

## TOWN TALK

## Annual gala's no-rain record ends

**Face The World:** Raindrops didn't dampen spirit of the \$2,000-per-ticket fundraiser the Cohens hold at their Point Grey home



Malcolm Parry

**BLUER WORLD:** Three generations of Cohens — Marlene, Jacqui and Kasondra — saw the Face The World gala no-rain record end at the family's Point Grey home recently. But the \$2,000-a-ticket do's tradition of raising \$1 million for local charities continued.

And anyway, raindrops, when they came, looked well on a royal blue Rolls-Royce Wraith that matched the younger Cohens' dresses. Auctioneer Tyler Olsen offered a year's lease of the \$450,000 coupe, which featured now-rare "suicide" doors, then got \$250,000 for a group cruise aboard a 160-foot Odessa motor yacht. Guests also met Moody Blues singer Justin Hayward, whose Blue World lyrics echoed the gala's theme: "It takes somebody to help somebody."

Inspired perhaps by that band's enduring hit, several female attendees dressed for the night in tight satin. Shannon Wilson took a different couture tack. Accompanying husband and Lululemon founder Chip, with whom she donates \$25,000 to FTW annually, she wore a fur bolero over a scooped-at-the-back dress that showed more epidermis than his firm's controversial yoga pants ever did.

Other guests bid on a London trip and high tea with Canadian High Commissioner Gordon Campbell and wife Nancy, possibly including HST for nostalgia's sake. And so it went, with the promise that next year's 25th running will be extra-special.



Face The World founder Jacqui Cohen and daughter Kasondra dressed to match a Rolls-Royce Wraith that was auctioned for lease at the million-dollar charity gala's 24th running.