



Our next Probud Meeting
Will take place on Thursday,
April 21st, 2022
At 10:00 am,
via Zoom.

The Invitation & Link will be sent a day or two before the meeting, by email.

PLEASE NOTE!

Our invited speaker is;

Claire Pinkett

Topic:

Immigrant Social Services, BC



Probus Club of Maple Ridge

President's Message and Program



Sam Lewindon, President

Welcoming Spring!

The clocks have now moved to Pacific Daylight Saving Time; some of our hardier spring flowers are starting to bloom; songbirds are being heard - so is Spring really in the air? Our Management Committee thinks so! Why do I say this, well, at our recent meeting there was plenty of discussion on what outside activities we could begin preparations for!

Of course, the Walking Group are already active outdoors, and have now almost doubled the numbers of members who regularly exercise on local trails as they conduct their fresh air activity, so perhaps they can be considered the **'Heralds of Spring'!**

More **good news** to report; the Coffee Morning gatherings have been so successful that we are able to offer a Coffee Morning that will be "Pre-Paid", so **no \$5 cover charge!** We have accrued a surplus from our last few 'Mornings', and have reached the point where the coffee for our next gathering of this group will be pre-paid! Well done us! So come on down to the **April 6th** Coffee Morning and enjoy a social 'treat'. Of course, you will have to pay for any food items you order, **but the coffee is on us!**

The lifting of the 'Masking Mandate' for indoor gatherings has made the **Bridge Group** really happy—it's no fun trying to make a bid your partner understands, while being muffled by a mask - so, "was that Four no Trump"?

"April prepares her green traffic light and the world thinks go." Christopher Morley



Probus Meeting, Program

April 21st, 2022

9:45	Sign -in
10:00	Welcome
10:05	Introduction of Guest Speaker
10:10	Guest Speaker
10:40	Q & A
10:55	Thank you
11:00	Club speaker
11:20	Club business
11:45	Meeting closes

Introducing our Guest Speaker: Prepared by Laurie Freebairn

Claire Pinkett



Claire Pinkett is an Instructional Coordinator in the LINC Program at ISSofBC. She is also a trained PBLA Lead Teacher. Her responsibilities include teacher training, Professional Development planning, curricula and materials development, and PBLA teacher support and supervision. She has 35+ years' experience in LINC/ELSA, EAL and TEFL.

Here are a couple of definitions that may be important for your group members:

LINC – Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada. This is a national language program funded by the federal government through Immigration Refugee and Citizenship Canada (IRCC)

PBLA – Portfolio-based Language Assessment. This is the nationally used method of assessing language acquisition in the LINC Program. It is based on the Centre for Canadian Language Benchmarks (CLB) framework.

Speaker's Notes:

by Marie Slessor

Laurie introduced our speaker, Kirk Grayson. Kirk is President of the Maple Ridge Climate Hub, a local non-profit society helping the city of Maple Ridge move forward as a community to fight climate change. She is also a director of RM Recycling Society and a member of the MR Environmental Advisory Committee.

Today she brought us former US Vice President Al Gore's presentation on Climate Reality adapted to our needs and our location. Kirk said there were 3 important questions:

Must we change?

Can we change?

Will we change?

As to the first, statistics on global warming show we must change. We are producing 162,000,000 tons of manmade pollution every 24 hours 19 out of the 20 hottest years on earth have occurred since 2002 and the biggest cause of this is greenhouse gases, the result of burning fossil fuels. This increase in temperature means more drought, fires, rain bombs causing floods, melting glaciers leading to rising sea levels, stronger hurricanes and cyclones. Although the poor people of the world are most affected, we all remember the fires of last summer along with the heat dome, and then the floods in the Fraser Valley this fall. These catastrophes will continue and lead to food and water shortages and eventually political de-stabilization. It also affects the biology of earth since we will lose 50% of land-based animals in this century if nothing changes. As well, tropical diseases are on the move and air pollution is killing 9,000,000 people per year. This makes global warming the #1 threat to the global economy.

So, can we change? Kirk told us there is good news on this front. There are many innovations already underway, including wind power and solar energy. Chile is a success story in solar power. It has had an exponential increase in the production and use of solar power which is becoming cheaper to produce. Electric vehicles are becoming more popular and some countries like Norway are going all-electric.

But perhaps the most crucial question is will we change?? Kirk told us this is up to us as well as our governments. Although the federal government has agreed to the 2015 Paris Accord with plans to be carbon neutral by 2050 we are not yet close to being there. BC is serious about climate change with the Clean BC plan. Kirk said we should take advantage of their initiatives and not support spending on fossil fuel production. We must use our voices, our votes and our choices. She said we must get our information from reliable sources and have conversations with everyone. (Kirk's list of resources is attached to the email of the recording sent out by Sam.) Although Kamloops has formed a plan with 8 big moves for their city, Maple Ridge has no action plan as yet. She said we should be letting elected officials know we want these changes.

A long and excellent question period followed, including are we passed the point of no return (no, but we do need to get on it now); is overpopulation the root of the problem (no, but we need to improve education around the world, especially of girls); will new technologies create new pollution (perhaps, the solutions are not perfect but better than what we now have), and will inflation force us to change our ways (yes).

Sam thanked Kirk for an insightful presentation including presenting the Science behind it. He said the seriousness of the questions indicated the topic was a pressing issue for many of us.

