

BACKGROUND

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Office of the Premier

B.C. PROGRESS BOARD MEMBERS

David Black, Chair

David Black is president and owner of Black Press, the largest private newspaper publisher in Canada. Black Press has approximately 100 newspapers and 16 regional press operations. The company has grown significantly over the past 27 years. Company operations are located mainly in British Columbia, Alberta, Washington State and Hawaii. Black received an engineering degree at UBC in 1969 and an MBA at Western in 1971. He currently lives in Victoria.

Alex Campbell

Alex Campbell is chair and co-founder of Thrifty Foods, which operates 18 stores on Vancouver Island and one store in Tsawwassen. The first Thrifty Foods grocery store opened in Victoria in 1977. The company has more than 3,200 employees, and a market share of 40 per cent on Vancouver Island. It also includes wholesale grocery and produce distribution to more than 75 other independent grocers within B.C. Campbell received an honorary doctorate of laws from Royal Roads University in 2000, has been awarded the Order of B.C., and is the recipient of numerous community and industry awards.

Herman Driediger

Herman Driediger is a UBC graduate with a career in banking, the livestock feed industry and livestock production, commercial construction, and the equipment rental industry. He is the CEO of Driediger Investments Ltd. Driediger has held numerous positions in local provincial and federal agricultural organizations, associations, policy advisory boards and task forces. He has been a member of policy advisory boards to both provincial and federal ministers of agriculture. Community involvements include a presidency of the Abbotsford Chamber of Commerce and most recently - the last eight years - as chairman of the Abbotsford Airport Authority. He is also a member of the B.C. Institute of Agrologists and Agricultural Institute of Canada, and sits on the B.C. Minister of Advanced Education's Advisory Council.

Eva Lee Kwok

Eva Lee Kwok is chair and CEO of Amara International Investment Corp. She was recently appointed to the boards of directors of Shoppers Drug Mart and Cheung Kong Infrastructure Holdings, Ltd. She formerly served as president and managing director of Melcorp Mercantile Inc.; vice-president Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada; and president and CEO of Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology. She serves as a director of CK Life Sciences International (Holdings) Inc., Bank of Montreal Group of Companies and Husky Energy Inc. She previously served as a director of Telesystems International Wireless Inc., Air Canada, Fletcher Challenge Canada Ltd., Clarica Life Insurance Company, Coca-Cola Beverages Ltd, AT & T Canada Long Distance Services, Melcorp Mercantile Inc., Scott Paper Ltd. and Saskatchewan Oil and Gas Corporation. Lee Kwok has attended The Senior University Administration Course at the University of Western Ontario and holds a master of science degree from University of London (England).

Jill Leverage

Jill Leverage joined TD Securities in June 2002 to head up TD Securities' Vancouver corporate and investment banking team. Leverage has over 18 years of experience successfully executing numerous debt and equity financings and merger & acquisition advisory assignments for B.C.-based companies such as MacDonald Dettwiler, West Fraser, Versacold and Finning. Leverage is a member of the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants and the Canadian Institute of Chartered Business Valuators. She also has a bachelor of commerce from the University of Calgary.

Jeffrey Mallett

Jeffrey Mallett is currently a principle owner and executive committee member of the San Francisco Giants baseball team, one of the premier sports and entertainment companies in North America. Mallett also owns and operates Corotto Vineyards in Napa, California, producing some of the finest chardonnay and pinot noir grapes for world class Napa wineries. He also owns Vineyard Knolls Golf Club, a private USGA member golf course and popular executive golf retreat. Mallett retired in 2002 after more than 7 years as president, COO and board member of Internet media giant Yahoo!, Inc. He was a member of the founding executive team in 1995 that lead the start-up to become a profitable global media and communications company. Prior to Yahoo!, Mallett spent 12 years as a senior executive in many leading technology and communications companies including Novell, WordPerfect, Reference Software International and Island Pacific Telephone. Born in Vancouver and raised in Victoria, he attended the University of Victoria on a soccer scholarship where the All-Canadian was a member of the national finalist team in 1982.

