



Brooke Forbes legacy fund

BROOKE FUND NEWSLETTER JUNE 2018

We had another great day for the annual Brooke Forbes Legacy Fund Garage Sale. The weather was just right – no rain and not quite hot enough for the beach. We had a steady flow of customers and supporters from beginning to end. There was a good mix of ages and people from all over the world. We heard Dutch, Finnish, Hebrew, French, Japanese, Punjabi, Mandarin and Cantonese being spoken, as well as English, of course. We thought we saw more people arriving by bike than ever before. There was lots of talk about housing – what else do we talk about in Vancouver – including some opposition to what’s being done to make it more affordable and who we should vote for in the upcoming local election, and of course, there were the more personal stories that Brooke would have loved to hear. Here’s a sample:

- One couple that used to collect cookbooks and a few years ago sold them all -- two storage areas packed with them -- bought several cookbooks. They decided to rebuild their collection. It’s not that they love cooking. They say they like looking at the pictures!
- Our CD collector was back. First of all, he bought 43 CDs. Then he came back with his CD player and after much listening, bought one more. He must have spent two hours with us!
- A modern-looking very comfortable kid’s chair was bought for a dog to use!
- We had a donation of printing paper for the first time this year. It proved to be very popular. One young man bought two full boxes of 11 X 17 Cherry Red paper and another customer pleaded with him to sell her just one package. He refused. What would you use that much large Cherry Red paper for?? He drove away in his Mercedes SUV before we could ask him.
- A little boy was thrilled to buy a multi-coloured round sixties-like lamp. We asked him if he was going to put it in his room. He told us he didn’t have a room at which point we weren’t sure what to say. He said he was going to put it in his hideout under the table.
- And, then there was the black panther barkcloth.



Those of us of a certain age may have grown up in houses with barkcloth curtains – tropical, botanical and bold-patterned, with a textured surface. We had four curtains donated to us and I was surprised to learn that the black panther ones were rare and would fetch a tidy sum on eBay. We sold one of the curtains for \$175 – our biggest sale of the day. The others were kept to be sold at a later date.

- Just as we were wrapping up and lamenting that we hadn't sold the doll's crib made by the father of one of Brooke's former CBC colleagues who introduced Brooke's radio camp to Vancouver, a family with a young girl dropped by and bought it! We sold the crib for the first time in one of our early garage sales. It was re-donated this year and we were so happy to see that it would be used again. At least three generations of girls will have put their dolls to sleep in that crib.
- Two respectable older sisters from the tony neighbourhood of Kerrisdale bought a crossword puzzle book. One of the sisters said she does five crosswords a day. She finds the New York Times crossword easy but sometimes gets stumped by the one published by the LA Times. One conversation led to another. We learned that she was a surgical nurse before she retired. She had taught herself to do plumbing and tile work and had to install some faucets she had just bought for her kitchen sink. The sister piped in that she would be under the sink with her rear end sticking up and her crack showing!! The operating nurse then donated \$5 to the Brooke Fund. Her sister, not to be outdone, gave us \$20. They jumped in their Subaru, cranked up the volume on an opera, rolled down their windows and drove down the alley, conducting the opera and laughing their heads off!!

You never know what's going to happen at a Brooke Forbes Legacy Fund Garage Sale!

Here are some photos from the day.



We set another record high for Garage Sale proceeds, raising \$1299.80 for the Fund! This will put the value of the Fund at over \$60,000.

As you know, the funds raised go to supporting minority youth discovering the joy of making radio. Our recipient last year was Frog Hollow Neighbourhood House which used the funds to provide audio production workshops for the at-risk youth in their Frames program.

If you'd like to donate to the Fund, you can go to the online giving portal at the link below and your tax receipt will be emailed immediately:

<https://www.vancitycommunityfoundation.ca/give/donor-advised-funds/brooke-forbes-legacy-fund>

Thank you to everyone who made this year's Garage Sale a success – both longtime donors and new ones.

Have a great summer everyone!