

2009

Hearts of the Community Volunteer Awards

11 years of celebrating our
Peninsula community
volunteers

Event Background

In 1999, Peninsula Community Services (now Beacon Community Services) and the Peninsula News Review joined efforts to pay tribute to people who give selflessly to the Saanich Peninsula community and ask for nothing in return - volunteers. A community awards program was established to give formal thanks and recognition, and to help make the entire community aware of what our area volunteers contribute. A committee was formed, with the Mayors of the three Peninsula municipalities (Sidney, North Saanich, Central Saanich), as well as representatives from School District 63, Beacon Community Services and the Peninsula News Review, to call for nominations and select award recipients. In October 2001, that year's committee created a new inspirational name for the volunteer awards, *The Hearts of the Community Volunteer Awards*.



2009 Event Profile

Beacon Community Services and the Peninsula News Review are once again pleased to sponsor the 11th Annual *Hearts of the Community Volunteer Awards*. We look forward to acknowledging the many wonderful volunteers who contribute so much to the Saanich Peninsula community.

We welcome volunteer nominations from the community throughout January up to the **January 30, 2009 submission deadline**. Eligible people are Peninsula residents and groups, as well as those outside the area, who do/have done beneficial volunteer work on the Saanich Peninsula. Nomination forms are available at www.beaconcs.ca, the Peninsula News Review, and Beacon Community Services' Third Street office, SHOAL Centre and area Thrift Stores.

A selection committee will meet in early February to review all submitted nomination forms and identify a winner for each of the six award categories:

Outstanding Youth Volunteer - For a youth, aged 14 -19, who provides exemplary volunteer service in their school and/or the Saanich Peninsula community (also receives a \$1,000 education scholarship)

Service to Seniors - For service by an individual that helps improve the quality of life for seniors living on the Saanich Peninsula

Service to Children & Families - For service by an individual to children, youth, and/or their families living on the Saanich Peninsula

Overall Service to the Community - For outstanding efforts by an individual in a variety of volunteer activities in the Saanich Peninsula community

Community Service/Project by a Group - For a service/project by a group which benefits the Saanich Peninsula community

Lifetime Service Award - For an individual contributing exemplary volunteer service in the Saanich Peninsula community over a lifetime

Category winners and nominees will be honoured at the *2009 Hearts of the Community Volunteer Awards* event at 11am on Wednesday, February 18 at the Mary Winspear Centre's Charlie White Theatre in Sidney. The event features musical performances and a complimentary luncheon for the 300 attendees. Free tickets for this special, sell-out event are available in early January at the locations noted above. For more information, please call 250-658-7207.