

## ***Sustaining the Islands – Community Stewardship Awards Program***



# **Islands Trust**

## **2013 Nominee Profile**

### **Patrick Smith, South Pender Island**

- Category:** Individual
- Project:** Musical healing and leadership in the Southern Gulf Islands
- Nominator(s):** Pender Islands Trust and Protection Society
- Letters of Support:** N/A

#### **Project Description:**

Patrick Smith came to Pender Island at the age of 24 in 1973, and has been playing music there and giving back to the community ever since. Perched on rocks near Brooks Point or walking through the Enchanted Forest, you might be lucky to hear the Pied Piper of Pender playing on his penny whistle. As founder and Artistic Director of Ptarmigan Music and Theatre Society, Patrick plays music, teaches music and creates programs that heal through music, theatre, and the arts. He created a \$30,000 musical instrument bank for students and adults on Pender Island. Ptarmigan offers the Art and Nature Program for children and also Artists in the School programs. This year, Ptarmigan is organizing the 5th Annual Island Mosaic Festival. Ptarmigan, now in its 22nd year, also offers live musical programs for seniors in Victoria (for which Patrick plays) and programs for children with serious illnesses in cooperation with the Canadian Cancer Society and the BC Children's Hospital. Through the Ptarmigan Society (a registered charity), Patrick raises money to deliver community arts programs inexpensively or for free so they will be accessible to people with disabilities and disadvantages.

Patrick Smith has enhanced the cultural life on all the Southern Gulf Islands, and provided healing and accessible arts programs to many children and adults on the Gulf Islands, Vancouver and Victoria. He is currently Vice President of the Assembly of BC Arts Councils.

Patrick works with a wide variety of artists, community organizers, teachers, and children and adults from Pender, and island communities. Through music, Patrick connects and inspires people to enjoy inter-generational and inter-island projects. His work has enriched the lives of seniors, people with disabilities, and survivors of cancer.