

## City of Maple Ridge News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Customer Appreciation Announced as Pool Retrofit Begins

Maple Ridge, BC: In 1981 the Maple Ridge Leisure Centre opened its doors with what was, at the time, a state of the art aquatics and multipurpose facility that provided residents with one of the first leisure pools built in Canada. On Monday, March 26 the aquatics facility will be closed for an estimated 13 month retrofit intended to modernize and upgrade the aquatic area, change rooms, lobby and mechanical and filtration systems. The fitness area and gymnasium will remain open during the retrofit.

"This facility has served our community for 37 years and is a special place to many residents, both young and old. We felt that it was important to recognize the history of the facility and to extend our appreciation to our customers before the retrofit starts," said Christa Balatti, Recreation Manager Health and Wellness.

On Sunday, March 25 admission to the Leisure Centre will be free and the lobby will have refreshments and activities for all ages. Staff will be available to answer questions about alternative programming and the future of the facility. For a full view of the Customer Accommodation Plan, which includes transportation services, programming and financial assistance visit <u>mapleridge.ca/1810</u>. Everyone who visits the facility on March 25 will be entered in a draw for the grand prize: an exclusive pool party. The winner and 20 of their friends will be the first to swim in the newly renovated aquatic facility prior to the reveal.

"On March 25 we will have staff onsite throughout the day providing our customers with information on the 'Pool Talk' landing page at <u>mapleridge.ca/1718</u> where citizens can get up-to-date information on how the retrofit project is proceeding. Full details on alternative programming, transportation services and financial aid to those who require it will also be available," said Ms. Balatti.

For more information on the Leisure Centre Retrofit Project or customer accommodations please contact Christa Balatti, Recreation Manager Health and Wellness, by email at <a href="mailto:cbalatti@mapleridge.ca">cbalatti@mapleridge.ca</a> or by phone at 604-467-7310.