

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES—THE NANOOSE BAY PROBUS CLUB

Friday, August 21st, 2026

WELCOME:

Past President Brian Freestone called the meeting to order at 9:15 am

President's Comments: (delivered by Past President Brian Freestone) On behalf of President Pat Hill, Brian welcomed all in attendance with a special welcome to new members and guests. He gave a big thank you to Wendy Hayes for making the right decision to cancel the picnic due to the rainy forecast. Rain arrived right at 4:00 p.m. It saved a lot of time and money as the food had not been purchased and prepared, other than two cakes, which are being served this morning at coffee. Thanks to the 22, **yes 22**, volunteers who stepped up for the picnic. It takes a village.

First Order of Business:

Call for approval of the minutes of the June 19th, 2026 General Meeting as posted on the website. Motion: Darrell Robertson. Seconded by: Leigh Randle.

There were no questions or comments. Past President Brian Freestone called for the vote to approve. Approved by all. Carried.

There were 70 members and guests in attendance.

Guest Introductions: Vera Moore

There was one guest introduced.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: Vera Moore

Vera reported that the club has 179 active members on the roster.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Tim Westinghouse

Chequing/Community Partner Package:	\$3,851.19
Savings/GIC Community Cashable:	\$8,800.63
Total:	\$12,651.82

Sunshine: Leslie Horsman

There were three cards and one bouquet of flowers sent in July.

SOCIAL: Wendy Hayes

Due to an accurate rain prediction, we were forced to cancel our annual picnic. The only financial output was the venue rental and the pre-ordered cakes. I want to again thank all of you who volunteered to help and hope that we can count on you among others to assist with next year's picnic.

As those who signed up for the Gold River Uchuck Boat Trip know it was cancelled due to delays in vessel repair. We plan to organize it for next year.

Our next event is September 2nd when we will travel to Butchart Gardens and hopefully lunch at the Blue Poppy restaurant. If we have 24 to 25 people attending, we would be able to secure a reservation at the restaurant and receive a discount at the entrance. Initially, we had 24 people show interest, but we are now at 7 confirmed. If you wish to go, please put your name on the sign up sheet.

October 1st at noon we are planning a free wiener roast at Englishman River Park followed by a casual hike to the river or simply sit and enjoy the surroundings. A sign up sheet is on the table.

November 6th at 10:00 am we have booked a lecture and fossil tour with Pat Trask, Natural History Curator, at the Courtney Museum. The maximum number of people is 30 at a total cost of \$150.00, so the individual cost depends on the number of participants. Payment is due two weeks in advance. Sign up sheet is on the table. Ann Marie Webb-Hughes suggested this activity.

A reminder that the Christmas party is December 17th

COMMUNICATIONS: Jane Currie

Jane reported that, due to an excess amount of spam on the Probus Website, email address links and contact-us links have been disabled. Since doing this, the horrible spam barrage has stopped. Our web designer is looking at enhanced security measures.

2027 is the 40th Anniversary of Probus Canada. Jane told us about a request from Probus Canada, asking that members, Canada wide, prepare a short video saying what they like about being a member of Probus. They suggest it be no longer than 20 seconds and that it be taken outside with a landscape in the background.

SPEAKER COMMITTEE: Gail Marlow

Gail Marlow said there will be a Speaker Committee meeting in early September. The committee is working on booking speakers for next year. The September speaker's topic will be on the Special Olympics and some Special Olympians will be in attendance.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS: Henry Geraedts (presented by Brian Freestone)

Brian said there is room for two or three members in Bookclub #1 and that the Men's Discussion Group has room for two members.

Cheminus Theatre: Garnet Hunt said the next play is on Sunday, October 18th at 2:00 pm and is called "Peril in the Alps". There is a sign up sheet.

CATERING: Past President Brian Freestone thanked Maggie Carter, Wendy Hayes, and Darrell Robertson for organizing refreshments and snacks for today's meeting.

Kitchen Coordinator, Carolyn Treger, asked for people to sign up for kitchen duties for our November meeting.

Special Recognition: Brian expressed thanks to Don and Sharon Jackson and the entire crew for set-up and take-down of chairs and tables at today's and each monthly meeting.

Key Announcements:

Please refer to the Communications' Report and Jane Currie's comments about Probus Canada's 40th Anniversary.

COFFEE BREAK: 9:40 am – 10:00 am

GUEST SPEAKER:

Our guest speaker, Richard Brodeur, unfortunately, was unable to attend at the last minute. Speaker Chair, Gail Marlow, will be in contact with him to, hopefully, reschedule him for a future engagement in 2027.

Past President Brian Freestone asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:10 am. Moved by Doug Horsman. Seconded by Ron Commander. All in favour. Carried.