

Sustaining the Islands – Community Stewardship Awards Program



Islands Trust

2007 Award Recipient Profile

Winner: Karl Hamson, North Pender Island

Category: Individual

Project: Seeing the Whole Picture: Preservation of the lands, historical uses and values and community.

Nominator(s): The Pender Islands Trust Protection Society

Project Description: Karl Hamson, a resident of North Pender Island for 25 years, was instrumental in forming the Pender Islands Conservancy Association and was a founding member of the board. He spearheaded a campaign to preserve the lands of the Medicine Beach Wetland, with “Karl’s Barn Dance” – raising \$19,000. The Brooke Point land acquisition triggered another “Karl’s Barn Dance”. Next was the need for a new community hall and Karl stepped forward, once again, with a donation of three acres of land in 1998 and more “Karl’s Barn Dances”. Karl was appointed to the Advisory Planning Commission in 1997 and remained on the commission for three years during the onerous task of putting forth the first Land Use Bylaw for North Pender Island. He also served as Director of the Farmers Institute. His life-long project is ‘island living’ – to live sustainably, preserve community and to enhance the rural lifestyle while preserving and protecting the reasons many came and stayed. He practices sustainable farming and forestry on his acreage on North Pender Island.