



## SWIMMING BRITISH COLUMBIA'S 2008 "VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR"

**On Sunday, September 20<sup>th</sup> 2008 at the SwimBC AGM Hans Galeslout officially became the 2008 Volunteer of the Year.** Exerts from the nomination letter - - The TSUNAMI Board voted unanimously to nominate long-time Board member Hans Galeslout for the SwimBC 2008 Volunteer of the Year award.

Hans has been an active parent, Board member and volunteer with TSUNASMI for almost a decade. Hans is the father of two swimmers. His eldest daughter Sarah is entering her 3<sup>rd</sup> year at the University of Lethbridge and swims for the Pronghorns. His youngest daughter Sydney is an AAA swimmer. For several years Hans has been the mainstay on the Board, as well as a meet manager, the provider of club history, and a strong supporter of coaches and swimmers. Hans retired from the TSUNAMI Board at our April 2008 AGM. Although his presence is sorely missed, his knowledge and advice is only a phone call away.

In the last five years circumstances demanded that someone provide strong leadership. Early in 2004 the club coach left without warning. At the same time the president moved away from Port Alberni. Concerned about swimmers wanting to remain active, Hans recruited an interim coach to look after the remainder of the season. With the involvement of Board members, he organized the advertising, interview and selection process which ultimately led to the appointment of a new coach for the upcoming season. At that time Hans was appointed interim president of the club. His tenacity and personal dedication kept the TSUNAMI Swim Club alive.

Hans, the consummate Board member went on to become the club's President and finally its Treasurer. Over the last 4½ years he has been the meet manager and a source for most of the club's meet information. Hans was often our representative at VIR Board meetings. He has been a constant presence and source of strength for the TSUNAMI swim club. To recognize his dedicated service to this club, and the sport of swimming on Vancouver Island, we are privileged and honoured to forward his name as our nominee for the SwimBC 2008 Volunteer of the Year Award.