



# News Release

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## ISLANDS TRUST SEEKS HELP TO CELEBRATE COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS

VICTORIA — The Islands Trust is seeking the help of islanders to recognize people, groups and businesses working to protect the environment and enhance life on their islands.

The 2017 Community Stewardship Awards program is now open for nominations until April 18.

“Preserving and protecting the environment and ecosystems of the Trust Area islands is a shared responsibility,” said Peter Luckham, Chair of the Islands Trust Council. “The Community Stewardship Award program celebrates islanders who take that responsibility to heart by dedicating their time, energy, and creativity to ensure the health of the ecosystems and communities in the Salish Sea.”

The Community Stewardship Awards program is in its 15<sup>th</sup> year. The program’s purpose is to acknowledge people, businesses and community groups whose actions support the Islands Trust [Policy Statement](#)’s goals. Nominated projects must be completed in the last two years or be ongoing.

Since 2002, the Islands Trust Council has presented 76 awards to individuals and organizations. Over the years, nominated projects have addressed land, water and marine conservation issues, promoted agriculture, public transit, cultural heritage protection, and advanced research and public education.

Program guidelines and the nomination form are available on the Islands Trust’s [website](#).

This year’s award recipients will be announced at the June Trust Council meeting and will be presented with awards in their own communities in the fall.

The Islands Trust is a federation of special-purpose local government bodies representing 25,000 people living within the Islands Trust Area and another 10,000 non-resident property-owners. The Islands Trust is responsible for preserving and protecting the unique environment and amenities of the Islands Trust Area through planning and regulating land use, development management, education, cooperation with other agencies, and land conservation. The area covers the islands and waters between the British Columbia mainland and southern Vancouver Island. It includes 13 major islands and more than 450 smaller islands covering 5200 square kilometres.

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### CONTACT

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Preserving **island** communities, culture and environment

Bowen, Denman, Hornby, Gabriola, Galiano, Gambier, Lasqueti, Mayne, N. Pender, Salt Spring, Saturna, S. Pender, Thetis

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