



News Release

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LET'S CELEBRATE OUR COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS

VICTORIA — The Islands Trust is seeking the help of islanders to recognize people, groups and businesses working to protect the environment and enhance life on their islands.

The 2019 Community Stewardship Awards program is now open for nominations until April 22.

“We are all fortunate to live in a special place. Living, working and playing here comes with responsibilities. The Islands Trust has specific responsibilities handed to it by the Province and does as much as it can with the tools it has to preserve and protect the environment and amenities of the Island Trust Area. It is however a shared responsibility,” said Peter Luckham, Chair of the Islands Trust Council. “The Community Stewardship Awards program recognizes individual islanders and organizations for their commitment to preserving and protecting the islands in the Salish Sea, and celebrates all the energy, time, resources and creativity community members and organizations invest to ensure the health of island environments and communities is protected now and into the future.”

The Community Stewardship Awards program is in its 16th year. The program’s purpose is to acknowledge people, businesses and community groups whose actions support the Islands Trust [Policy Statement’s](#) goals. Nominated projects must be completed in the last two years or be ongoing.

Since 2002, the Islands Trust Council has presented 83 awards to individuals and organizations. Over the years, nominated projects have addressed a huge variety of topics on the islands ranging from land, water and marine conservation, agriculture, cultural heritage protection, and public education initiatives.

Program guidelines and the nomination instructions are available on the Islands Trust’s [website](#) on the Community Stewardship Awards page.

This year’s award recipients will be announced at the June Trust Council meeting, and will be presented with awards in their own communities in the fall.

The Islands Trust is a federation of special-purpose local government bodies representing 26,000 people living within the Islands Trust Area and another 10,000 non-resident property-owners. The Islands Trust is responsible for preserving and protecting the unique environment and amenities of the Islands Trust Area through planning and regulating land use, development management, education, co-operation with other agencies, and land conservation. The 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 5200 square kilometers.

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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
