

Raising a Glass to Literacy

By Carla Graebner.

Literacy champions, wine enthusiasts, authors and librarians were well represented at this year's Literacy BC's Annual Literacy & Beyond fundraising wine tasting gala held Monday, September 28th at the Century Plaza's beyond restaurant and lounge.

Co-hosted by Hal Wake, the Artistic Director of the Vancouver International Writers & Readers Festival and by Anthony Gismondi, distinguished wine critic and host of Canada's leading wine website [Gismondi on Wine](#), the gala offered an opportunity to taste a variety of local wines and raise money for a good cause.

Among the highlights of the evening was the live auction conducted by CBC's Early Edition host Rick Cluff and CBC's "Stepping Out With..." luminary Fred Lee. By the end of the night, Literacy & Beyond raised over \$33,000 in support for adult literacy in BC.



Carole James, Leader of the British Columbia New Democratic Party, resists the charms of Fred Lee, CBC Radio personality. © Sandra Wong

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