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TOWN TALK

Mansbridge anchors \$1.5-million BC Cancer Agency fundraiser

MALCOLM PARRY
VANCOUVER SUN



FORECAST FINE: Emceeding the 400-guest Inspiration gala Thursday, CBC news anchor **Peter Mansbridge** didn't need meteorologist-colleague **Claire Martin** to show which way the wind was blowing. By night's end, it wafted \$1.5 million into the Rocky Mountaineer station, where **Monika Deol** chaired the benefit for BC Cancer Agency's personalized medicine program.

Vansco Management principal **Anna Nyarady** bought several tickets for an \$8,000 Rolex watch like one she won in 2009 and promptly gave back to be raffled again. But there was no returning a loved friend of **Roselyn Tam** who, though young like her, died recently of salivary gland cancer. "There was no pain, so he ignored it, and then it was too late," Tam said, urging others to have any unusual growth checked.

DANCE OF LIFE: Hit youtube.com/watch?v=HgtYw8D3giE for an ultra-innovative music video by scientists and others at McGill University's Goodman Cancer Research Centre.

AT LIFE'S DOOR: Pioneering rock 'n' roll disc jockey **Red Robinson** was honoured at the CHILD Foundation's 21st-annual Doormen's Dinner recently. Founded by former B.C. cabinet minister **Grace McCarthy**, the foundation funds research into intestinal and liver ailments. It was a bitter-sweet evening for Robinson and wife

Carole, whose son **Jeff** died in 2002. Their daughter **Kellie** later wrote *Jeff Talks About Crohn's Disease*, a book illustrated by Sun cartoonist **Graham Harrop**, to aid other young patients.

JOYFUL VOICES: Singer **Sarah McLachlan** joined a 20-member choir rehearsing *The Book Of Love* before her self-named school of music's dedication in a former bowling alley Thursday. "I love it when you read to me," sang the students who, like 260 others, pay no fees. They may love writing, too, especially the \$7.5-million-



Sarah McLachlan joins choristers preparing to help dedicate her \$7.5-million school of music.



Inspiration gala guest Anna Nyarady shows a watch like one she won, then gave back to be re-raffled in 2009.

range cheque Wolverton Foundation founder **Dona Wolverton** reportedly wrote to acquire and refurbish the hitherto-nomadic school's permanent Seventh-off-Main home, aided by a city grant of \$100,000.

LET THERE BE LIGHT: Anticipating the South Asian Diwali Festival of Lights, **Robin Dhir** chaired the third Night of Miracles gala at the Marriott Pinnacle hotel recently.

It reportedly raised another \$200,000 toward a \$3-million



Prem Dhir supports son Robin as he chairs a pre-Diwali gala to benefit BC Children's Hospital.



CBC news and weather staffers Peter Mansbridge and Claire Martin get the BC Cancer Agency benefit rolling.

interventional radiology room at BC Children's Hospital. Screen actor and Underground Circus member **Stephanie van Dyck** interpreted fundraising's necessary handspins and contortions by tying herself in knots for benefactors beforehand.

CITY SEEN: Smashing news regarding our built community is that Douglas & McIntyre will soon publish a revised version of UBC Press's illustrated 1993 *Exploring Vancouver*. Original authors **Harold Kalman**



Underground Circus member Stephanie van Dyck displays new twists for Night of Miracles donors.



Even when there's no pain, have changes checked, said Roselyn Tam, who lost a loved one to late-detected cancer.

and **Robin Ward** have updated a book, properly subtitled *The Essential Architectural Guide*, that fetches up to \$160 used. It'll complement D&M's *Historical Atlas of Vancouver and the Lower Fraser Valley*, *The Illustrated History of British Columbia* and *Historical Atlas of the North Pacific Ocean* on your shelves.

SOLID HIT: As with the B.C. Lions, injuries sidelined some out-of-town performers in Vancouver Opera's hyper-energetic *Westside Story*. That's



A mannequin of Ehris Presley, whom he interviewed, overlooks Doormen's Dinner honoree Red Robinson.



Injuries saw local Shawna Parry get her QE Theatre debut in Vancouver Opera's West Side Story.

why local **Shawna Parry** (unrelated) was sent in opening night for her main stage debut as *Jet-gang* tomboy **Arny-bodys**. Her next gig: Nanaimo's *Yellowpoint Christmas Spectacular*.

DOWN PARRYSCOPE: What if Occupy Vancouver were actually the staged set for another epic work by Vancouver Art Gallery favourite **Jeff Wall** that, unlike campers, would be welcomed inside — for a million dollars or so.

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