



Probus Club of Central Edmonton Newsletter

September 2020

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Member Presentation:

Paul Greenwood was born in Reading England in 1946. His father was Chartered Accountant. He was educated in Reading Berkshire and on leaving school he obtained his medical education at Leeds University in Yorkshire, graduating BSC (Hons) in 1969 and MB CHB (Hons) in 1972. He held junior posts in Leeds Hospitals and became MRCP in 1974 and then held an MRC Research fellowship in Cardiovascular Studies.

In 1977 he saw an advert in the Lancet for Fellowship in Cardiology in Edmonton. By chance he had a British physician friend who had recently moved to Edmonton, and after speaking with him, Paul and his wife Win, with their 1-year old daughter Anna arrived in Edmonton in Canada.

After completing his one-year Fellowship and becoming a certified cardiologist he was offered a position at the U of A in cardiology as an Assistant Professor and starting in 1979. began practice at the Misericordia Hospital as their first full time cardiologist and also at the U. of A. Hospital. He held these posts until his retirement in 2018.

During his career he was involved in numerous provincial and national organizations, such as the Medical Council of Canada. He rose through the academic ranks and was a full professor in 1990. He was appointed as Clinical Professor Emeritus in the Department of Medicine in 2017.

Another interest of Paul's was Medical Management. And he held several senior appointments including Acting Head of Cardiac Sciences for the Edmonton Zone of Alberta Health Services. He has been a Trustee of the Alberta heritage Foundation for Medical Research and the board of Capital Health. He also had a large medico legal practice.

Interestingly, he assisted the Alberta Office of the Auditor General in a review of a regional health authority. Over the years, he has worked with Nick Hertz and Bruce Perry, both members of the Club. He is married with 4 children and 7 Grandchildren. He enjoys being a grandparent. He remains active including hiking, biking, and music.

As with each of these presentations we have had, he demonstrated that the strength of the club is its fascinating members.

Probus Events:

September 15

David T. Chapman spoke to us about **Wild, Weird and Wacky weather**. David started photography at 16. He is interested in weather events and nature and has become a storm chaser. In the course of his work, David has studied meteorology, ornithology, and the Northern Lights, also known as the Aurora Borealis. His career focused on Ontario. He currently lives in Niagara area.

His deep understanding of meteorology was matched by his impressive photographic skills. His stunning photographs illustrated many rare meteorological effects, some being familiar, others being rare.

His presentation was delivered as a video which he spoke to as it unfolded. What we saw was an array of weather events and he describe each of these events.

As an inveterate storm chaser, David showed how tornadoes and funnel clouds are formed from differences in temperature at different heights. The leading edge of a serious storm results from cold air moving into warm air to form a 'shelf cloud' at the line of convergence. There was even one example of a funnel cloud formed in winter from snow.

And just when you thought that you knew all there was to know about lightning – we learnt that it could strike upwards, as shown in one rare photograph. A negative charge on land and a positive charge in the cloud creates this effect. It was also very surprising to learn that the usual downward form of lightning can strike land 20 kilometers away from the storm.

Addition Events included:

- Various cloud formations
- Lake effect storms, which can deliver major snowstorms and heavy winds
- Ice bridges these result from winds blowing ice ashore and later winds carving them out.
- Artic sea smoke
- Funnel clouds, including cold core funnels
- Rain and hail
- Northern lights (he noted that we likely had a better view these from Edmonton due it being further north).
- Steam devils
- Hoarfrost

And on a closing, optimistic note, our speaker forecast 'a gentle fall' on account of la niña. His many great pictures can be found by the following the link that Yves included in an email.

September 29

Garry Smith, a national and international expert on gambling and related addiction talked to us about **Gaming in Alberta**. He led the Gaming Research Institute of Alberta for many years. It identified problems related to gaming. During this time, gambling in Alberta became much more extensive than other provinces and many countries. He has lectured on problem gambling at three Canadian universities and appeared as an expert witness in at least six

court cases. He has also advised judges and other members of the legal profession, as well as social agencies.

