

Juan de Fuca SAR lead earns B.C. medal for heart, vision and resilience

<https://sookenewsmirror.com/2025/08/21/juan-de-fuca-sar-lead-earns-bc-medal-for-heart-vision-and-resilience/>

Redefining leadership is among the reasons Saanich resident Victoria Clarke is among the recipients of the 2025 Medal for Good Citizenship.

The coordinator of Juan de Fuca Search and Rescue is known for her heart, vision and resilience since taking the helm in 2022, transforming it into a thriving, high-performing team of 40 volunteers.

“Victoria revitalized specialty teams, enhanced training standards, and introduced wellness programs that strengthened team cohesion and readiness,” reads the provincial announcement of her medal.

“Known for her compassion, she often goes above and beyond — like staying up all night to support a distressed hiker in 2024. Her 2,600-plus volunteer hours since taking on this role reflect a deep commitment not only to her team but also to the broader community.”

Clarke has led more than 70 calls and 225 training events while boosting member retention to 91 per cent and “contributed thousands of volunteer hours with empathy, kindness, and excellence.”

She is also credited with building strong relationships with First Nations and emergency partners and creating a model of service that uplifts and inspires across the region.

“Our fearless (and humble!) leader, Victoria Clarke, has been awarded the B.C. Medal of Good Citizenship – an honour recognizing residents who give selflessly to their communities,” the agency boasted online.

“SAR calls don’t come at convenient times – they happen during Sunday dinners, at 2 a.m., or in the pouring rain. Victoria is always among the first out the door with her pack, ready to serve and lead.”

Medal presentations are slated for late fall 2025.

Searchable text copy generated for the JDF History Project archive. Reference-only; reproduction rights via the publisher. A screenshot copy of the original web page is filed alongside this file.