

# Reprint **Island Tides**

Visit [www.islandtides.com](http://www.islandtides.com) to read the current edition and more find more interesting articles on other BC, national & international topics in our extensive archive of newspapers and articles.

Reprint from Volume 22 Number 19

Oct 14, 2010

## Lasqueti school teacher wins award

Lasqueti Island's head teacher, Reid Wilson, and his students got a big surprise on Tuesday, October 5. He won a Grand & Toy award of \$2,000-worth of school supplies for being an outstanding teacher. The first he knew of it was when his principal, Anne Jenkins, and three executives from Grand & Toy wheeled an ergonomic chair and a big box of school supplies into the classroom. Two students had tipped him off, 'We're not hallucinating,' they said, 'the principal's here.' (Normally, principal Jenkins travels to the school only on Fridays.)

Wilson was recognized with 11 other teachers, Canada-wide, in Grand & Toy's A Day Made Better Program. He was nominated by his former principal Jim Powell who wrote:

'Reid Wilson teaches a multi-graded class of twelve students from grades 5-8 on Lasqueti, an island school accessed by passenger ferry only.

Due to its remoteness, staff have limited access to after-school functions and students do not have the facilities or recreational activities That are available in most communities.



Lasqueti is not on the electricity grid and a variety of energy sources are utilized by the Islanders—the school is powered by a large generator.

'Reid teaches his multi-graded class with enthusiasm

and vigour. Students are grouped by grade or ability and have learned very independent work habits and skills.

He provides a comprehensive program in all academic areas as well as in French, fine arts, music, and physical education.

Strong academic skills, research strategies, and skills for seeking further knowledge and a positive attitude toward learning are the foundation he instills.

He also coaches students in other activities and helps them develop sport and musical interests.

'An accomplished musician and athlete, Reid's calm, personable and diplomatic manner makes him an exceptional role model for the children and youth in the school and for Lasqueti Islanders in general. 'Students under his guidance and teaching have excelled academically and are well-rounded and well prepared when they leave the Island for secondary education in a larger community.

In the last few years his intermediate students have excelled—when they leave False Bay School and go to secondary education they are winning awards for their achievements—quite remarkable as they are in larger urban centres with many students.

### Greening Lasqueti School

'The school of 21 K-8 students, under Reid's guidance, is embarking on a project, along with Parent Advisory Council support, to 'green' the school. The school is an older building and its could certainly be upgraded—new thermopane windows, insulation, weather stripping—as well as converting from diesel and propane power to solar energy.

'Over the last year the class held two fundraisers and has raised a couple of thousand dollars to help in this regard. Grants have also been solicited through provincial and federal government agencies and the \$45,000 for the first phase of the project—converting the heating boilers from propane to solar energy—has been raised.

'Students have learned to be power conscious, as the

© Island Tides Publishing Ltd. This article may be reproduced with this attribution, in its entirety, with notification to Island Tides Publishing Ltd.

This article was published (Oct 14, 2010) in 'Island Tides'. 'Island Tides' is an independent, regional newspaper distributing 18,000 print copies throughout the Gulf Islands and Vancouver Island from Victoria to Campbell River.

Island Tides, Box 55, Pender Island, BC, Canada.  
Email: [islandtides@islandtides.com](mailto:islandtides@islandtides.com).

Phone: 250-629-3660. Fax: 250-629-3838.  
Website: <http://www.islandtides.com>

generator's diesel consumption is directly related to the amount of power used in the building. Students have measured power consumption of the various appliances, computers, copiers, etc and are making every effort to limit the use of power during the school day. This awareness is teaching the students about fossil-fuel conservation and how they can make a difference at their school and in their community.



'Reid's commitment to the school, community and his students is remarkable. He is making a huge difference in the lives of his students through his teaching, guidance, and willingness to go the extra mile to make school fun and give them the extras that aren't available in the community.

'Yes, Reid does make a difference in the lives of his students! School is fun, they are learning, and doing exceptionally well!'

---

© Island Tides Publishing Ltd. This article may be reproduced with this attribution, in its entirety, with notification to Island Tides Publishing Ltd.

This article was published (Oct 14, 2010) in 'Island Tides'. 'Island Tides' is an independent, regional newspaper distributing 18,000 print copies throughout the Gulf Islands and Vancouver Island from Victoria to Campbell River.

Island Tides, Box 55, Pender Island, BC, Canada. Phone: 250-629-3660. Fax: 250-629-3838.  
Email: [islandtides@islandtides.com](mailto:islandtides@islandtides.com). Website: <http://www.islandtides.com>

---