. You can wander around on your own or go with the Probus group.

A program of the Aquarium daily special events and live shows will be provided as you arrive. Ticket prices will vary from \$39.95 - \$53.95 depending on when you purchase your ticket. Booking in advance on line at www.vanaqua.org will get lower prices or you can pay more at time of arrival.

At 12:00 (noon) the group can meet in the Aquarium restaurant for a delicious and sustainable lunch.

Parking: There is lots of Pay parking by the Aquarium managed by Easypark. Carpooling is suggested. Bus 257 from Park Royal, or 240 or 246 from North Vancouver to Georgia and Denman Streets – 20 minute ride, approx. 20 minute walk to the Aquarium through Stanley Park.

No registration required through the Club. If you have any questions contact Barbara Budzinski at bbudzynski@hotmail.com

West Vancouver Art Museum – Arthur Erickson Centennial Exhibit
Wednesday, May 15th, 2024 – 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

Women’s Probus Exhibition Tour of Images and reconstructed model of the home and gardens of Arthur Erickson’s Dunbar Vancouver property, owned by the Arthur Erickson Foundation.

Arthur Erickson (1924-2009) taught architecture at UBC and built many competition winning designs internationally and locally including Simon Fraser University, Robson Square, Museum of Anthropology at UBC and many amazing homes in West Vancouver and Vancouver. His awards include the Royal Architecture Institute of Canada Gold Medal, American Institute of Architecture Gold Medal, French Academy of Architecture Gold medal and the Order of Canada.

Location: West Vancouver Art Museum – 680 17th Avenue (and Esquimalt), West Vancouver, across from WV City Hall.

Parking: Parking available on the south side of the museum and street parking
Maximum – 15 people for the tour

The Tour is FREE, but you must contact Inga Harding to reserve your tour spot ih62972@gmail.com
After viewing the exhibit, join the group for coffee at La Crema.15th Avenue and Bellevue Street, WV.

Vancouver Orpheum Theatre Tour
Saturday, June 8th, 2024 – 1:00 pm – 2:30pm

Women’s Probus Orpheum Theatre Tour is 90 minutes viewing of one of the most beautiful halls in North America. The theatre is a National Heritage Site built in 1927. The interior features antique décor, sweeping staircases, and a domed auditorium complete with ceiling mural and giant crystal chandelier. The tour is led by BC Entertainment Hall of Fame revealing secrets of the theatre’s history. ****Note:** Tour includes staircase climbing.



Spectacular Orpheum Theatre Lobby

Orpheum Tour:

Location: 601 Smithe Street, Vancouver (between Granville and Seymour)

Maximum – 15 people

Cost - \$11.09 per person

Payment: Cash/ cheque in advance at April or May meetings Inga Harding or e-transfer to womensprobusnorthshore@gmail.com

Contact Inga Harding to reserve your tour spot ih62972@gmail.com

Parking: There is no parkade attached to the Orpheum but there is parking in the neighborhood at meters, and public parking lots. Buses from North and West Vancouver can also be taken to Georgia and Granville and it's a short walk down Granville to Smithe.

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 guests is an excellent way of introducing potential new members to Probus group.

**Membership fee for the balance of the program year to June 2024
for new members is \$50 + \$15 for the name badge.**

A Very Warm Welcome to our latest new members

Vera Frinton
Michelle Hui
Candy Prescott
Jan Sharp

Summary of Conversation with Max Wyman and Ken MacQueen 18 March, 2024

The lounge conversation format between Max and Ken was delightfully entertaining and a great way to present their views and insights from their years of experience in journalism and covering the arts. Over the decades there has been a dwindling down till almost non-existent now, the role of the art critic reporting on art events in newspapers. In fact, the role of newspapers themselves is becoming less. When asked where one could go to find out what is happening in the local art scene, Max recommended the website “stir” www.createastir.ca that lists all kinds of art and cultural events large and small in Vancouver.

Max described the role of the art critic as being the intermediary between an art event, describing aspects of the art, to a broad audience that did not attend the event. The critic’s review was from their viewpoint and not to (in Canada) grade the event, such as with the U.S. “Broadway Play” killer critics. The critic’s role was to share the “soul and creativity” aspect of the event. Now with social media, instant reviews are dumbed down to “thumbs-up or thumbs-down” clicks.



Max has recently released a book “The Compassionate Imagination: How the Arts are Central to a Functioning Democracy”. He spoke on how governments and education now focus on STEM – science, technology, engineering and mathematics. The arts have been increasingly deemed unimportant to the creation of an educated workforce.

They discussed how art and culture can build bridges among groups injecting generosity, compassion and creative imagination to new ways for viewing issues. Advisory Councils and Governing groups need to add an Arts person to these decision-making bodies to take the STEM to STEAM and bring the arts to a central position in our education.

Upcoming Club Speaker Events

	Speaker	Topic
<i>Tuesday May 21, 2024</i> <i>New date</i>	Leslie Howard, author	Turning Fact into Fiction: Using True Stories and Events
June 17, 2024 - AGM	Dr. Paul Evans	China Revisited

Fraud is on the rise.

It can happen to anyone. Take steps to learn how to defend yourself from scams and fraud. The Lower Mainland Better Business Bureau's report on 2023 scams show the top ten:

TOP 10 RISKIEST SCAMS IN CANADA

In 2023, Canadian consumers reported 2,104 scams to BBB Scam Tracker (3.2% of total reports submitted in both the United States and Canada). The overall median dollar loss reported in 2023 (\$300) remained the same year over year. The percentage of those who reported losing money after being targeted by a scam (susceptibility) increased from 46.9% in 2022 to 61.1% in 2023.

The top three riskiest scams reported in Canada shifted in 2023. Investment/cryptocurrency scams rose to the No. 1 riskiest. This year, we combined two scam types (investment and cryptocurrency) into one category because the majority of cryptocurrency scams are investment scams. This scam type had a high median dollar loss (\$9,365); 82.6% reported losing money.

2023 riskiest scam types reported in Canada

	SCAM TYPE	BBB RISK INDEX*	EXPOSURE	SUSCEPTIBILITY	\$ LOSS (CAD)
1	Investment/cryptocurrency	1127.6	4.4%	82.6%	\$9,365
2	Employment	484.8	15.6%	25.8%	\$3,600
3	Home improvement	469.0	8.4%	84.1%	\$2,000
4	Advance fee loan	109.7	4.2%	56.2%	\$1,385
5	Online purchase	102.2	36.9%	83.0%	\$100
6	Romance	94.0	1.2%	56.0%	\$4,240
7	Phishing/social engineering	31.7	6.9%	17.2%	\$800
8	Travel/vacation/timeshare	29.1	1.5%	59.4%	\$966
9	Credit card	25.7	1.3%	48.2%	\$1,250
10	Tech support	20.6	1.4%	44.8%	\$1,000

*Note: All dollars provided in CAD.
Only scam types with at least 25 reports were included.*

The full report can be found at: [2023 Scam Tracker Report BBB](#)

Try your hand at the Fraud Quiz on the Government of Canada's Competition Bureau web site: [Fraud Quiz](#) This site includes lots of links for further reading to assist us to determine whether we are facing fraud or scams.

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 Hayto, 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.

We acknowledge the opportunity to live, work, play, and learn on the traditional territory of the Squamish (sk̓wx̓wú7mesh), Tsleil-Waututh (sel̓ílwitulh), and Musqueam (x̓ʷməθkʷəy̓əm) peoples.