

TOWN TALK

## Fishing club reels in record \$1.17 million for the kids

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**B**AITED BREATH: Forty or so hockey players, team executives and corporate and community biggies paid \$12,500 each to join the West Coast Fishing Club's Fishing For Kids tournament this week. Before flying to Haida Gwaii, some wondered if they could raise more than last year's \$1 million for the Canucks Autism Network. By Wednesday, after **Dwight Jefferson** and **Colin McIvor** respected tournament custom by returning their \$200,000 prize for landing 33.8-pound chinooks, the eighth-annual event had generated a record \$1,173,000.

**Jann Arden** entertained contestants beforehand at the Hotel Georgia's Reflections lounge, where humans no longer need be fished from the Venice-like channels that made that al fresco venue a genuine watering hole. The gurgling gutters now have heavy translucent covers to spare toppers' shoes, clothes and litigious urges.

**FRONT TO BAX:** Couturewise, artist **Athena Bax** makes pocket change look like a million. For a high-style store's 2011 launch, her \$23 ensemble included an \$8 Value Village frock some guests identified as a Gucci or Michael Kors. Her dress at the Fishing For Kids bash resembled one in the September Vogue but cost \$13 at Urban Behaviour. She blew her budget, though, with \$209 stiletto booties from Rowan Sky, marked down to \$99. There'll be no such discounts at Bax's Powell Street studio Nov. 6, when her canvases will run from \$500 to \$8,000.

**THAT'S THE SPIRIT:** Pulling a U-turn on Style Highway this week, Rolls-Royce gave patrons a surprisingly pretty car to look at. The venue was the Rocky Mountaineer station, where vehicles as purposeful-looking as recent Rolls-Royces usually pull trains. Graceful though it is, though, the 2,440-kg Wraith has enough locomotive-like grunt to hit a governed 250 km/h and handle the old 0-to-60-m.p.h. drag in 4.4 seconds. All for close on \$400,000. Operatic sopranos accompanied the unveiling. **Sheila Christie** sang the woe-is-me aria *Vissi d'arte* from *Tosca*. **Melanie Krueger** handled *La Bohème*'s more appropriate *Musetta's Waltz*: "People stop and stare at me ... look at my beauty ... and I relish their sly yearning."



Aerial gymnastics choreographer **Kira Schaffer** represented Rolls-Royce's Spirit of Ecstasy figurine when a Wraith model launched among older ones like **John and Nicky Walte's** 1929 Phantom I.

out of 1917 Russia — has enough action, danger and sex to be made into a movie, too. That might give **Hunt** a quantum of solace.

**LIVE AND STAY DRY:** Movie-makers at the 007 Reloaded launch included **Giada Dobrzenska**, who acted in 60 episodes of the German soap *Lindenstrasse* and whose city-shot 2001 short, *Mon amour mon parapluie*, gave her producer-director standing. For the *Vancity Theatre* gala, she dressed as *Solitaire*, **Jane Seymour's** role in *Live and Let Die*. As for umbrellas, brother **Dominic Dobrzensky** toted one of those samurai-sword-handled jobs that give security personnel connipions worldwide.



Pakistan-born film actress and Vancouver talk host turned anti-human-trafficking spokeswoman **Zara Durrant** hopes for a Bond girl role.



Vancouver International Film Festival chief **Jacqueline Duputs** and Dr. No actress **Marguerite Gordon** launched a series of 20 James Bond films.



Vancouver Canucks co-owner and Canucks Autism Network co-founder **Paolo Aquilini** joined **Jann Arden** at the Fishing For Kids kickoff.



Artist **Athena Bax** paid \$13 for a Vogue-look-alike new dress to wear at a sendoff for the \$1.17-million Fishing For Kids tournament.



**Wayne Stewart** hit the 007 Reloaded gala as *Live and Let Die's* **Baron Samedi**, bottom, **Glada Dobrzenska** as *Solitaire*, brother **Dominic** as himself.



B.C.-born L.A. Kings defenceman **Willie Mitchell** and Delta Land Development president **Bruce Langerets** readied to go fishing in Haida Gwaii.



Pianist-singer **Bryant Olender**, who was accompanist and band leader for **Michael Bublé**, launched his *So Strong* album's single this week.