The flag that nearly drowned me!

On June 2nd Queen Elizabeth will celebrates her 70th year on the throne. Flags will fly worldwide celebrating her Coronation. 70 years and 16 months ago, February 5th 1952 I was an 18 year old able seaman working on a T2 oil tanker carrying a full load of crude oil from Venezuela to Halifax. We were about five miles



off the coast of Cape Hatteras in the Carolinas. As usual for that time of the year we were embroiled in a North Atlantic Cape Hatteras storm. As you can tell by the picture of a fully loaded T2 oil tanker it carries very low in the water. During stormy weather its not uncommon for seas to crash over the catwalks located between the bow and midships where wheelhouse and officers live, or midships and aft housing where the crew live, plus engines, galley, mess halls, life boats and very important to this story, where flags are stored for every country we would visit.

Now to set the scene. I was standing lookout watch above the wheelhouse midnight- 4:00am. In those days, insurance companies insisted, regardless of weather, that oil tankers have a live lookout 24 hours per day. Here we were in the Atlantic Ocean five miles off the coast, in the middle of the night, fighting our way through stormy seas, yet I had to stand lookout.

Hang on, the story gets crazier. About 2:30 am the Captain comes onto the bridge and calls me down from my lookout position. He instructed me to go aft and get the flag of Great Britain, bring it forward and fly it at half mast off the foremast.

He wanted me to risk my life running the catwalk back to pick up the flag of Great Britain, risk my life running the catwalk back amidships, then risk my life again by going forward on the forward catwalk to the foremast to fly the flag of Great Britain at half mast, in the middle of the night, in the middle of a storm. While doing this madness it was quite likely I could get washed overboard. It was then that he told, in a solemn voice, "Gentlemen, I have just been informed that The King is Dead". He meant King George V1, father of the Princess who, 16 months later would be crowned Queen.

He was the Captain, and at sea the Captain is Master, you do what he orders. So off I went. It's obvious I did not get washed overboard, although it was not for lack of praying.

Now, 70 years later, I think back on the fact that flags are not flown at night. Flags are lowered at sunset to sunrise yet he was quite willing to risk my life to fly a flag at half mast in the middle of the night, five miles off the coast of Cape Hatteras in a Nor-easter storm all because "The King is Dead "

The flag, or what was left of it, remained at half mast until we sailed into Halifax harbor three days later.

Just one of my harrowing experiences from five years at sea.

By Dick Drew

Through the Lens

Curated by Rick O'Doherty

Springtime!



Breakfast Time, by Rick O'Doherty



Fawn Lillies, by Rick O'Doherty



A Happy Sight, by Sam Lewindon



Van Dusen Camelias , by Jean Cryslar

Member Happenings

By Kathleen Spiess

Members in action

When we are not meeting here....



...we are meeting here.

Or perhaps, here...



...or even here!

And these are just some of the activities that we have pictures of...

Monthly Mirth



Just failed my driving test. When the examiner asked me "what sign would you expect to see down a narrow country road?" Apparently 'fresh eggs for sale' wasn't the answer...

Technically, Moses



was the first person with a tablet downloading data from the cloud



Trying to take a selfie in 1646



"Did you shake the bottle?"



Anti-Masker Drowns After Trying Out SCUBA Diving

Messages, Notices and Information

Wanted:

Stories for:

Memory Lane:

Contact Josine at: eikelenboom@telus.net

Photos for: Through the Lens

Contact Rick at: micricgoingplaces@gmail.com

Probus 'In-person Coffee Morning'

Come, join us for 'Pre-Paid' coffee!

Thanks to the members who regularly support this activity, there is

no 'cover charge' this month!

Of course, you will still have to buy your own 'treats', like the superb Lemon Meringue Pie!!!

The first Wednesday of the month, at 10am at the Home Restaurant.

Next meeting: April 6th

Origin of the Phrase:

Basket case:

A thing or person considered useless or not able to cope.

Referred to soldiers who lost their limbs, and possibly originated in 1919, when rumors circulated that limbs of decapitated soldiers arrived in baskets at a hospital.

Special Interest Groups:

Book Club: *Convenor, Bob Grist*

Meets 1:30pm, second Tuesday, monthly

Crafts: *Convenor, contact, Michaela micricgoingplaces@gmail.com*

Computer/Photography: *Convenor: Sam Lewindon*

Meets, 10am, last Wednesday, monthly.

Dining: *Convenors: Marie Slessor/Carla Reed*
Meets 6pm second Thursdays, monthl

Discussion: *Convenor, Theo Rathonyi Reusz*
Meets, 10am fourth Thursday monthly

Walking: *Convenor: Renate Rathonyi Reusz*
Contact: Renates1229@aol.com

Lunch: *Convenor. Aline Drew*
Meets, noon last Thursday, monthly

Cycling: *Convenor, tba*

Golf : *Convenor, Rick Howard*
Contact, rickhhoward@shaw.ca

Bridge: *Convenor: Kathleen Spiess*
Meets, 2pm third Monday, monthly

Wine Club: *Convenor: Sam Lewindon*
Meets, 5pm last Friday, monthly

Maturity is when:

You wake up looking like your driving license picture!

"Groaner" of the Month:

eBay is so useless. I tried to look up lighters, and they offered me 13,749 matches.