



News Release

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Islands Trust announces launch of the 2026 Community Stewardship Awards Program

Lək'wəŋən, METULIYE/Victoria, B.C. – Islands Trust has announced the launch of the 18th Islands Trust Community Stewardship Awards program. The awards recognize individuals, organizations, and groups involved with initiatives that further the Islands Trust’s mandate to preserve and protect.

“I want to recognize that everyone who lives in and visits the Islands Trust Area is a steward of these special places. Many of us were inspired by a person or organization that encouraged us to learn about the ecosystems we value and the native species that depend on them. The Community Stewardship Award Program is an opportunity to honour those individuals and organizations who have dedicated their time, energy, and ingenuity to preserving and protecting the Islands Trust Area. Their commitment strengthens our communities and helps ensure these islands remain vibrant and resilient for generations to come,” said Laura Patrick, Chair of the Islands Trust Council.

Since its inception in 2002, Islands Trust Council has recognized 82 individuals and organizations for their contributions to land conservation, knowledge-holding and sharing, ecosystem preservation, forest restoration, climate change adaptation, water and marine conservation, agricultural innovation, wildlife rescue and rehabilitation, and public outreach and education in the Islands Trust Area.

Award recipients are selected by Islands Trust Council and will be recognized at local trust committee and island municipality meetings in the fall of 2026.

Nominations are due by April 26, 2026. Information about eligibility criteria, nomination forms, and past recipients is available at: <https://islandstrust.bc.ca/programs/stewardship-awards/>.

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Islands Trust is a special-purpose government representing over 30,000 people living within the Islands Trust Area and 10,000 non-resident property owners. The Islands Trust Area is located within Coast Salish territory and is the homeland to many Coast Salish Peoples who have called this place home since time immemorial. Islands Trust is responsible for preserving and protecting

the Islands Trust Area and its unique amenities and environment through conservation-oriented land use planning and regulation, education, and cooperation with First Nations and other agencies. The Islands Trust 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 5,200 square kilometres.

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