

Sustaining the Islands – Community Stewardship Awards Program



Islands Trust

2011 Nominee Profile

Jane Wolverton, Galiano Island

Category: Individual
Project: Galiano Food Program
Nominator(s): Michael Hoebel
Letters of Support: N/A

Project Description:

Jane Wolverton is the Galiano Club's director in charge of the Galiano Food Program. Jane has successfully found funding for this project from foundations and government agencies, and is the driving force and inspiration behind the myriad facets of this excellent community program which involves all islanders from young children to seniors. Jane is a natural leader who inspires others to get involved. She has ensured that the goals of the project and its many accomplishments are well-publicized through regular articles in the local newsmagazine, posters, and a dynamic program website (<http://galianofoodprogram.ca/>). Hundreds of Galiano residents have participated in one or more of the food program's many activities.

The Galiano Food Program is focused on developing an awareness of food security issues, and on teaching people how to grow and process their own healthy food. As such it is addressing long-term sustainability of the Galiano community. The project's activities encourage sharing and participation and support the social life of this island. By encouraging people to grow food locally, and to make food purchase decisions carefully, the Food Program is undoubtedly having an impact on greenhouse gas production through the reduction of transportation for acquiring food that has a large carbon footprint.

Through Jane's efforts, the Galiano Club has received funding from VanCity, the Vancouver Foundation, and the Victoria Foundation to hire volunteer coordinators for various community food programs. The Vancouver Island Health Authority currently is funding a project focused on gleaning teams, establishing a Farmers' Institution, developing a meals program and hosting an all Islands Food Security Conference. In addition, the food program is being funded by New Horizons for Seniors (Government of Canada) for the Food Forever Project.