

Sustaining the Islands – Community Stewardship Awards Program



Islands Trust

2011 Nominee Profile

Hornby New Clinic Committee, Hornby Island

- Category:** Group
- Project:** Hornby Medical Clinic
- Nominator(s):** Maureen Tierney
- Letters of Support:** N/A

Project Description:

The project involved planning, coordinating and building the new community medical clinic for Hornby Island. The Hornby New Clinic Committee has taken the project from the "dream" to the ultimate completion in the summer of 2011. A committee of twelve, the Hornby New Clinic Committee, was formed in the fall of 2008. Over the last two and half years the committee has organized the design, construction, fund raising, and volunteer coordination, and managed a \$535,000 budget. Fund raising included golf tournaments, silent auctions, dances, barbecues, garage sales, fashion shows, concerts, the Hornby quilt raffle and lectures with Robert Bateman and Dr. Gabor Maté. Stakeholder meetings included doctors, health professionals, the Vancouver Island Health Authority and the Residential Ratepayers Association in the process. More than 250 people have contributed work of some kind to the project and in-kind donations totaled over \$180,000. No grants were available so this was a project funded for the people and by the people.

This project has added to economic sustainability in a great way as island trades were hired to perform jobs that were beyond the scope and mandate of volunteerism. The benefits of the new clinic are far reaching as it now provides a degree of medical care in a facility which is comparable to or better than those found on Vancouver Island and the rest of the province. The island will be better able to retain and attract doctors. Residents will save many ferry trips as the availability of better equipment, proper treatment rooms and tele-medicine which will provide access to specialists have raised the level of medical care on the island. The clinic will also improve the level of care available to the 5,000 visitors who come every summer.

The old clinic--a 35 year old single wide trailer was poorly laid out, offered very little patient/doctor privacy, had an unmanageable treatment room (doubling as an office for both doctors) and no emergency room. The new clinic is 'state of the art' in design and function, with curved roof, wooden pillars at the front entrance, cedar shingle highlights, water collection system and solar panels; it looks like a true "Hornby building".