Gerry Martin

Gerry Martin is co-owner and corporate secretary of Northern Drugs Ltd., a chain of drug stores operating in Northwest B.C. and is also president of Shames Mountain Ski Corporation. Martin is actively involved in a variety of community and professional activities. He is a director and past president of the Chain Drug Association of B.C., a fellow, governor and chair of the B.C. Chamber of Commerce, a member of the Terrace 2010 Community Benefits Team and the Terrace Northern Medical Programs Trust. Martin has been the recipient of numerous awards including Terrace Business Person of the Year (1988), the Whitehall-Robins Bowl of Hygeia Award (a Canada-U.S. award recognizing outstanding community service by a pharmacist), and Terrace Business Executive of the Year (2000). He holds a bachelor of science in pharmacy (1965) from the University of British Columbia.

Harry McWatters*

Harry McWatters, president of Sumac Ridge Estate Winery, has been a driving force in the British Columbia wine industry since 1968. In 1968, McWatters joined Penticton-based Casabello Wines as a salesman for the Vancouver area and later became a regional sales manager, then marketing manager in 1978. McWatters opened Sumac Ridge Estate Winery in 1980 in Summerland. He is the founding chairman of the British Columbia Wine Institute and the Vintners Quality Alliance (VQA) program in British Columbia. In 2000, McWatters sold Sumac Ridge to Ontario-based Vincor International. McWatters has won numerous awards as a winemaker and marketer, including Wine of the Wine in the All Canada Wine Competition and Top Winery of the Year from the Globe and Mail. He is a recipient of the Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal, an honorary doctor of laws from Okanagan University College, and in 2003 was awarded the Order of British Columbia.

Martha Piper

Martha Piper is president and vice-chancellor of the University of British Columbia. Prior to joining UBC in 1997, Dr. Piper was vice-president for research and external affairs at the University of Alberta, and dean of the university's faculty of rehabilitation medicine. She received her PhD. in epidemiology and biostatistics from McGill University in 1979, her M.A. in child development from the University of Connecticut, and her B.Sc. in physical therapy from the University of Michigan. Dr. Piper was appointed to the National Advisory Board on Science and Technology in 1994 and, in 1996, to the board of the Advisory Council on Science and Technology. In 2003, Dr. Piper was named an officer of the Order of Canada.

David R. Podmore*

David Podmore is president and CEO of Concert Properties Ltd., an award-winning diversified real estate development company that he co-founded in 1989. His extensive development career includes serving as vice-president of planning, design and engineering for BC Place Ltd., and the first president and CEO of the British Columbia Pavilion Corporation for Expo 86. He serves as chair of the capital works committee that assists with the planning of the 2010 Winter Olympics' venue development program. He also chaired the successful 2010 Olympic plebiscite campaign, and is a director of the Canadian Tourism Commission, chair of the BC Children's Hospital Foundation, and president of the Urban Development Institute of BC. He is the first recipient of the Award of Excellence established by The Real Estate Institute of BC, and received the 2003 Community Service Award from Volunteer Vancouver. Podmore received a bachelor's degree, specializing in community and regional planning, from the University of British Columbia, and a master's degree (earth sciences), specializing in urban planning, from the University of Alberta.

Jeet Sandhu

Jeet Sandhu is a small businessman involved in the furniture, appliance and electronic business in Kamloops since 1970. He has developed and sold a franchise of 12 electronic stores in British Columbia, Alberta, and the Northwest Territories. He is actively involved in Rotary, Gyros, the Kamloops Art Gallery and various other ongoing community projects. Sandhu was born in India and has spent most of his life in Canada.

Carol Seable

Carol Seable is president and CEO of Fairmont Hot Springs Resort Ltd. She is president of the Columbia Valley Airport Society and director of the Columbia Valley Community Association, Tourism Rockies, the Fairmont Business Association, and director and chair of the Finance Committee, Interior Health Authority. She is past director of the B.C. Aviation Council, the Pacific Rim Institute of Tourism, and Canadian Liver Foundation. She is also past vice-president of the BC & Yukon Hotels' Association and the Columbia Valley Chamber of Commerce and past vice-chair of Tourism B.C. Seable lives in Fairmont Hot Springs.

