

Well, it didn't drizzle. It rained. It started raining when the sale opened and stopped just as we were wrapping up, but that didn't stop us or our supporters and shoppers. In fact, many said they were glad to see the rain, somehow thinking it would diminish the forest fires far from here.

We had our usual good mix of people and lots of regulars, some even telling us how much they enjoyed the native print, the salad bowl, the bird feeder or whatever it was that they had bought in previous years. This year, we noticed more people in their 20s and 30s which was a good sign in a city where younger people are feeling excluded by the high cost of housing. A young couple even bought our big bulky roll-top desk. Hope they have room for it.



One of our regulars
He hasn't missed a year.



The early morning crew

In keeping with Brooke's love of stories, particularly stories about ordinary people, here are some snippets we gathered at this year's sale:

- We had a new CD collector this year. He arrived very early and bought all the CDs we had set out. Our usual CD collector arrived just in time to see the CDs being packed up and he was not amused. However, his mood changed considerably when we brought out a second group of CDs for him to choose from.
- An older woman said her son wanted a globe. We had one for sale and she bought it immediately. I pointed out to her that the globe was from when there was a Soviet Union. That didn't seem to phase her. Mission accomplished!
- A young man was loading up on toys and we couldn't figure out why. He must have spent an hour at the sale. Talking on his cell and then picking up more toys. When he checked out, he explained that his mom works with a number of day cares in the neighbourhood where the toys will be donated.
- A middle-aged woman was looking for toys for her mother who has Alzheimer's, something she would enjoy doing but was neither too basic or too challenging. Alas, we couldn't find the right thing.
- We had a turn-table for sale and we thought it would go to a millennial but no, an older couple bought it to have a spare. They said just the night before they had friends over for dinner and after, sat around listening to records.
- One woman was asking questions about the Fund and when she heard it's at the Vancity Foundation, she said quite loudly "I love Vancity". She said in 1969, when Vancity gave her a mortgage, she became one of the first women in BC, if not Canada, to get a mortgage without a man having to co-sign it.



We had a special guest at this year's sale. Paul Malowany, one of Brooke's sons, dropped by.

We hadn't seen Paul for at least a decade so it was great to get caught up. He's as energetic and positive as ever – running his own motorcycle repair shop (he has five motorcycles), getting into the film industry and DJing when he wants to.

I guess it wasn't a surprise that Trump had a presence at the sale in the form of a Squash and Toss Political Head toy. A man named Donald who already owns Trump toilet paper bought three of them for his friends.



We set another record this year, bringing in **\$1389**, thanks to our long-standing donors and some new ones this year. This addition to the fund will keep us over \$60,000. This year's grant will go to AGORA Employment Essentials to teach young job seekers audio production skills to tell their stories and improve their communication skills.

You can donate anytime online to the Brooke Forbes Legacy Fund by going to the online giving portal at the link below:

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

A tax receipt will be emailed to you immediately.

Thank you to everyone who made the 14th annual Garage Sale, our soggiest one yet, a success. It takes a village!

Have a great summer everyone!

Cheers,

Joan