

BCLA's Intellectual Freedom Committee Celebrates Freedom to Read Week

By Beth Davies.

New Freedom to Read Week shirts

To celebrate this year's Freedom to Read Week, BCLA's Intellectual Freedom Committee revamped the ever-popular *There's Something in My Library to Offend Everybody* t-shirts. The new design is by James Gemmill, and there are three versions, one of which is a limited edition for Freedom to Read Week 2009. The new design is available on a variety of shirt styles. \$5 from the sale of each shirt goes to the Lois M. Bewley Intellectual Freedom Defense Fund. Buy yours today [online](#).



Shirley Lew and Beth Davies wearing the new Freedom to Read Week shirts at the BCLA Intellectual Freedom Committee's Freedom to Read Week event on Feb. 28th. © Miriam Moses

Marking Freedom to Read Week 2009

Library workers all over BC celebrated Freedom to Read Week (February 22 to 28, 2009) in style! From library displays to author readings, from banned books to open access, we discussed issues, shared ideas, and celebrated our freedom to read.

On February 28, 2009, the BCLA Intellectual Freedom Committee hosted an evening of discussion, socializing, button-making and readings of controversial materials at Rhizome Café.

Penny Goldsmith read from her friend Jane Rule's testimony at the *Little Sister's v. Canada Customs* trial, Michelle Miller read from a book of sex advice by and for teenage girls, Jon Scop read from *And Tango Makes Three*, Beth Davies read from a report on InSite, and Aili Meutzner read from Dr. Laura!

Thanks so much to everyone who came out for an enjoyable and stimulating evening. We were truly honoured to see old friends like Sylvia Crooks and Lois Bewley. Lois inspired so many librarians with her passion for intellectual freedom and gave her name to the Intellectual Freedom Defense Fund.

Beth Davies is Co-Chair of BCLA's Intellectual Freedom Committee.