

## Special Events - UBC Wine Research Centre Tour

### UBC Wine Research Centre Tour of Tuesday, March 4

In spite of the rain, it took no arm twisting for a large group of members to tour the UBC wine research facilities. It is headed by Dr. Hennie van Vuuren, an affable and highly knowledgeable professor from South Africa. He enjoys his work! We first listened to a lecture on some of the research they are doing. Through genetic engineering the centre has developed a red wine yeast that will not give people headaches. Unfortunately the large producers won't touch it because of possible (US?) lawsuits, and smaller wineries which do use it won't say which wines are made with the yeast.

After the lecture we had a tour of their world class labs, and then the "wine library". To our delight there were no books but 8,000 bottles of wine, with one valued at \$26,000. This and many others are acquired by private donations, or from wineries.

Finally we had a delicious cold plate lunch and tasted four of his favourite wines, which he described. They are:

1. Quail's Gate Dry Reisling (BC Liquor)
2. Springfield Life from Stone (Liberty Wines)
3. De Toren Fusion Five (BC Liquor)
4. Penfold's Shiraz BM28 (BC Liquor)

The sources are shown in brackets.

*Ken Bryden*