From prohibition under the Criminal Code in 1892, gambling was later legalized for horse racing and summer fairs in the 1920s, and for bingos, carnivals, lotteries and casinos during the 1960s and 1970s. In the 1990s, video lottery terminals were legalized in hotels. The same machines were known as "slots" when installed in casinos. Their introduction was contentious, resulting in public debate and the maximum number being set at 6,000 for the province. For the operator of a single slot machine, the proceeds are \$30,000 p.a., leading to fewer "table" games such as poker, blackjack, etc.

The number of casinos is now the highest Canada at 24, whereas Toronto and Montreal have only one each. Five of these casinos are operated by First Nations, which share the proceeds with other First Nations. Other casinos operate under the "charity" model whereby a charity can register for a share of a specific casino's proceeds every two years or so. Gambling proceeds of the provincial government are \$1.4B p.a., a significant amount. However, recent news reports are that it has had a major decline this year.

Other forms of gambling (such as racing, sports, and lotteries) are stagnant. Bingo halls in the province have declined to just ten.

The "hold" (the amount held back by the house) is 30% from slot machines, 46% from sports betting and 55% from lotteries. These odds are not well-known and very much better odds are found in Las Vegas.

Gambling addiction is mostly related to the ease of playing the slots, due primarily to their speed and glitziness. Consequently, addicts maybe driven to theft, such as embezzlement, to feed their addiction. This addiction can lead to loss of family, malnutrition in children, unemployment, homelessness, and lack of financial resources. Short of reducing the number of machines and limiting access, gambling addiction is hard to prevent and to treat. A small amount of government revenue is spent on prevention and cure.

In the week of September 27, the provincial government announced that on-line gambling will be available 24/7 through the Alberta Gaming, Liquor and Cannabis Corporation. It is possible that the on-line version of slots will cause further addiction.

Did I read that sign right?

"TOIL

ET OUT OF ORDER. PLEASE USE FLOOR BELOW."

In a Laundromat:

AUTOMATIC WASHING MACHINES: PLEASE REMOVE ALL YOUR CLOTHES WHEN THE LIGHT GOES OUT.

In a London department store:

BARGAIN BASEMENT UPSTAIRS...

In an office:

WOULD THE PERSON WHO TOOK THE STEP LADDER YESTERDAY PLEASE BRING IT BACK OR FURTHER STEPS WILL BE TAKEN.

In an office:

AFTER TEA BREAK, STAFF SHOULD EMPTY THE TEAPOT AND STAND UPSIDE DOWN ON THE DRAINING BOARD

Outside a second-hand shop:

WE EXCHANGE ANYTHING - BICYCLES, WASHING MACHINES, ETC. WHY NOT BRING YOUR WIFE ALONG AND GET A WONDERFUL BARGAIN?

Notice in health food shop window:

CLOSED DUE TO ILLNESS...

Spotted in a safari park: (I sure hope so.)

ELEPHANTS, PLEASE STAY IN YOUR CAR

Seen during a conference:

FOR ANYONE WHO HAS CHILDREN AND DOESN'T KNOW IT, THERE IS A DAY CARE ON THE 1ST FLOOR.

Notice in a farmer's field:

THE FARMER ALLOWS WALKERS TO CROSS THE FIELD FOR FREE, BUT THE BULL CHARGES.

Message on a leaflet:

IF YOU CANNOT READ, THIS LEAFLET WILL TELL YOU HOW TO GET LESSONS.

On a repair shop door:

WE CAN REPAIR ANYTHING. (PLEASE KNOCK HARD ON THE DOOR - THE BELL DOESN'T WORK.)

Proofreading is a dying art, wouldn't you say?

Some missed by editing

- Man Kills Self Before Shooting Wife and Daughter
- Something Went Wrong in Jet Crash, Expert Says
- Police Begin Campaign to Run Down Jaywalkers
- Panda Mating Fails; Veterinarian Takes Over
- Miners Refuse to Work after Death
- Juvenile Court to Try Shooting Defendant
- War Dims Hope for Peace
- If Strike Isn't Settled Quickly, It May Last Awhile
- Cold Wave Linked to Temperatures
- Red Tape Holds Up New Bridges
- Man Struck By Lightning: Faces Battery Charge
- New Study of Obesity Looks for Larger Test Group
- Kids Make Nutritious Snacks
- Local High School Dropouts Cut in Half

And the winner is...

- Typhoon Rips Through Cemetery; Hundreds Dead