

Gerald Lawrence Kristianson

Gerry Kristianson was trained as a political scientist at UBC (Honours BA 1962) and the Australian National University (PhD 1966). The book version of his doctoral dissertation on the pressure group activities of Australian war veterans, The Politics of Patriotism, sold 30,000 copies. He has authored numerous articles in both academic and popular books and journals and is a frequent media commentator on political issues.

Dr. Kristianson's professional career has included full and part-time faculty appointments at five Canadian universities, service abroad as a Canadian diplomat in Japan, Korea and Guyana, work as a caucus assistant in the British Columbia legislature, and the management for 20 years of Pacific Public Affairs, then British Columbia's leading government relations consulting firm.

Since selling his consulting firm in 1995, Gerry has played an active role in public policy issues related to the West Coast fishery. He has been one of Canada's representatives on and the North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission since 1997 and the Pacific Salmon Commission since 1998. He is a director of the Sport Fishing Institute of B.C and chair of the federal government's west coast Sport Fishing Advisory Board. He represents the SFAB on the Salmon Integrated Harvest Planning Committee and was a member of the teams that reviewed the Fraser River fishery under the leadership of Judge Williams in 2005 and Pat Chamut in 2002. He was a recipient of the minister's National Recreational Fishery Award in 2010.

Gerry has been a Canadian delegate to numerous international meetings dealing with fishing and oceans policy and is vice-chair of the Management Board of POST, the Pacific Ocean Shelf Tracking Project. With financial support from two American foundations, POST is pioneering the use of Canadian acoustic technology as a scientific tool aimed at providing new information about fish behavior that can be used to improve fisheries management. He also sits on the board of the Middle Bay Sustainable Aquaculture Institute which is pioneering an attempt to demonstrate the economic and scientific viability of closed containment salmon farming.

Dr. Kristianson also has been active in other aspects of Canada's national public life, serving as a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council board member and as chairman of the committee that organized the 1985 centennial celebrations for the national park system. Since 1996 he has served on 11 international election monitoring missions in Eastern Europe and the Middle East.

At the local level he was elected for ten years to the Saanich School Board and for six years as a local government trustee in his home community, where he also is the captain in charge of medical First Responders in the volunteer fire department and holds an Emergency Medical Assistant instructor's certificate.

Although their mailing address (67 McKenzie Crescent, Sidney, BC, V8L 5Y7) is a "superbox" in Sidney, Gerry and Diana Kristianson live on Piers Island, one of British Columbia's Gulf Islands.