Jim Shepherd*

Jim Shepherd was appointed president and CEO of Canfor Corporation on April 30, 2004. Prior to this he was president and CEO of Slocan Forest Products Ltd. Shepherd has also served as president and COO of Crestbrook Forest Industries Ltd. and was president of Finlay Forest Industries Limited. Shepherd graduated from Queen's University in 1974 with a bachelor of science in mechanical engineering and has been employed in the forest products business for over twenty-five years in both Ontario and British Columbia.

Ken Shields

Ken Shields, a commerce graduate from UBC, has been an active member of the business and financial community for more than 38 years. Shields helped establish the institutional firm of Goepel, Shields & Partners Inc. in 1989. In 1998, the firm merged with McDermid St. Lawrence Securities Ltd., which subsequently became Raymond James Ltd. Today, Shields serves as its chairman and CEO. He is a director of TimberWest Forest Corp., NASDAQ-listed Mercer International Inc. and NYSE-listed Raymond James Financial, Inc. He has served as a past governor of the Vancouver Stock Exchange, past president of the Vancouver Society of Financial Analysts, and past chairman of the Investment Dealers Association of Canada. Shields is also a member of the Accounting Standards Oversight Council and a member of the board of the Council of Business and the Arts in Canada.

Mark Shuparski

Mark Shuparski is the president of Pacific Capital Investments. He is the former executive vice-president of Bentall Capital and is one of the founding partners of the firm. Prior to forming Bentall Capital, Shuparski was president and CEO of Bentall Corporation, a position he held from January 1995. He holds an MBA from the University of Western Ontario and a bachelor of environmental studies from the University of Waterloo.

Brian Surerus

Brian Surerus is the founder and president of Surerus Pipeline Inc., B.C.'s largest pipeline installation company. Originally from central Ontario, Surerus moved to northeastern B.C. in 1965 and established his business in 1969. Since that time his company has installed pipe throughout some of B.C. and Alberta's most challenging terrain and employs upwards of 500 people during the winter construction season. Surerus has been actively involved in improving his community, with major donations to the North Peace Cultural Centre, Fort St. John's Child Development Centre and numerous sporting groups.

David A. Thompson*

David A. Thompson is deputy chairman and CEO of Teck Cominco Ltd, a position he has held since Aug. 2001 following the formal merger of Teck Corporation and Cominco Ltd. He has been a director of Teck Corporation since 1980 and Cominco since 1986. Thompson was co-managing director of Messina (Transvaal) prior to joining Teck Corporation in 1980 and has held a variety of senior management positions, including president and CEO of Cominco from 1995 to 2001. Thompson graduated in 1960 from the London School of Economics, England with a B.Sc. in economics. In 1976, he completed the Harvard Business School advanced management program. He is a director of the Board of Fording Inc, and also sits on the St. Paul's Hospital Foundation.

Doug Whitehead

Doug Whitehead was appointed president and CEO of Finning International Inc. in April 2000. He joined Finning International in January 1999 as president and COO. He was elected to the company's board of directors on April 23, 1999. Prior to joining Finning, he was president and CEO of Fletcher Challenge Canada from 1992 to 1998. Prior to this, Whitehead held senior executive positions in other forest products companies. Currently, Whitehead is a director of Ballard Power Systems Inc., Terasen Inc., Belcorp Industries, and The Conference Board of Canada. He is also a member of the Canadian Council of Chief Executives, a member of the board of governors for the Business Council of British Columbia, a member of the board of governors of The University of British Columbia, and is the past chairman of the board of Finlay Forest Industries Ltd. and TimberWest Forest Ltd. Whitehead holds a bachelor of applied science in civil engineering from the University of British Columbia and an MBA from the University of Western Ontario. Whitehead is active in fundraising initiatives for the United Way and was general campaign co-chair of the United Way of the Lower Mainland in 1997.

* = **New Board Member**

Media Tim McEwan
contact: Executive Director
 B.C. Progress Board
 604 775-1664

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