



Masset mayor Andrew Merilees (centre) presents Christopher Horner and Shelly Crack with their awards at the Adult Day Program in Old Massett.

Congratulations to the 2015 Citizens of the Year!

Warm wishes and words of praise poured in after the Massett Haida Lions announced that they had chosen two dedicated health workers as Citizens of the Year for 2015.

Registered dietician Shelly Crack and care aide Christopher Horner, who both work for Northern Health, were honoured for their outstanding community contributions. Northern Haida Gwaii Hospital administrator John Short said Shelly was recognized for her work with Farm To School and Farm To Cafeteria Canada, successfully engaging all schools on Haida Gwaii to develop their own greenhouses to grow, harvest, prepare and eat healthy food in a fun learning environment.

“She continues to develop this work with her vision to have sustainable healthy local foods for all islanders,” John said.

Chris was recognized for the work he does as the Adult Day Program Coordinator in Old Massett, where he has amalgamated the local food bank, breakfast program and adult day program under one roof. Recently, John said, he partnered with the Skidegate Food Bank to create an all-island food bank to improve services. “He was recognized for his intergenerational programming, advocacy for community members who have difficulty accessing service providers, fundraising initiatives, and continual volunteerism with community events,” John said.

The Gwaii Trust has worked with both recipients coordinating the food banks and school food initiatives, and extends its warmest congratulations to Chris and Shelly for their contributions to making our islands community a great place to live.

The holiday season approaches, bringing with it all the good food and community gatherings that are traditional at this time of year. Daylight may be in short supply but holiday cheer is all around. The Christmas Allocation Grant provides \$10,000 for each Gwaii Trust community (Old Massett, Graham Island North, Graham Island Central, Skidegate, Graham Island South and Moresby Island) to use for seasonal celebrations. Proposals must be received by November 6, and must be completed by January 15. See our website at gwaiitrust.com for complete details.

DID YOU KNOW?

Since 2011, the Gwaii Trust’s School Food Grant has provided \$85,000 a year directly to School District 50 for the purpose of making nutritious and culturally appropriate food available in all island schools.