



News Release

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ISLANDS TRUST 2010 COMMUNITY STEWARDSHIP AWARDS NOMINATIONS OPEN

VICTORIA — The Islands Trust 2010 Community Stewardship Awards Program is now open for nominations. If you know of a person, business or group that has made a big difference to life on your island, please consider nominating them.

“This program is designed to celebrate the achievements of people who have worked on a project that supports the mandate of the Islands Trust,” said Sheila Malcolmson, Chair of the Islands Trust. “Preservation and protection doesn't happen without our island partners, and islanders all over the federation are inspired to hear about everyone's good work.”

“The program is about more than the environment – it's also about community life,” added Malcolmson. “If someone or an organization has contributed to protecting the environment, improving the community, culture or economic sustainability of an island we want everyone to know about them.”

The Islands Trust added new criteria to the Community Stewardship Award Program last year to recognize and encourage the actions of individuals and organizations that are working in the area of climate change.

“We know climate change will have an effect on the communities of the Trust Area. But we also know that there are many individuals and organizations in the Trust Area who are dedicated to reducing greenhouse gases,” said Malcolmson.

Nominations can relate to either a single project or to work carried out over the last 12 months, and can be made for work conducted by individuals or organizations. Each year the community stewardship awards are presented to a person, business or group that deserves an award for helping to make the islands better. Projects or actions that are innovative, support the Islands Trust mandate, benefit a community or the Trust Area, have some level of community involvement or address climate change can be nominated for an award.

The Islands Trust has a mandate to preserve and protect the Trust Area and its unique amenities and environment for the benefit of residents and all British Columbians, in cooperation with other local governments, individuals and organizations.

This is the ninth year of the annual award program, which is open to any individual, school or classroom, community group, non-profit organization or business that has demonstrated efforts to enhance a community in the Trust Area, consistent with the mandate. Islands Trust staff, contractors or trustees can not make nominations or be nominated.

Nominees will be judged on the following criteria: relationship of project or work to the Islands Trust Policy Statement, benefits to the community or Trust Area, collaboration with others, innovation and the level of community support and involvement.

Nominations can be for a specific project or work carried out over a period of time. The project or work must be ongoing or have been completed within the previous twelve months. Last year there were 13 nominees for the awards. Previous submissions have included environmental conservation, community improvement, and public education.

Stewardship awards will be given to two individuals and two organizations, providing there are sufficient qualifying entries to justify an award. Each nominator can submit two nominations per category. The deadline for nominations is April 30.

Nomination forms and more details, including lists of past recipients, are available on the Stewardship Awards page of the Islands Trust web site at <http://islandstrust.bc.ca/poi/awards.cfm> or from Islands Trust offices. Award recipients will be announced following the June Trust Council Meeting and presented with their awards in the fall.

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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
