

Sustaining the Islands – Community Stewardship Awards Program



2009 Nominee Profile

- Nominee:** Pender Organic Community Garden Society
- Category:** Organization/Group
- Project:** Sustainable Living through a Shared Experience of Gardening
- Nominator(s):** The Pender Islands Trust Protection Society
- Letters of Support:** N/A

Project Description: The Pender Organic Community Garden Society was founded by Tim Kempe and Grace Jordan in 2006 to create space for people to garden as a community through individual plots, shared plots, and community supported agriculture. The project aims to enhance food security, reduce climate change impact, provide affordable and nutritious food, and foster sense of community by bringing together people of diverse backgrounds and ages. The limited pockets of fertile farmland on the Pender Islands and smaller land parcels mean that many people do not have place for a veggie patch. The Garden Society has secured a 100x80 foot garden space at Ross Smith Farm and developed 25 community plots – with one designated as general use and one designed for school children. The Garden Society’s success has been driven by community enthusiasm – membership has grown rapidly to 63 people, including 18 children, and a waiting list has been formed. The Garden Society also hosts what it calls a list of ‘supporters,’ who host another 20-plus islanders.