

## City of Maple Ridge News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Maple Ridge Doubling Advance Polling for October Local Election

Maple Ridge, BC: On Saturday, October 20, 2018 citizens around BC will elect their Mayor, Council and School Trustees. Maple Ridge citizens will be able to cast their vote in seven polling stations across the community that will be open from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm.

"We are making two major enhancements for the 2018 election to ensure that all citizens have the opportunity to be part of this process," said Laura Benson, Corporate Officer. "The first will be a mail-out that will be sent to all residences providing citizens with notice of the election, information on voter registration and the link to our election webpages at <u>mapleridge.ca</u>. The second is an increase in advance voting opportunities including new locations and Sunday voting."

On April 3 Council approved the enhancements and the election team are finalizing the polling locations and staffing requirements to deliver on the new plan. The final details of dates and locations will be presented to Council in May.

"The 2018 local election is being held a month earlier than previous years which means candidates will be filing their nomination papers shortly after the Labour Day weekend. We are planning two candidate information sessions, in late May and again in July, to provide prospective candidates with information on what's involved in filing their nomination, the election process and the roles and responsibilities of local elected officials. We will be announcing dates in the next few weeks," said Ms. Benson.

The 'Maple Ridge Election 2018' webpages will launch in conjunction with the candidate information sessions in May and a special email, <u>election@mapleridge.ca</u>, is now live for all questions relating to local election planning.

For more information about 'Maple Ridge Election 2018' please contact Laura Benson, Corporate Officer, by email at <u>election@mapleridge.ca</u> or by phone at 604-463-5221.