



## **Sport BC Community Sport Hero Award Winner – 2011: Janis Alden Nominated by Action Schools! BC and Premier's Sport Awards Program (p.s.a.p)**

**Janis Alden** has been a teacher at Upper Lynn Elementary in North Vancouver for the past 23 years. In addition to her teaching duties, Janis has been a leader in organizing, coaching, and developing each of the sport programs in her school and in the community. Her dedication to the advancement of sport in North Vancouver is truly inspirational.

For the past 20 years, Janis has voluntarily coached the volleyball, basketball, and track and field teams at Upper Lynn Elementary. In addition to coaching, she organizes zone track and field meets, volleyball tournaments and as the District Basketball Coordinator for the North Vancouver Elementary Athletic Association, she organizes basketball tournaments and various seminars for students in order to provide them with opportunities for personal growth and skill development in sport. Each year, Janis sponsors students in a sport leadership program for elementary school students where older students from a local secondary school come teach them new sport skills and assist with the coaching. She has also organized basketball refereeing seminars for secondary school students for them to provide refereeing for elementary schools to help keep the basketball program vibrant in their school. Highly involved as both a parent and coach, Janis serves as an integral part of the continuation of sport in the North Vancouver school community.

Though Janis inspires both boys and girls, she cannot help but being an enthusiastic positive female role model encouraging all skill levels to enjoy playing team sports. She promotes teamwork and mentorship while creating environments where individual's unique strengths are embraced and developed. Particularly, the girls thrive from feeling Janis' support and encouragement to always do their best and make their best better.

Janis is also a proud advocate of the Premier's Sport Awards Program – a program developed by the late Harry Jerome who wanted every child in BC to be able to play sports for fun and do their best. She regularly uses lesson plans and specifically the volleyball and basketball skill level crests for students in her school to help keep sports an exciting and rewarding experience and enriches her already outstanding physical education program.

As a dedicated volunteer to providing opportunities for children and youth in sport in the North Vancouver area for over 20 years, Janis Alden is a Community Sport Hero.