

Sustaining the Islands – Community Stewardship Awards Program



Islands Trust

2010 Nominee Profile

Jon Guy, Saturna Island

- Category:** Individual
- Project:** His many contributions to the vitality of Saturna Island's community life
- Nominator(s):** Saturna Community Club Recycling Committee

Letters of Support: N/A

Project Description:

Jon's many activities on Saturna Island contribute to building community and enhancing the social life and environmental health of Saturna Island. One of Jon's business initiatives, the General Store and Café on Saturna Island, is a community gathering place that offers the Post Office, community bulletin boards, free wireless internet, the "freemail", coffee and a welcoming attitude. Jon has turned an unused section of the Saturna Point Store into a small meeting room for the community. Jon's businesses employ a number of young people in secure jobs with full benefits packages, and the General Store includes apartments at very affordable rents. Jon's contribution to affordable housing and permanent employment – especially for young people - has added to the economic stability of the island.

Jon also manages the community cemetery and has signed a rent-free lease on part of his farm property to the Saturna Educational Education Centre as a home for the outdoor school program. The cabins and learning area being built on the farm site will remain as part of the community and be available for other community environmental education when not used by SEEC. For years he has been the volunteer who gets up at 4:00 a.m. to light the fires for the lamb barbecue and he has also volunteered to light the fire and tend the pigs for twice-yearly pig roasts. His trucks have carried tents, tables and food for the barbecue, as well as recyclables. He is also an energetic member of the Parks and Recreation Committee, the Community Club, the volunteer fire department and the local Trust Advisory Planning commission. He encourages people to honour the traditions of the island and to participate in community activities.