



## Unsung Hero Award and Celebration

An unsung hero is a skilled, dedicated and diligent person who has served the larger community long and well but has never won the headlines. Their contributions within "social profit organizations," (otherwise known as non-profits) deserve to be better known, more fully appreciated and publicly applauded – because they will inspire the rest of us.

The Unsung Heroes Award is an initiative of First Unitarian Church of Victoria and the Community Council, a non-profit organization providing leadership to bring the community together to create a sustainable quality of life for everyone in BC's Capital Region.

This annual award acknowledges and celebrates the work of one from surely a number of deserving citizens within BC's Capital Region, someone whose unusual service to the community over time reflects the principles of both the First Unitarian Church of Victoria and the Community Council. We are partners in the presentation of this annual celebration because of these shared values and because there are so many deserving but unsung heroes.

### *Our shared values:*

#### *Unitarian*

- The inherent worth and dignity of every person
- Justice, equity and compassion in human relations
- Acceptance of one another
- A free and responsible search for truth and meaning
- The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process
- The goal of world community with peace, liberty and justice for all
- Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part

#### *Community Council*

- Cooperation - working with others to build community capacity
- Understanding - addressing underlying problems and opportunities
- Participation - seeking input and involvement from the variety of voices in our community
- Inclusion - including those who experience the issues first hand
- Communication - connecting in ways that everyone can understand
- Sharing - sharing power, information, resources and leadership
- Openness - open to innovation, various points of view and participation from all sectors of our society
- Action - developing practical, effective solutions
- Recognition - celebrating and positively reinforcing those who enhance quality of life in this region.

## **The Award**

The Unsung Hero Award is presented annually at a celebration dinner, to a person within BC's Capital Region whose unusual service over time within a social profit setting reflects the above values. Funds raised through the sale of tickets are given to the social profit organization designated by the Unsung Hero.

## **The process for selecting the "unsung hero"**

Anyone living in BC's Capital Region may be nominated for this award but no one can propose themselves. Each nominee will have a record of active involvement within a social profit organization which will present evidence in support of their nomination. If the nominee is chosen for the award, the organization designated by the nominee will take part in planning the celebration.

## **Celebrated "unsung heroes"**

2008– Mabel Jean Rawlins, Executive Director, Community Council

2009 – Gordon Harper, Executive Director, Umbrella Society

*Information:*

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