

ML

MayneLiner magazine

January 2026

THE COMMUNITY VOICE OF MAYNE ISLAND

newsstand price \$5.00



Lions Mayne Islander of the Year **Jackie Henry**

ISSN 2818-5811



9 772818 581002 >

published & printed on Mayne Island BC
by Alea Design & Print | www.mayneliner.com
Return Address: 516 Dalton Drive
Mayne Island BC, V0N 2J2

Photo by Tom Hobley



2025 Lions Mayne Islander of the Year Jackie Henry

In reading two of the nominations for Jackie Henry as Mayne Islander of the Year, the Lions selection committee immediately knew that they had a very strong candidate. One nomination stated, "What is perhaps most remarkable about Jackie is the respect and warmth she inspires across the Island. Her ability to build relationships and positively impact both youth and adults alike makes her an exceptional role model and a pillar of the Mayne Island community". The second stated "Jackie represents the new wave of volunteers on our Island; she has the energy and presence to make things happen. The words 'I am too busy' are never heard from her. In fact, 'let's get it done' could be her motto".

Jackie spent much of her childhood in Montreal, until grade six when her family moved to BC. She then went to the University of Calgary, where she studied sciences. In 2010, while living in Vancouver, she met her husband Alex and in 2017 they bought a home on Mayne – moving here full-time in early 2020 as the impact of COVID was being felt. When asked "why Mayne?", Jackie responded "We were looking at Saturna, Galiano and Mayne, for a quiet place to escape the city. One day while on the Mayne Queen from Saturna on the way home to Vancouver, the sun was shining over Navy Channel on to the south facing houses on Mayne, and it looked so beautiful. We looked to see if any listings were available on that side of the Island, and we found our house".

Jackie and Alex have two children, Danika 12 and Jasper 10, who both attend Mayne Island school. Jackie works with her husband for their family business, Henry Creative, a residential custom home design and build firm. She also pursues her profession in Public Relations, Marketing and Communications, that she manages from her home office.

As part of winning the Mayne Islander of the Year award, Jackie received a cheque from the Lions for \$1000 that is to be donated to a Mayne Island organization of her choice. She asked that the money be given to the Otters Swim Club for which she serves as Vice President. Jackie explained that the club

relies on grants (which are not always guaranteed) to subsidize swimming costs, and that their expenses for pool rental and coaches' wages, etc., are increasing yearly. The \$1000 will go towards helping to keep junior Otters and Otter pups engaged in the program.

Jackie serves as head of the Parent Advisory Council (PAC) at the Mayne Island school, and with the school attendance growing to 50 students, it has become



Jackie in the doorway of the Mayne Island School Teacherage House. Photo Tom Hobley.

a very busy role. Through her initiatives and energy, the school enjoys many extra-curricular activities like track and field, baseball and basketball. She regularly hosts community events such as the popular parents vs. students Sunday soccer and the equally popular summer family baseball. She is especially proud of the tennis program which attracts over 20 students and thanks to parent coaches, the program enjoys a student/coach ratio of 4:1.

Attracting and retaining teachers has been a challenge for small school communities such as Mayne, as finding suitable housing can be difficult. Jackie saw an opportunity to restore the old and mostly unused house on the school property that the children called "the haunted house". It was originally part of a government housing plan (that never materialized) to be used by the school district as a "teacherage". By rallying support from parents, Island residents and businesses and working closely with the school district, the PAC received the go ahead to renovate. Work started in August 2024 and was completed in February 2025, all with volunteer labour, donated materials and appliances and 100% PAC raised funds. Such was the success of the project that Jackie was interviewed by the CBC Victoria, which was then picked up by national programming, giving the Teacherage project nation-wide recognition.

Another well-publicized event that was driven by Jackie, colleagues at the school and many others from the community at large, was the National ParticipACTION challenge to crown Canada's Most Active Community. Residents from communities in all provinces and territories were encouraged to partake in physical activities and report them online; and by some



Lion Blanket presented by Pres. Greg Martin at the Lions Charter Night in November.



2025 Lions Mayne Islander of the Year Jackie Henry



The Henry Family; Jackie, Alex, Danica and Jasper.



Mayne Island School PAC tennis program.

magic formula a winner would be proclaimed (with some serious cash awards involved). Mayne Island led the country in the #1 spot for much of the competition only to be pipped at the post in British Columbia by Richmond that has been competing for the past 10 years. Jackie made it her job to fully understand the rules of the game for 2026 and is convinced that Mayne Island can be #1. She firmly believes that winning Canada's Most Active Community award is not only fun and community building, but the recognition would be great for the Island and could even be an incentive to attract quality professionals, such as healthcare, to the Island.

Projects with the Mayne Island Conservancy have been a favorite way for Jackie to get outdoors while benefiting the Marine Ecosystem. Using her kayak, she has been part of the GPS mapping of the Kelp beds that form such an important part of the marine habitat around our Island. She was able to involve both of her children in another citizen science program, the Hakai Institute's "Light Trap" which is designed to monitor the lifecycle and population of Dungeness crabs. The Miners Bay station is one of thirty up and down the Salish Sea that report to the Hakai Institute for Coastal Science.

As if these volunteer activities are not enough, Jackie has recently been helping the MIALS team at the "Lunch Bunch" gatherings.

Jackie is a true community asset and an inspiration to all. She will be quick to tell you that she is always part of the teams that make these projects happen. But we suspect that she is always a key member of any team that she joins. One wonders what she does in her spare time and can only speculate on what she might come up with next. Whatever it might be, Mayne Island thanks you Jackie.

*Allen Slade, Past President,
Mayne Island Lions*



Jackie on the Mayne Island Conservancy Kelp Mapping program.



ParticipACTION Bike ride to Saturna, Jackie 3rd from right.